Agenda



Housing Panel (Panel of the Scrutiny Committee)

Date: Monday 4 November 2013

Time: **5.00 pm**

Place: St Aldate's Room, Town Hall

For any further information please contact:

Pat Jones, Principal Scrutiny Officer

Telephone: 01865 252191

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Housing Panel (Panel of the Scrutiny Committee)

Membership

Chair Councillor Val Smith

Vice Chair

Councillor Gill Sanders
Councillor Stuart McCready
Councillor Sam Hollick

Linda Hill Co-optee

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AGENDA

Pages 1 WORK PROGRAMME AND REPORT BACK ON 1 - 4 **RECOMMENDATIONS** Officer: Pat Jones Principal Scrutiny Officer will support the Panel with this debate. Telephone: 01865 252191 Email: phjones@oxford.gov.uk This presents for discussion by the Panel the forward work programme and the result of recommendations made. PERFORMANCE MONITORING - HOUSING MEASURES. 5 - 6 2 **QUARTER 2.** Officer: Pat Jones Principal Scrutiny Officer will support the Panel with this debate. Tele: 01865 252191 Email: phjones@oxford.gov.uk This item reports outcomes at Qtr. 2 for the set of performance indicators chosen by the Panel. They are grouped according to the themes chosen by the Panel: Welfare reform and the housing crisis. Housing supply. • Estate regeneration. At the meeting in September the Panel asked for further information on indicators CS002 and CS005 (processing times for new and changed awards of benefit). This information is included elsewhere on the agenda. FOLLOW UP ON BENEFITS PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 3 7 - 14 Officer: Helen Bishop Head of Customer Services will support the Panel with this debate. Tele: 01865 252233

The Panel raised concern about performance at Qtr.1 for indicators:

Email: hbishop@oxford.gov.uk

CS002 – time taken to process changes in circumstances for

benefit claimants.

• CS005 – time taken to process new benefit claims.

The following information was requested for these indicators:

- The detailed reasons why these indicators are off target.
- What are we doing to get them back on target and how will we sustain this.
- What is our bench marked performance for both indicators based on this result and what would it be if we performed to target.

4 NOTES OF THE LAST MEETING

15 - 18

Notes of the meeting on the 3rd. September 2013.

DECLARING INTERESTS

General duty

You must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests when the meeting reaches the item on the agenda headed "Declarations of Interest" or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.

What is a disclosable pecuniary interest?

Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to your* employment; sponsorship (ie payment for expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a councillor or towards your election expenses); contracts; land in the Council's area; licenses for land in the Council's area; corporate tenancies; and securities. These declarations must be recorded in each councillor's Register of Interests which is publicly available on the Council's website.

Declaring an interest

Where any matter disclosed in your Register of Interests is being considered at a meeting, you must declare that you have an interest. You should also disclose the nature as well as the existence of the interest.

If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, after having declared it at the meeting you must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Members' Code of Conduct and public perception

Even if you do not have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter, the Members' Code of Conduct says that a member "must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself" and that "you must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned". What this means is that the matter of interests must be viewed within the context of the Code as a whole and regard should continue to be paid to the perception of the public.

*Disclosable pecuniary interests that must be declared are not only those of the member her or himself but also those member's spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.