

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS TAKEN PART I

MEETING: Community Select Committee
DATE: Tuesday 29 November 2016
PLACE: Shimkent Room, Daneshill House, Stevenage, SG1 1HN
MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors: S Mead (Chair), M Notley (Vice-Chair), E Connolly, E Harrington, J Mead and C Saunders

THE AGENDA ITEMS REFERRED TO IN THIS NOTICE OF DECISIONS MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE RECEPTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OFFICES, DANESHILL HOUSE. COPIES MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE COMMITTEE SERVICES SECTION 01438 242992

1	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Bainbridge, J Brown and A Mitchell.</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	ACTION/LEAD
		O Adeoye Ext 2809
2	<p>MINUTES – 19 OCTOBER 2016</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Select Committee held on 19 October 2016 are approved as a correct record to be signed by the Chair.</p>	O Adeoye Ext 2809
3	<p>MINUTES – 25 OCTOBER 2016</p> <p>The Scrutiny Officer informed the meeting that Councillors D Bainbridge, E Connolly and C Saunders had been erroneously recorded as attendees having given their apologies for the meeting.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that subject to deleting the names of Councillors D Bainbridge, E Connolly and C Saunders from the list of attendees, the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Select Committee held on 25 October 2016 are approved as a correct record to be signed by the Chair.</p>	O Adeoye Ext 2809

<p>4</p>	<p>SCRUTINY REVIEW INTO DAMP AND MOULD IN STEVENAGE HOUSING STOCK</p> <p>The Head of Asset Management updated Members on the statistical data report collated regarding cases of damp, mould and condensation.</p> <p>In relation to the scale of known damp, condensation and mould within SBC's housing stock, the Head of Asset Management acknowledged that this was difficult to ascertain as using the stock condition data as a measure was insufficient as it focussed on external rather than internal observations. He also noted the inconsistencies in how repairs were being recorded and managed which could skew the data or result in a misrepresentation of the issue.</p> <p>In response to concerns by residents on how repeated complaints regarding damp and mould were being managed, a suggestion that all complaints received from the onset should be referenced with a unique number to the property rather than the resident so that it could be easily followed up, was noted.</p> <p>The Head of Asset Management informed Members that the Investment Team, in conjunction with the IT team, would be looking at ways of improving the Housing IT system by introducing a facility to assist monitoring performance issues around damp and mould.</p> <p>In response to a question on the timescale for visiting tenants, Members were informed that although SBC would endeavour to respond to enquiries within 7 days, the new approach would be centred on getting the diagnosis right from the onset.</p> <p>With regard to the timescale in clearing the backlog of reported damp and mould cases, the Strategic Director (Community) advised that as inspections had been carried out by SBC Surveyors on most of the identified cases, all works should be completed by March 2017.</p> <p>The Strategic Director (Community) reminded Members that a strategy had been agreed by the Committee and it was important to observe how the service performs. This could be reviewed at a later date.</p> <p>The Scrutiny Officer tabled the draft recommendations for Member's consideration.</p>	<p>N Wilson-Prior Ext 2238</p>
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	<p>Members having discussed the recommendations made some amendments and agreed for the Scrutiny Officer to circulate the amended recommendations to the members of the Committee before the final consideration of them at a future meeting.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that the draft be noted subject to the amendments.</p>	
5	<p>URGENT PART I BUSINESS</p> <p>None.</p>	O Adeoye Ext 2809
6	<p>EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC</p> <p>Not Required.</p>	O Adeoye Ext 2809
<u>PART II</u>		
7	<p>URGENT PART II BUSINESS</p> <p>None.</p>	O Adeoye Ext 2809