

Agenda

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Housing Panel (Panel of the Scrutiny Committee)

Date: **Monday 11 September 2017**

Time: **5.00 pm**

Place: **St Aldate's Room, Town Hall**

For any further information please contact:

Andrew Brown, Scrutiny Officer

Telephone: 01865 252230

Email: abrown2@oxford.gov.uk

The Panel welcome contributions from members of the public and organisations. To speak on an agenda item, please contact the Scrutiny Officer (details above) providing 24 hours' notice if possible. The Chair will decide how long you can speak for (normally up to a maximum of 5 minutes).

As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record the meeting please let the Contact Officer know how you wish to do this before the start of the meeting.

Housing Panel (Panel of the Scrutiny Committee)

Membership

Councillor Angie Goff
Councillor David Henwood
Councillor Jennifer Pegg
Councillor Gill Sanders
Councillor David Thomas
Councillor Elizabeth Wade
Geno Humphrey (tenant co-optee)

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AGENDA

Pages

1 APOLOGIES

Substitutes are not allowed.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3 APPOINTMENT OF A TENANT AS A CO-OPTED MEMBER OF THE HOUSING PANEL

The Housing Panel, when originally set by the Communities and Partnership Scrutiny Committee, was asked to recruit an Oxford City Council tenant to sit as a non-voting co-opted member.

In summer 2015 the Panel agreed to appoint a new co-opted member and sought expressions of interest via the Council's Tenant Involvement Team and the Tenants in Touch newsletter. Following an informal interview process the Panel appointed Geno Humphrey as a co-opted member for one year. His term was later extended for a second year.

Recommendation: That the Panel AGREES to re-appoint Geno Humphrey as a co-opted member until the end of the 2017/18 Council year.

4 DRAFT HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY 2017-2022

7 - 60

Background Information
The Scrutiny Committee asked for this item to be included on the agenda. The City Executive Board on 19 September will be asked to: 1. Approve the draft Housing and Homelessness Strategy 2018-21 as a draft for public consultation. 2. Approve that as part of the consultation process, a meeting of key stakeholders is convened to assess the causes and potential remedies for the rising levels of street homelessness.
Why is it on the agenda?
For the Panel to note and comment on the report. The Panel may also wish to make one or more recommendations to the City Executive Board.
Who has been invited to comment?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr Mike Rowley, Board Member for Housing;• Stephen Clarke, Head of Housing Services;• Frances Evans, Strategy & Service Development Manager.

5 OPTIONS PAPER ON ADDITIONAL HOMELESSNESS PROVISION FOR THE CITY

61 - 70

Background Information
The Scrutiny Committee asked for this item to be included on the agenda. The City Executive Board on 19 September will be asked to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Agree for the Council to secure a one year contract with A2 Dominion from April 2018 to March 2019 to fund support for circa 20-25 units of complex needs housing at the current Simon House site, to a maximum value of £200k, to be identified from within the Homelessness Prevention Funds budget 2018-2019.2. Delegate authority to the Head of Housing to determine the details of the contract and operationalise the scheme.3. Agree for the Council to enter into a five year contract with A2 Dominion from April 2019 to March 2024, on a new site, at a maximum value of £225k per annum, to be funded from within the agreed Homelessness Prevention Funds budget envelope.4. Delegate authority to the Head of Housing to determine the details of the contract and operationalise the scheme.5. Agree for the Council to enter into a two year contract with Response to double the number of Acacia housing units in the City to 10 from October 2017 to be funded from within the agreed Homelessness Prevention Funds budget envelope.6. Delegate authority to the Head of Housing to determine the details of the contract and operationalise the scheme.
Why is it on the agenda?
For the Panel to note and comment on the report. The Panel may also wish to make one or more recommendations to the City Executive Board.
Who has been invited to comment?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr Mike Rowley, Board Member for Housing;• Stephen Clarke, Head of Housing Services;• Dave Scholes, Housing Strategy & Needs Manager.

6 THE USE OF EMPTY BUILDINGS AS TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE

71 - 78

Background Information
The Scrutiny Committee asked for this item to be included on the agenda. This report responds to a motion agreed by Council in April 2017 “requesting the City Executive Board to commission a report from officers to be submitted to the Board in September 2017 on the processes and procedures that could be used to make empty properties available for use as a temporary shelter”. The City Executive Board on 19 September 2017 will be asked to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Agree to continue working with partners to make the best use of new and existing premises for Severe Weather Emergency Provision.2. Agree to continue to investigate the feasibility of the development of a shelter scheme with particular reference to effectiveness in

meeting a defined need, and financial sustainability.
3. Agree that should additional expenditure be required to further the above objectives; a report outlining the proposed expenditure and how it can be contained within the overall budget envelope will be presented to CEB.
Why is it on the agenda?
For the Panel to note and comment on the report. The Panel may also wish to make one or more recommendations to the City Executive Board.
Who has been invited to comment?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Mike Rowley, Board Member for Housing; • Stephen Clarke, Head of Housing Services; • Dave Scholes, Housing Strategy & Needs Manager.

7 HOUSING PANEL WORK PLAN

79 - 82

For the Panel to note and agree its work plan, which can be adjusted to reflect the wishes of the Panel.

8 NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

83 - 88

For the Panel to approve the record of the meeting held on 27 July 2017.

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Meetings are scheduled as follows:

12 October 2017
13 November 2017
8 March 2018
9 April 2018

All meetings begin at 5.00pm.

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; licences 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 of the member's spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.