

Executive Board: 6 November 2006

Recommendations from Scrutiny Committees

Housing Scrutiny Committee - Thursday 28th September 2006

54. HOUSING VULNERABLE YOUNG PEOPLE – RECOMMENDATION UPDATE

The Strategy and Review Business Manager submitted a report (previously circulated now appended) which updated the Committee on the progress made on implementing the recommendations from the Scrutiny Review Group into Housing for vulnerable young people.

Councillor Fooks introduced the report and Graham Stratford added that with regard to a Foyer Scheme, this was a long term aim for the City Council, however it would be a complex project that had many questions to be resolved on for example the location, type of building and on the revenue and capital finances.

Graham Stratford said that with regard to mediation, the Council would not be using Mediation Action, but that City Council officers would be visiting people in their homes to resolve issues that could or had lead to young people becoming homeless. He further added that meetings were still on going with regard to the Supported Lodgings Scheme.

Councillor Sanders said that it was encouraging to hear of the improvements in the service available to vulnerable young people. She said that a Foyer Scheme would be excellent, and felt that the previous proposals to establish one some years back should not have been abandoned at a cost of £500k to the City Council.

Councillor Gray said that the update provided a good example of Housing Scrutiny being effective.

The Committee agreed:

- (a) To welcome the progress made in implementing the recommendations from the Housing Vulnerable Young People Scrutiny Review Group;
- (b) To request the Strategy and Review Business Manager to submit a further update report to the Housing Scrutiny Committee in 6 months time;
- (c) To REQUEST the Executive Board to redouble its efforts on the provision of a Foyer Scheme for young people in Oxford.

Councillor Murray, Improving Housing Portfolio Holder, has confirmed that he supports the request in (c) above.

Environment Scrutiny Committee – 16 October 2006

47. FLOOD ALLEVIATION PLAN

Resolved to ask the Executive Board to:

- (1) ask the Environment Agency to strongly advise that there should be no Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS), allowed on any part of the Oxford flood plain. Also to ask the Environment Agency to submit a statement regarding their views on the matter to a future meeting of the Environment Scrutiny Committee;
- (2) ask the Environment Agency that the Flood Alleviation Plan for Oxford be made as soon as practicable;
- (3) ask the Planning Business Manager to devise guidance which can be issued to all potential developers to ensure that flooding does not arise as a result of any future development within the environs of Oxford City.

The Board is asked to note that a report on the above recommendations will be submitted to the next meeting of the Executive Board in accordance with the agreed protocol for ad hoc recommendations.