

## Minutes of Health & Housing Committee

Meeting Date: Thursday, 26 May 2016 starting at 6.30pm  
Present: Councillor S Hore (Chairman)

Councillors:

S Bibby	B Hilton
S Brunskill	K Hind
P Dobson	R Newmark
P Elms	M Robinson
M Fenton	R Sherras
L Graves	J White
R Hargreaves	

In attendance: Chief Executive, Head of Environmental Health Services, Senior Housing Officer.

### 45 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillor R Elms.

### 46 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 March 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

An update was given on Minute 672 with regard to the response to the consultation on affordable homes, with a copy of the response to be circulated to Members of Committee.

### 47 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no pecuniary and non-pecuniary declarations of interest.

### 48 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

### 49 APPOINTMENT OF WORKING GROUPS

Committee considered the appointment of working groups and their arrangements/membership that belong to this Committee:-

- Strategic Housing Working Group 3 Conservatives (Councillors S Hore, K Hind, R Sherras), one Lib Dem (Councillor M Robinson) and the Chair of Planning and Development Committee.
- Health and Wellbeing Partnership – 4 Conservatives (Councillors B Hilton, S Brunskill, P Elms, K Hind), one Lib Dem (Councillor M Robinson) and one Labour (Councillor M Fenton).

RESOLVED: That Committee approve the appointment of the Strategic Housing Working Group and the Health and Wellbeing Partnership.

50 CAPITAL OUTTURN 2015/2016

The Director of Resources submitted a report asking Committee to review the final outturn of the Capital Programme for 2015/2016 and seeking approval of the slippage of some capital scheme budgets from the 2015/2016 financial year to the 2016/2017 financial year. The capital programme for the Health and Housing Committee consisted of three schemes. Overall, 92% of the revised estimate had been spent in 2015/2016. Approval for slippage was sought for the Disabled Facilities Grants scheme and the Landlord/Tenant Grants scheme.

RESOLVED: That Committee approve the slippage of:

Disabled Facilities Grants - £14,090

Landlord/Tenant Grants - £8,330

51 FOOD HYGIENE INTERVENTION PLAN 2016/2017

The Chief Executive submitted a report informing Committee of the responsibilities of local authorities to provide a Food Hygiene Intervention Programme (Plan) relating to food enforcement and how they will meet their statutory obligations, and to implement the guidance in the Food Law Code of Practice (England) released in April 2015. Also submitted was a recently completed Annual Food Hygiene Intervention Plan for Ribble Valley Borough Council, identifying the challenges for the section in the preceding year, and drawing attention to the activity of the section and the improving record of food premises in the borough, with 94% being broadly compliant. There had been issues with staffing levels in the food section in the previous year, when more inspections than usual had been conducted, but it was hoped to achieve full departmental staffing shortly.

RESOLVED: That Committee

1. approve the Ribble Valley Borough Council Food Hygiene Intervention Plan 2016/2017 for implementation in the current financial year;
2. note the satisfactory performance for the year 2015/2016; and
3. reconfirm the continuing priority of food premises inspection for Environmental Health service provision.

52 CHARGING FOR IMMIGRATION INSPECTIONS

The Chief Executive submitted a report on the requirement for inspection of properties on behalf of residents of Ribble Valley who were planning for family members to come from abroad to live with them. The report was an integral and necessary part of application for immigration. The service was discretionary, and there had been four reports compiled in the last year. Currently the Council made no charge for the inspection, but it was recommended that a charge should be imposed to reflect the officer time in inspection and preparation of the report.

RESOLVED: That Committee approve the request for immigration inspections to be charged at £38 per hour with a minimum rate of £114 commencing forthwith.

53 REGULATIONS INTRODUCING FIXED PENALTY NOTICES AS CIVIL SANCTIONS FOR SMALL-SCALE FLY TIPPING OFFENCES

The Chief Executive submitted a report on the introduction of new powers from 9 May 2016 under The Unauthorised Deposit of Waste (Fixed Penalties) Regulations 2016 for local authorities to issue fixed penalty notices of between £150 and £400 for offenders caught in the act of fly tipping. No national guidelines had yet been published, and other authorities who had endorsed charging had considered a range of different initial penalty amounts, in some cases reduced to a lower sum for payment within 10 days of service of the fixed penalty notice. He took the view that £400 for each notice, with no reduction, reflected the officer time involved in dealing with incidents in a large rural area, and would also act as a deterrent.

RESOLVED: That Committee endorse a charge of £400 for each fixed penalty notice served.

54 GENERAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive which had been submitted to Committee for information to set a baseline on the previous 12 months. It included private water supplies risk assessment progress, air quality, staffing levels, food safety inspection update, pest control update, dog warden update, environmental protection update, Clitheroe market update, emergency planning update and Clitheroe cemetery extension update, and also minutes of meetings of the Hanson Cement Liaison and Tarmac Liaison Committees.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

55 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2016/2017

The Chief Executive submitted a report for Committee's information on the membership of Outside Bodies that come under the remit of the Health and Housing Committee.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

56 HEALTH AND WELLBEING PARTNERSHIP

The notes of the meetings held on 19 October 2015 and 30 March 2016 were noted by Committee. Members were encouraged to attend awareness briefings to be held countywide in early June.

57 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That by virtue of the fact that the following items of business be an Exempt Information under Categories 1 and 7 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be now excluded from the meeting.

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#### GENERAL REPORT – GRANTS

The Chief Executive submitted details of three Disabled Facilities Grants and two Boiler Replacement Grants, and reported that 72 household applications had been received for Flood Resilience Grants to date, together with 8 business applications.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

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#### AFFORDABLE HOUSING UPDATE

The Chief Executive submitted a report for Committee's information on the affordable housing schemes in progress and proposed in the borough. The Minutes of the Strategic Housing Working Group meeting held on 9 May 2016 were included for Committee's information.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.52pm

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Marshal Scott (414400).