

## Minutes

### Community Services Scrutiny Panel

Town Hall, Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2006 at 5.30pm

**Present:** Councillors Howarth (in the Chair), Griffin, Hepplewhite, Hopgood, Kinghorn, Moderate, Norman, Taylor, Walton, and Young

**Also Present:** Councillors Bell, Carr, Crathorne, Dickie, Simmons, Stoddart, Southwell and Turnbull

Mr D Marrs	-	Executive Director
Mr A Moscardini	-	Head of Property Services
Mr M Thompson	-	Head of Community Services
Mr H Lee	-	Operations Manager
Mrs M Goodrick	-	Customer Services Manager

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Robinson and Wolstenholme.

**Note:** *Councillors Griffin and Moderate entered the Meeting at 5.32pm*

#### 2. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2006, were confirmed as a correct record.

#### 3. Review of Council House Repairs

Members considered the recommendations made in their last review on the topic of Council House Repairs, which took place in September 2005. Officers advised the Panel of progress made to date on these recommendations, and of projects which were proposed to further improve the service provided.

A summary of the Panel's discussions, and further recommendations can be found at Appendix A.

**Note:** *Councillor Crathorne left the Meeting at 6.45pm*

**Note:** *Councillors Carr and Norman left the Meeting at 6.50pm*

**Note:** *Councillor Stoddart left the Meeting at 6.53pm*

**Note:** *Councillor Southwell left the Meeting at 6.55pm*

#### 4. Review of Decent Homes Standard

Members considered their report of March 2004.

The Panel was told that the percentage of houses externally assessed as non decent was higher than the Property Services assessment. However, the Council is still on course to achieve the DHS target set for 2010.

Members requested the Head of Property Services to provide a written response as to progress made towards the Panel's questions and recommendations.

This information would be forwarded to Members in due course.

#### **5. Business for Next Meeting**

The Chair advised that arrangements had been made for Members to visit various playing pitches and facilities as part of the Panel's Scrutiny on the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy.

These site visits would take place on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 9.30am, and Agenda papers would be dispatched via the Members Courier on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2006.

The Chair noted that a draft report on the Playing Pitch Strategy was currently being prepared, and would be considered at the Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2006.

Members were asked for their opinion on whether the Panel should recommend that byelaws be written, or that a code of conduct be produced relating to the use of pitches. In view of Members comments, the Chair suggested that this be discussed further at the next Meeting.

#### **6. Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

The Meeting terminated at 7.00 pm