



## HOUSING SELECT COMMITTEE

**Meeting:** Thursday, 19 March 2015 at 6.30 pm in the Committee Room, Municipal Buildings, Glossop

**Present:** Councillor Sloman (Chair)

Councillors Ashton, Atkins, Barrow, Siddall and Thrane

Tenant/Independent Members – R. Bowen, G Fox and K Smith

Councillors A McKeown was also in attendance.

**15/50**      **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**  
(Agenda Item 2)

Councillor Atkins declared an 'other' interest in all agenda items (reason: stepson is tenant of HPBC) and agenda item 6 Update on DCC Challenge on proposed changes to Housing related Support Services Programme (reason: wife a member of Derbyshire County Council).

Councillor Thrane declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in agenda item 8 High Peak Landlord Accreditation Scheme (reason: private landlord in High Peak) and withdrew from the meeting during discussion and voting on this item.

**15/51**      **MINUTES**  
(Agenda Item 4)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2015 be approved as a correct record.

**15/52**      **WELFARE REFORM UPDATE**  
(Agenda Item 5)

The Committee considered an update on the implementation of Universal Credit within the High Peak. Discussion took place on whether or not it is appropriate for the Council to enter into Universal Credit Delivery Partnership Agreement (DPA) with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). The effect from 1 June 2015 was also discussed.

RESOLVED:

1. That the report and agreement in principle to enter into Universal Credit Delivery Partnership Agreement (DPA) with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) be noted.



2. That officers requested to report back to this Committee on the finer details of what any service offer might look like alongside an assessment of the costs involved.

**15/53 UPDATE ON DCC CHALLENGE ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO HOUSING RELATED SUPPORT SERVICES PROGRAMME**

(Agenda Item 6)

There was an update on the latest information regarding the Derbyshire County Council (DCC) Challenge and proposed changes to Housing Related Support (HRS) services programme (formerly known as Supporting People funding [SP]). Implementation of changes, possible options and assessed need were discussed.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted and officers requested to report back periodically as further information becomes available.

**15/54 VOIDS PERFORMANCE**

(Agenda Item 7)

There was a detailed analysis of voids performance and an action plan to address the deteriorating performance. Discussion took place on action taken and the process followed.

RESOLVED:

1. That the report be noted.
2. That the recommendations for improving the voids process and monitoring of performance be approved.
3. That voids monitoring reports be considered at future meetings.

(Councillor Thrane left the meeting before the next item.)

**15/54 HIGH PEAK LANDLORD ACCREDITATION SCHEME**

(Agenda Item 7)

Consideration was given to the operation of the current Landlord Accreditation Scheme and options for the continuing development of an effective Scheme. Options identified, increasing membership and preliminary discussions were outlined.

RESOLVED:

1. That the continuing operation of an effective Landlord Accreditation Scheme within the Borough be supported.
2. That a re-branded Alliance-wide Joint Accreditation Scheme be approved.



(Councillor Thrane rejoined the meeting after consideration of this item.)

**15/55 SELECTIVE LICENSING UNDER THE HOUSING ACT 2004**  
(Agenda Item 9)

There was a presentation on possible selective Licensing under the Housing Act 2004. Issues discussed included:

- Improving specific areas including Fairfield Road, Buxton.
- Environmental concerns including bin storage and collection.
- Voluntary Landlord Accreditation Scheme.
- Need for a sensitive approach and further investigation.
- Anti-social behaviour.
- Affordable housing.
- Improving tenant security.
- Multiple agency/service involvement.

RESOLVED:

That guarded support be given to selective Licensing under the Housing Act 2004 and further investigation, including options and examples, be considered at a future meeting.

**15/56 SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**  
(Agenda Item 10)

Reports on the Voids Action Plan Review, Selective Licensing under the Housing Act 2004 and Gas Servicing Implementation Review would be added.

RESOLVED:

That the updated work programme be noted.

**15/57 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**  
(Agenda Item 12)

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business as there may be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

**SUMMARY OF EXEMPT ITEMS**

**15/58 MINUTES**  
(Agenda Item 13)

RESOLVED:



That the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2015 be approved as a correct record.

**15/59 HOUSING GAS SERVICING AND MAINTENANCE 15/16 AND 16/17 TENDER ANALYSIS**  
(Agenda Item 14)

Tender returns and analysis for Gas Servicing and Maintenance in 15/16 and 16/17 and associated works at various properties owned by the Council were considered.

**15/60 CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2015/16**  
(Agenda Item 15)

Consideration was given to further information on the Capital Programme 2015/16.

The meeting concluded at 8.09 p.m.

CHAIR