

**TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**STRATEGIC HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD**

**Tuesday, 7th June, 2011**

**Present:** Cllr Mrs B A Brown (Chairman), Cllr Mrs J A Anderson, Cllr Mrs J M Bellamy, Cllr D J Cure, Cllr D A S Davis, Cllr Mrs S L Luck, Cllr M Parry-Waller, Cllr D W Smith and Cllr Mrs C J Woodger.

Councillors Ms Atkinson, Baldock, Balfour, Bolt, Heslop, Rhodes, Miss Sergison, Mrs Simpson and Worrall were also present pursuant to Council Procedure Rule No 15.21.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lancaster (Vice-Chairman), Sayer and Trice.

**PART 1 - PUBLIC**

**SH  
11/021      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Heslop declared a personal interest in any items that might have implications for the Bridge Trust on the grounds that he was a member of its Board.

Councillor Mrs Luck declared a personal interest in any items with implications for her position as landlord of a house in multiple occupation and a flat where tenants were in receipt of a rent deposit bond.

**SH  
11/022      MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** That the notes of the meeting of the Strategic Housing Advisory Board held on 21 February 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**SH  
11/023      GLOSSARY**

The Director of Health and Housing submitted a glossary of terms used within the reports to the Advisory Board.

**SH  
11/024      NEW MEMBER INDUCTION  
- INTRODUCTORY OVERVIEW PRESENTATIONS**

Copies of the Housing Team Structure Diagram were circulated at the meeting and the Chairman invited the officers to introduce themselves and their areas of work while presenting the following items. It was noted that Members of the Advisory Board were welcome to arrange a visit to the Service by contacting the Chief Housing Officer.

## **MATTERS FOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE CABINET**

**SH  
11/025**

### **WEST KENT HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY 2011-2016**

Decision Notice D110075MEM

Further to Decision No D110016MEM, the joint report of the Director of Health and Housing and Cabinet Member for Housing presented an updated West Kent Homelessness Strategy 2011-2016 following consultation with key partners and stakeholders.

Attention was drawn to the Foreword and Action Plan which addressed previous concerns about the strategy being developed at a time of significant change in the housing sector. It was noted that the Action Plan would cover the first two years of the strategy with a review in 2013 to reflect work in progress.

**RECOMMENDED:** That the West Kent Homelessness Strategy 2011-2016 be approved.

**SH  
11/026**

### **KENT FIVE-YEAR SUPPORTING PEOPLE STRATEGY 2010-2015**

Decision Notice D110076MEM

The joint report of the Director of Health and Housing and Cabinet Member for Housing sought authority for the Director to sign, on behalf of the Council, the recently reviewed Supporting People Commissioning Body Memorandum of Understanding. It also provided an update on the present position regarding floating support services for older people across the Borough.

The Advisory Board discussed the challenges faced by individual authority representatives on the Supporting People Commissioning Body in achieving consensus in decision making to secure the best use of resources across the county. It was therefore suggested that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee might consider it appropriate to undertake a review of the Supporting People service in due course.

**RECOMMENDED:** That

(1) the Director of Health and Housing be authorised to sign the Supporting People Commissioning Body Memorandum of Understanding as set out at Annex 1 to the report; and

(2) the update in respect of floating support services for older people be noted.

## **MATTERS SUBMITTED FOR INFORMATION**

**SH  
11/027**

### **HOUSING NEEDS UPDATE**

The report provided updates on the activity of the Housing Options and Housing Register Services.

**SH  
11/028 PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING UPDATE**

Updates were provided on the waiting times/list for children's Occupational Therapy assessments from which it was noted that progress was being made with regular contact between the locum Occupational Therapist and officers and further feasibility visits having taken place. The Advisory Board was also updated on the Disabled Facilities Grant spend in 2010/11 and the allocation for 2011/12 and advised that Russett Homes had accepted the recommended notional allocation of £200,000 with a proviso that if a large number of schemes were forthcoming the sum should be reviewed and increased to £250,000.

Reference was also made to a review of the Disabled Facilities Grant process, the Housing Assistance spend in 2010/11 and the evaluation of customer feedback for 2010/11.

**SH  
11/029 STRATEGY AND ENABLING UPDATE**

The report provided an update on progress made by the Council's Registered Provider Partners in providing new affordable housing in the Borough and summarised the programmes for 2010/11 to 2013/14. Details of progress on housing strategy matters were also submitted.

**SH  
11/030 EXTERNAL CONSULTATION**

The report set out details of a response submitted to the Homes and Communities Agency's discussion paper on the future of the Homebuy Agent role.

**MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PRIVATE**

**SH  
11/031 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The Chairman moved, it was seconded and

**RESOLVED:** That as public discussion would disclose exempt information, the following matter be considered in private.

**PART 2 - PRIVATE**

**MATTERS SUBMITTED FOR INFORMATION**

**SH  
11/032 SERVICE OF STATUTORY NOTICES  
(Reasons: LGA 1972 Sch 12A Paragraph 3 - Financial or business affairs of any particular person)**

Members noted the statutory notices served since the last meeting of the Advisory Board on 21 February 2011.

The meeting ended at 2045 hours

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**RECORD OF DECISION**

**Decision Taken By: CABINET MEMBER FOR  
Housing**

**Decision No: D110075MEM**

**Date: 7th June 2011**

**Decision(s) and Reason(s)**

**West Kent Homelessness Strategy 2011-2016**

**(Joint Report of the Director of Health and Housing and Cabinet Member for Housing)  
(Annex 1)**

**Further to Decision No D110016MEM, the report presented an updated West Kent Homelessness Strategy 2011-2016 following consultation with key partners and stakeholders.**

**Attention was drawn to the Foreword and Action Plan which addressed previous concerns about the strategy being developed at a time of significant change in the housing sector. It was noted that the Action Plan would cover the first two years of the strategy with a review in 2013 to reflect work in progress.**

Following consideration by the Strategic Housing Advisory Board, the Cabinet Member for Housing resolved that the West Kent Homelessness Strategy 2011-2016 be approved.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Strategic Housing Advisory Board of 7 June 2011.

Signed Cabinet Member for J Atkinson  
Housing:

Signed Leader: M Worrall

Signed Chief Executive: D Hughes

**Date of publication:** 10 June 2011

This decision will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of 5 working days after publication unless it is called in.

# TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

## RECORD OF DECISION

**Decision Taken By: CABINET MEMBER FOR  
Housing**

**Decision No: D110076MEM**

**Date: 7th June 2011**

### **Decision(s) and Reason(s)**

#### **Kent Five-Year Supporting People Strategy 2010-2015**

**(Joint Report of the Director of Health and Housing and Cabinet Member for Housing)  
(Annex 1)**

**The report sought authority for the Director of Health and Housing to sign, on behalf of the Council, the recently reviewed Supporting People Commissioning Body Memorandum of Understanding. It also provided an update on the present position regarding floating support services for older people across the borough.**

**It was suggested that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee might consider it appropriate to undertake a review of the Supporting People service in due course.**

Following consideration by the Strategic Housing Advisory Board, the Cabinet Member for Housing resolved that:

- 1) the Director of Health and Housing be authorised to sign the Supporting People Commissioning Body Memorandum of Understanding set out at Annex 1 to the report; and
- 2) the update in respect of floating support services for older people be noted.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Strategic Housing Advisory Board of 7 June 2011.

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