

HOUSING AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Housing and Health Committee held in the Council Chambers, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 29 March 2017 10.00am.

Present: Councillors D Doogan, K Howie, H Anderson, K Baird (substituting for Councillor H Stewart), P Barrett, I Campbell, D Cuthbert, J Flynn, E Maclachlan, D Melloy, W Robertson, G Walker and M Williamson.

In Attendance: B Atkinson, Director (Housing and Social Work); J Beverley, L Cameron, S Coyle, M Dow, C Mailer, R Pollok and A White (all Housing and Community Care); C Flynn, L Potter and A Taylor (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Also in Attendance: C Stewart and D Wilkie (Tenants' Representatives).

Apology for Absence: Councillor H Stewart.

Councillor D Doogan, Convener, Presiding.

The Convener led the discussion for Arts. (175-178 and 182-185) and the Vice-Convener for Arts. (179-180).

175. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

The Convener welcomed all those present to the meeting. An apology and substitute was noted as above.

In terms of Standing Order 13 the Committee agreed that the meeting be recorded for use as part of the elected member development programme following the Local Government Elections in May 2017.

176. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

177. MINUTE

The minute of the meeting of the Housing and Health Committee of 25 January 2015 (Arts. 49-57) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

178. PERTH AND KINROSS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP – PERTH AND KINROSS INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

(i) Minute of meeting of the Perth and Kinross Integration Joint Board of 4 November 2016

The minute of meeting of the Perth and Kinross Integration Joint Board of 4 November 2016 was submitted and noted.

(ii) Briefing Paper by Chief Officer Health and Social Care Partnership

There was submitted and noted a briefing paper by the Chief Officer Health and Social Care Partnership (17/121), providing an update on the recent business and decisions of the Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board (IJB) following their meeting on 3 February 2017.

B Atkinson, Acting Executive Director (Housing and Community Safety) was present to answers members' questions.

179. CARE AND REPAIR SERVICES

There was submitted a report by the Acting Executive Director (Housing and Community Safety) (17/122), (1) providing an update on the recent changes to Care and Repair Services in Perth and Kinross, detailing future developments which will help support people to remain in their homes; and (2) seeking the endorsement of the initiatives and new developments being implemented through the new contract with Caledonia Housing Association.

Resolved:

The initiatives and new developments being implemented through the new contract with Caledonia Housing Association as set out in Report 17/122, be endorsed.

180. HOARDING PROTOCOL AND PROCEDURE

There was submitted a report by the Acting Executive Director (Housing and Community Safety) (17/123), (1) seeking approval of the application of a new 'Hoarding' Protocol developed with Key partners, the Protocol, the first of its kind in Scotland, will ensure a person-centred and effective response to people with Hoarding difficulties; and (2) highlighting Housing's role in the process with staff training and awareness raising and the delivery of appropriate and sensitive support to tenants.

Resolved:

- (i) The innovative work to develop this multi-agency protocol, the first of its kind in Scotland, be noted.

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- (ii) The application of the 'Hoarding' Protocol as detailed in the Appendix to Report 17/123 for use across Perth and Kinross's housing services be approved.

181. HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY WORKS

There was submitted a report by the Acting Executive Director (Housing and Community Safety) (17/124), (1) summarising the progress in providing energy efficiency measures to households in Perth and Kinross during 2016/17; (2) outlining proposals for the continuation of further energy saving initiatives and improvements in 2017/18 and; (3) seeking endorsement of the actions taken to secure ECO funding from SSE for the 2017/18 programme.

Resolved:

- (i) The range of energy saving measures carried out as part of the Council's plan to improve energy efficiency and achieve compliance with the EESSH by December 2020, be noted.
- (ii) The actions already taken to secure ECO funding from SSE for the 2017/18 programme, be endorsed.
- (iii) The Committee thanked John Cruickshank, Housing and Community Care for his diligence.

182. PERTH AND KINROSS HEALTH INEQUALITIES STRATEGY

There was submitted a report by Acting Executive Director (Housing and Community Safety) (17/125) providing an update on the outcomes of the consultation exercise on the draft Health Inequalities Strategy and presenting an updated strategy for approval.

Resolved:

- (i) The revised Health Inequalities plan for Perth and Kinross, as detailed in the Appendix to Report 17/125, be approved.
- (ii) An update report be submitted to Committee in twelve months.

183. RENT ARREARS – CASH COLLECTION WITHIN LOCALITIES

There was submitted a report by the Acting Executive Director (Housing and Community Safety) (17/126) seeking approval to make the temporary arrangements in place to collect payments in local housing offices and tenants' homes permanent as a way of supporting and reducing the Council's rent arrears.

Resolved:

The proposal to accept cash payments for Council rents in local housing teams and tenants' homes on a permanent basis, following the success of the pilot, be approved.

184. HOUSING ESTATE-BASED INITIATIVES

There was submitted a report by the Acting Executive Director (Housing and Community Safety) (17/127) providing an update on the progress and ongoing development of Estates Based Initiatives which continue to engage and empower local tenants to identify and deliver improvements within local communities and advising of the plans currently in place for 2017/18.

A video presentation on some of the work already carried out under the Estate Based Initiatives was shown to the Committee.

Resolved:

- (i) The excellent progress to date in delivering this project and the wider educational and employment opportunities delivered through initiatives such as Community Payback Team and social enterprise opportunities, be noted.
- (ii) The plans currently in place for 2017/18, as detailed in Report 17/127, be noted.

185. VALEDICTORY

This being the last meeting of the Committee before the Local Government Elections on 4 May 2017, the Convener thanked all Elected Members of the Committee for their contribution over the last five years and also expressed his appreciation to the Tenants Federation Representatives and all Housing and Community Care staff. The Convener further advised that Councillors Gordon Walker, John Flynn, Heather Stewart and Vice-Convener Kate Howie had intimated they would be retiring. He expressed his thanks to all of them for their contribution to the work of the Committee over many years and wish them all well for their future.

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