



Executive Committee

28th July 2010

Notice of Decisions

Present:

Councillor Carole Gandy (Chair), Councillor Michael Braley (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Peter Anderson, Juliet Brunner, Greg Chance, Brandon Clayton, Malcolm Hall, Jinny Pearce and Debbie Taylor

Also Present

Councillors Kath Banks and Andrew Brazier

REDI Centre Users' Deputation:

Ms Justine Bailey, Ms Heidi Gregg, Ms Julie Hughes, Mr Tony Powell and Ms Mandy Bonehill

Officers:

C Flanagan, S Hanley, T Kristunas, S Powell, L Tompkin, K Cook and K Dicks

Committee Services Officer:

I Westmore

39. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

40. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

41. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair advised that she had accepted the following matter as urgent business:

Item 6 – REDI Centre Options

42. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 16th June 2010 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

43. DEPUTATION - REDI

(A deputation comprising Ms Justine Bailey, Ms Mandy Bonehill, Mr Tony Powell, Ms Heidi Gregg and Ms Julie Hughes, users of the REDI Centre was received by the Committee. Ms Hughes, Ms Bailey and Mr Powell spoke for the deputation.

The Chair thanked the deputation for their attendance and contribution)

44. REDI CENTRE OPTIONS

RESOLVED that

- 1) the extension of the existing Learndirect contract only to August 2011 be noted and that Officers appraise Members at the earliest opportunity of the sustainability of the contract beyond this point; and**

RECOMMENDED that

- 2) Option 4 as set out within the report (relocation of the Learndirect activity to another Council facility) be approved, subject to this being endorsed by Learndirect and that Officers be instructed to liaise with Learndirect as to validation and inspection arrangements; and**
- 3) the costs of proceeding with Option 4 (£90,000) be approved, these costs to be met from revenue balances.**

(At this point - 8.05 p.m. - the meeting adjourned and reconvened at 8.18 p.m.)

45. COUNCIL PLAN 2010 / 2013

RECOMMENDED that

the Council Plan 2010-2013 attached at Appendix 1 to the report be approved.

46. REVIEW OF REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL'S SHELTERED HOUSING STOCK FURTHER TO COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

RECOMMENDED that

- 1) the preferred options, as determined by Members, from those detailed in Appendix 2 to the report, Section 6.1 (Option A) and 6.2 (Option A) be approved;**

Section 6.1 – Chiltern House (Option A)

- That the current older persons' accommodation is returned to general let and that officer's should meet with residents to discuss a sensitive approach to allocations.
- Any current tenants affected would be offered an appointment with a dedicated officer to discuss any concerns and all relevant options would be explored.
- If this option is approved Officers could give further consideration to converting the communal lounge into a disabled flat or into other rentable accommodation to increase revenue.
- That further consideration be given to converting the bedsit which is currently used as an office for the Home Support Officer into rentable accommodation to increase revenue.

Section 6.2 – Auxerre House (Option A)

- Opportunity for first time buyers under the Homebuy Scheme. HomeBuy enables social tenants, key workers and first time buyers to buy a share of a home and get a first step on the housing ladder.
- 2) up to £166,150.00 capital funding be approved for the essential improvement works recommended in Appendix 4 to the report;**
- 3) up to £31,051.00 revenue funding be approved to fund the post of Older Persons' Housing Liaison Officer as detailed in Appendix 16 to the report and paragraph 5.5 of the report; and**

RESOLVED that

- 4) based on the findings of the Review of Redditch Borough Council's Sheltered Housing, the categorisation of properties on page 11 in Appendix 2 to the report be adopted;
- 5) Officers undertake a feasibility study to consider the findings and options in Appendix 2, Section 6.3 to the report and bring a further report back to Councillors within 12 months of this report;
- 6) if approved, the above changes only be applied to new tenants from 1st April 2011 with all current residents keeping their tenancy, even if they do not meet the new criteria;
- 7) the revised Action Plan in Appendix 3 be adopted;
- 8) an additional member of staff be appointed for twelve months to facilitate the change management process (see Appendix 16); and

subject to the Council's approval of the budgetary implications, as specified separately above, and consequent adjustment of the Capital Programme
- 9) approval be given to incur up to the expenditure detailed in 2) above for the purposes detailed in the report, in accordance with Standing Order 41; and
- 10) the proposals detailed above be agreed in principle but that the matter be deferred to 8th September 2010 Executive Committee to enable residents' feedback on the specific proposals to be sought.

(The categorisation of properties on page 11 in Appendix 2 to the report is included as an appendix to this decision notice)

47. CAPITAL PROGRAMME OUTTURN 2009/10

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

48. WRITE OFF POLICY UPDATE

RECOMMENDED that

- 1) the draft Write Off Policy included at Appendix 1 to the report be approved; and
- 2) the Council's Scheme of Delegation to Officers and Financial Regulations be amended accordingly.

(Councillor Carole Gandy left the Chamber at 9.31pm and Councillor Michael Braley assumed the Chair. Councillor Gandy resumed the Chair at 9.36pm, following consideration of the above item.)

49. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 23rd June 2010 be received and noted.

(Officers undertook to speak to Councillor Anderson following the meeting regarding the reliability of the system for forwarding external telephone calls to specified extension numbers via the Council's telephone system [Worcestershire Hub Review])

50. MINUTES / REFERRALS - OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, EXECUTIVE PANELS, NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUPS ETC.

There were no minutes or referrals under this item.

51. SHARED SERVICES BOARD

RESOLVED that

Shared Services and Transformation Programme

- 1) the use of the WMIEP (West Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership) Systems Thinking change methodology for the transformation of service areas be approved;
- 2) the proposed programme of service areas to be considered for Shared Services / Transformation

between the two Councils, as detailed in the Appendix to the report, be approved; and

Procurement

3) the proposal be agreed in principle.

(Consideration of the Shared Services Board minutes took place in public as the reasons for making the information exempt had ceased to be relevant given the passage of time)

52. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORT

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

(Meetings of the following Panels were to be arranged in the near future:

Grants Panel; and

Leisure Contracts Advisory Panel.

It was noted that meetings of the Planning Advisory Panel had been suspended whilst information from central Government on the future direction of planning policy was awaited.

It was also noted that the Independent Remuneration Panel responsibilities had transferred to a Council-wide body.)

53. ACTION MONITORING

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

54. URGENT BUSINESS - RECORD OF DECISIONS

RESOLVED that

the matter be noted.

(Members noted an Urgent Business decisions which had been approved in accordance with Standing Order 36, namely:

Executive Committee

28th July 2010

Invalid Planning Applications- Introduction of Administration Fee
(UB Reference 483))

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm
and closed at 9.53 pm

5. PROPOSED CATEGORIES

Older Persons Supported Housing – Category A

(see Section 9.1 for properties proposed for inclusion in this category)

- suitable for persons aged **65** years old and over **and** who have an assessed support need.
- acceptable safety and security standards
- in a suitable, desirable location
- suitable internal and external access, including a lift to upper floors
- suitable communal facilities
- eligible to join in communal activities at other schemes

Older Persons Housing – Category A Bungalows

(see Section 9.1 for properties proposed for inclusion in this category)

- suitable for persons aged **60** years old and over with preference to be given where there is an assessed support need or to a wheelchair user
- also suitable for adults aged 18 years old and over with severe mobility issues or wheelchair users
- suitable internal and external access
- eligible to join in communal activities at other schemes

Older Persons Housing for Over 60's– Category B

(see Section 9.2 for properties proposed for inclusion in this category)

- suitable for persons aged **60** years old and over with or without an assessed support need
- priority would be given to wheelchair users in level access units
- priority would be given to those with an assessed support need
- upper floors (where appropriate) only suitable for mobile persons
- priority to move to lower floors would be given to current upper floor residents if criteria met
- suitable internal and external access
- eligible to join in communal activities at other schemes

Over 50's Housing – Category C

(see Section 9.3 for properties proposed for inclusion in this category)

- suitable for persons aged 50 years old and over with or without an assessed support need
- upper floors (where appropriate) only suitable for mobile persons
- priority on lower floors would be given those with mobility issues
- priority to move to lower floors would be given to current upper floor residents if criteria met
- eligible to join in communal activities at other schemes