

Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee and Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 3 January 2018

Summary of comments made on the Executive Agenda for Thursday 4 January 2018

3. Revisions to the Scheme of Delegation & Council Procedure Rules

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee supported the report with the following exceptions.

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee had concerns about the revision to include the need for the five objections to be from different addresses, this was because the Committee felt this was removing the rights of individuals. It was agreed the Development Manager & Democratic Services Manager would look at this with the Portfolio Holder and Chairman of Planning Committee and bring an amendment to either Executive or Council ahead of the final decision.

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee welcomed, after discussion and agreement with Officers, that the proposal to delegation DS(70) (iv) should remain within the scheme of delegation and therefore the current proposal to remove this should be withdrawn.

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee had concerns about delegation DS(iii)(b) and the potential for this to imply that Parish/Town Council may lose the right for their objection to bring the matter to Planning Committee. The Development Manager & Democratic Services Manager would look at this with the Portfolio Holder and Chairman of Planning Committee and bring an amendment to either Executive or Council ahead of the final decision.

4. Housing Allocations Policy review

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

The Committee welcomed the agreement from the Portfolio Holder to widen the criteria to address the situation where the property allocation quotas might mean it could be better to be in a lower priority band compared to higher bands e.g. regarding the balance between band 2's and band 3's demand and available properties. The Committee supported the following revision to the section on the imbalance of the housing register to remove this potential issue within paragraph 2 on Item 4/ page 12;

"It is proposed that this should be monitored and if the situation does not improve the Head of Housing, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, should have delegated authority to re-balance the quotas to secure that a greater proportion of the out-of-balance properties would be advertised to the higher priority band to redress the balance.

The Committee welcomed that the 4th paragraph on Item 4, page 14 of the report would be amended to read "For applicants in this situation that cannot be considered under homelessness legislation....".

The Committee were mindful of the proposed delegation to the Head of Housing in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to make minor changes to the Policy (Item 4 Page 15). They noted that the intention to this would be to accommodate any amendments by statute, government guidance or to enable clarity on policy and its intentions. Therefore the Committee welcomed that the Portfolio Holder would incorporate details of these changes as part of his annual report to the Committee.

5. **Procurement Partnership and Staffing**

The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

6. Homelessness Initiatives and the New Legislation

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee noted the report and welcomed the work being undertaken in homelessness initiatives and strongly encouraged the continued dialogue between Housing Associations and this Council to help tackle this problem.

The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations with the following amendment to recommendation 2.4:

The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee proposed that recommendation 2.4 be amended to read "...the earmarking of **an initial** £10,000 from the FSHG...".

The Executive are required to vote on this because it forms a recommendation to them.

9. **Public & Press** – Done

Urgent Item - Newbold Comyn Golf Course

The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report but raised a number of concerns about the lessons that needed to be learnt from this.