



Cambridge City Council

HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

To: Scrutiny Committee Members: Councillors Todd-Jones (Chair), Avery, Baigent, Bird, Blackhurst, Holland and Robertson

Alternates: Councillors Gawthrop, Hipkin and Pitt

Tenants and Leaseholders: Diane Best (Leaseholder Representative), Kay Harris (Tenant Representative), John Marais (Tenant Representative), Diana Minns (Vice Chair /Tenant Representative), Caroline Oriokot (Tenant Representative) and Terry Sweeney (Tenant Representative).

Executive Councillor for Housing: Councillor Price

Despatched: Wednesday, 17 December 2015

Date: Wednesday, 14 January 2015

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: Committee Room 1 & 2 - Guildhall

Contact: Claire Tunnicliffe **Direct Dial:** 01223 457012

AGENDA

- 1 **Apologies**
- 2 **Appointment of Councillor Vice Chair**
- 3 **Declarations of Interest**

Members are asked to declare at this stage any interests that they may have in an item shown on this agenda. If any member of the Committee is unsure whether or not they should declare an interest on a particular matter, they should seek advice from the Head of Legal Services **before** the meeting.

- 4 **Minutes**
To approve the minutes of the previous meeting.
(Pages 9 - 26)

5 Public Questions

(See information below).

Items for Decision by the Executive Councillor for Housing, Without Debate

These Items will already have received approval in principle from the Executive Councillor. The Executive Councillor will be asked to approve the recommendations as set out in the officer's report.

There will be no debate on these items, but members of the Scrutiny Committee and members of the public may ask questions or comment on the items if they comply with the Council's rules on Public Speaking set out below.

Items for Debate by the Committee and then Decision by the Executive Councillor for Housing

These items will require the Executive Councillor to make a decision after hearing the views of the Scrutiny Committee.

There will be a full debate on these items, and members of the public may ask questions or comment on the items if they comply with the Council's rules on Public Speaking set out below.

Part 1: To be chaired by Vice Chair (Tenant/Leaseholder Representative)
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Items for Decision by the Executive Councillor for Housing, Without Debate

6 Standard Item: Write Off of Former & Current Tenant Arrears *(Pages 27 - 30)*

Items for Debate by the Committee and then Decision by the Executive Councillor for Housing

7 Housing Revenue Account Rent Setting Policy *(Pages 31 - 42)*

8 2015/16 Housing Revenue Account Budget Setting Report *(Pages 43 - 162)*

Part 2: To be taken by the Chair of the Committee

Items for Debate by the Committee and then Decision by the Executive Councillor for Housing

- 9 Housing Portfolio Revenue and Capital Budgets 2015/16 (Estimate) and 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20 (Forecast)**
(Pages 163 - 182)
- 10 Council Housing at Homerton College**
(Pages 183 - 198)
- 11 Homelessness Prevention Grants**
(Pages 199 - 212)
- 12 Local Government Ombudsman Maladministration Finding: Homelessness**
(Pages 213 - 222)
- 13 Fundamental Review of the Housing Revenue Account**
(Pages 223 - 232)

Items for Decision by the Executive Councillor for Housing, Without Debate

- 14 Delegation of Powers to make Interim Management Orders**
Report attached separately
- 15 Record of Urgent Decision**
To note decisions taken by the Executive Councillor for Housing since the last meeting of the Housing Scrutiny Committee
- 15a New Build Budgets
(Pages 233 - 240)
- 15b Refurbishment of the Cambridge Access Surgery
(Pages 241 - 250)
- 15c Recommendation to Buy Back a Dwelling
(Pages 251 - 264)

Information for the Public

Location

The meeting is in the Guildhall on the Market Square (CB2 3QJ).

Between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. the building is accessible via Peas Hill, Guildhall Street and the Market Square entrances.

After 5 p.m. access is via the Peas Hill entrance.

All the meeting rooms (Committee Room 1, Committee 2 and the Council Chamber) are on the first floor, and are accessible via lifts or stairs.

Public Participation

Some meetings may have parts that will be closed to the public, but the reasons for excluding the press and public will be given.

Most meetings have an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions or make statements.

To ask a question or make a statement please notify the Committee Manager (details listed on the front of the agenda) prior to the deadline.

- For questions and/or statements regarding items on the published agenda, the deadline is the start of the meeting.
- For questions and/or statements regarding items NOT on the published agenda, the deadline is 10 a.m. the day before the meeting.

Speaking on Planning Applications or Licensing Hearings is subject to other rules. Guidance for speaking on these issues can be obtained from Democratic Services on 01223 457013 or democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk.

Further information about speaking at a City Council meeting can be found at:

<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/speaking-at-committee-meetings>

Cambridge City Council would value your assistance in improving the public speaking process of committee meetings. If you any have any feedback please contact Democratic Services on 01223 457013 or democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk.

Filming, recording and photography

The Council is committed to being open and transparent in the way it conducts its decision making. The public may record (e.g. film, audio, tweet, blog) meetings which are open to the public.

Anyone who does not want to be recorded should let the Chair of the meeting know. Those recording meetings are strongly urged to respect the wish of any member of the public not to be recorded.

Fire Alarm

In the event of the fire alarm sounding please follow the instructions of Cambridge City Council staff.

Facilities for disabled people

Level access to the Guildhall is via Peas Hill.

A loop system is available in Committee Room 1, Committee Room 2 and the Council Chamber.

Accessible toilets are available on the ground and first floor.

Meeting papers are available in large print and other formats on request prior to the meeting.

For further assistance please contact Democratic Services on 01223 457013 or democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk.

Queries on reports

If you have a question or query regarding a committee report please contact the officer listed at the end of relevant report or Democratic Services on 01223 457013 or democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk.

General Information

Information regarding committees, councilors and the democratic process is available at <http://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk>.

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<http://www.moderngov.co.uk/our-solutions/tablet-app-paperless-meetings>