

Agenda

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Housing Panel (Panel of the Scrutiny Committee)

Date: **Thursday 4 June 2015**

Time: **5.00 pm**

Place: **Plowman Room - Town Hall**

For any further information please contact:

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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

To be confirmed at the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 2 June 2015.

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AGENDA

Pages

1 ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR THE 2015/16 MUNICIPAL YEAR

The Panel is asked to elect a Chair for the Council year 2015/16.

The Chair must be a member of the Scrutiny Committee.

2 APOLOGIES

The Quorum for this Panel is three and substitutes are not allowed.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4 HOUSING ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

7 - 90

Contact Officer: Martin Shaw, Property Services Manager
Tel 01865 252775, mshaw2@oxford.gov.uk

Background Information
<p>The report seeks approval for the adoption of the Asset Management Strategy and associated action plan for Oxford City Council's housing stock.</p> <p>The City Executive Board on 11 June 2015 will be asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Recommend to Council the adoption of the Asset Management Strategy along with the Oxford Standard as part of the Council's policy framework,2. Endorse the action plan,3. Note that an Energy Strategy will be presented to CEB later this year. <p>The Panel reviewed the consultation strategy in December 2014 and its report to CEB is attached for information.</p>
Why is it on the agenda?
<p>For the Housing Panel to pre-scrutinise this decision before it goes to the City Executive Board.</p>
Who has been invited to comment?
<p>Martin Shaw will present the report and answer the Panel's questions.</p>

5 HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION (HMO) LICENSING SCHEME

91 - 160

Contact Officer: Ian Wright, Environmental Health Service Manager
Tel 01865 252553, iwright@oxford.gov.uk

Background Information
<p>The report provides findings from a review carried out for the HMO Licensing Scheme.</p> <p>That the City Executive Board on 11 June will be asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Consider the Review of Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation 2015 and note its findings,2. Resolve that the Review indicates that a significant proportion of HMOs in the Council's area are being managed ineffectively,3. Instruct Officers of the Council to proceed with a statutory 10 week consultation on the basis that it is necessary to renew the licensing scheme in its entirety for a further 5 years from the 25th January 2016 (Option 3),4. Request a future report in October 2015 setting out the results of the statutory consultation and the proposed future of the licensing scheme.
Why is it on the agenda?
<p>For the Housing Panel to pre-scrutinise this decision before it goes to the City Executive Board.</p>
Who has been invited to comment?
<p>Ian Wright will present the report and answer the Panel's questions.</p>

6 WORK PROGRAMME AND OPERATING ARRANGEMENTS

161 - 164

All Councillors have been asked to propose items or issues for review by scrutiny by 12 June. The final list will be available in on the agenda of the next Committee meeting. In the meantime, the Housing Panel may wish to review the provisional list attached and consider its priorities for the year ahead.

The Housing Panel may wish to appoint a non-voting co-opted member to serve for a specific policy review or until the next annual Council.

7 NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

165 - 168

For the Panel to note the record of the meeting held on 24 March 2015.

8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Future meetings have provisionally been scheduled for:

9 September
8 October
9 December
9 March

All meetings start at 5pm.

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.