

Time commenced - 6.00 pm
Time finished - 7.20 pm

COMMUNITY REGENERATION COMMISSION 9 DECEMBER 2004

Present: Councillor Bayliss (in the Chair)
Councillors Blanksby, Chera, Higginbottom, Lowe, Richards and Webb.
Canon MacDonald – Co-opted Member
Barry Seagrave - Unison

42/04 Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Brown.

43/04 Late items to be introduced by the Chair

Councillor Bayliss welcomed Councillor Higginbottom as a new member of the Commission replacing Councillor Gerrard.

In accordance with Section 100 (B)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair agreed that the following item of business be admitted as a late item.

Community Safety Action Plan

The item is to be considered by Council Cabinet on 21 December 2004 and the Commission needed to be able to forward any recommendations to the Cabinet before any decisions were made.

44/04 Declarations of Interest

With regard to items of business relating to Derby Homes, Councillor Bayliss, Webb and Lowe declared personal interests as they were Council appointed board member of Derby Homes. Councillor Richards declared a personal interest in the same items as he was a Derby Homes Tenant. Councillor Chera also declared a personal interest in the same item as his family were Derby Homes Tenants.

45/04 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2004 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Items for Discussion

46/04 Performance Eye – its use by the Community Regeneration Commission

A report of the Chair of the Community Regeneration Commission was considered, which gave details of Performance Eye and its possible uses by the Commission.

A copy of a guide to accessing the system and a print-out showing the latest data on the sub-elements, together with a graph showing the overall performance of these sub-elements was circulated.

It was noted that the performance for the sub elements was indicated by a 'traffic light' system, red indicated the target was unlikely to be achieved at year end, yellow indicated target likely to be achieved and green target likely to be exceeded.

It was suggested that the system should give an explanation as to why values had not been given to some sub-elements, otherwise these should be removed.

Resolved:

- 1. To include Performance Eye as a standing item on future agendas.**
- 2. To request that the Commission receives an information report on all the sub-elements showing a red light on Performance Eye.**

47/04 Housing and Council Tax Benefit Service – Quarterly Performance

Don McLure, Assistant Director – Revenues and Benefits, introduced a report of the Director of Finance which updated the Commission on the performance of the Council's Housing and Council Tax Benefits Service.

It was noted that the outstanding workload had reduced since June 2004. Officers were confident that it would continue to reduce and also that performance would continue to improve following an increase in staff.

The Commission noted the latest performance against targets set, Best Value performance indicators and performance compared with other authorities.

The latest improvements in customer service were outlined, including:

- Joint working arrangements with The Pensions Service
- Results from the benefits take-up campaign
- Merger of council tax and housing benefit enquiry counters. A 'greater system' had been introduced with excellent customer feedback.
- Pilot for home working for benefits staff.
- Half day surgery by Job Centre Plus at the Council House customer enquiry counter service, to be commenced in the near future.

Resolved

- 1. To note the report.**
- 2. To request that comparison tables with other authorities be in rank order instead of alphabetical order.**

48/04 Community Safety Action Plan

The Commission considered a report of the Director of Policy on the Council's proposed Community Safety Action Plan. The Plan had been developed following a review of the contributions a number of departments make to community safety.

Five high level objectives had been proposed in the Plan, namely:

Objective One – Anti Social Behaviour

Objective Two – Violent Crime

Objective Three – Youth Crime

Objective Four – Burglary of Dwelling Houses

Objective Five – Vehicle Crime.

Councillor Bayliss requested that the financial implications be reported to the Commission, once known. He also asked whether the Commission Topic Review work had been taken into account in the Plan.

Andy Luscombe, Crime Reduction Strategy Manager, indicated that the issues would be looked at.

Concern was expressed that no specific reference had been made to Neighbourhood Watch. It was noted that this organisation would be involved in the neighbourhood panels.

Resolved:

- 1. To note the report.**
- 2. To recommend to Council Cabinet that the following elements be included in the Action Plan:**
 - more explicit engagement with Neighbourhood Watch**
 - prostitution to be targeted as part of Objective One, Anti Social Behaviour.**

49/04 Call-in

There were no call-ins.

50/04 Matters referred by Council Cabinet

Derby Homes' Performance Monitoring – Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 2004/05

The Commission considered reports of the Director of Policy detailing Derby Homes performance monitoring for quarters 1 and 2 2004/05. It was noted that the reports had been considered by Council Cabinet on 19 October and 30 November respectively.

Specific reference was made to the performance of BVPI 185 – percentage of repairs for which an appointment was both made and kept. Mark Hilbury, Housing Performance Manager, added that performance should be improved in this area following the newly established Enquiry Centre and improved liaison between staff and contractors.

Concern was expressed about the number of complaints received on the Homes Pride programme. It was suggested that outstanding complaints be carried forward into the next quarter's monitoring report.

Resolved:

- 1. To note the report.**
- 2. To invite the Chief Executive of Derby Homes to the next meeting of the Commission to discuss the Homes Pride programme.**

51/04 Responses of the Council Cabinet to any reports of the Commission

'Paying the Price' a consultation paper on Prostitution

The minute extract from Council Cabinet on 9 November 2004 was noted.

Derby Homes' Business Strategy

The minute extract from Council Cabinet on 9 November 2004 was noted.

Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Guidance

The minute extract from Council Cabinet on 30 November was noted.

Affordable Housing Programme 2004/06

The minute extract from Council Cabinet on 30 November was noted.

Community Safety Partnership – Anti Social Behaviour Strategy and Action Plan

The minute extract from Council Cabinet on 30 November was noted.

Derby Homes' Business Strategy

The minute extract from Council Cabinet on 30 November was noted.

52/04 Council Cabinet Forward Plan

The Commission asked to consider the following key decisions in the Forward Plan at the most appropriate time.

45/04 Approval of Community Grants Budget – CGB – Grants to Voluntary Sector 2005/06

53/04 Black and Minority Ethnic Housing Strategy submitted for approval.

23/04 Draft Compact Funding Code

205/03 Sale of land, Leytonstone Drive, Mackworth

MINUTES END