



CABINET SUB COMMITTEE (WELSH HOUSING QUALITY STANDARD)

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, YSTRAD MYNACH
(SIRHOWY ROOM) ON THURSDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2012 AT 7:00PM**

PRESENT:

Councillor G. Jones - Chairman

Councillors:

K. James and K.V. Reynolds.

Together with:

P. Davy (Head of Programme Housing Stock Transfer) and E. Sullivan (Democratic Services Officer)

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence received.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the beginning or during the course of the meeting.

2. SHELTERED HOUSING REVIEW - FINAL UPDATE

The report provided a final update on the progress of the Sheltered Housing Review and provided options for future service delivery.

Members commended the Supporting Housing Manager and her team for all their work during the review and congratulated them on the extent of the consultation undertaken. Members also expressed their thanks to the tenants on the Older Persons Group for their contribution.

The sub-committee considered the recommendations from the meeting of the Caerphilly Homes Task Group (WHQS) and having fully discussed the report it was proposed and seconded that the recommendations in the Officer's report be approved and by a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officer's report the recommendations in relation to the Sheltered Housing Review be approved: -

1. The four sheltered housing schemes without communal facilities be re-classified and tenants be formally consulted in accordance with legal requirements where a variation of tenancy terms and conditions are planned.
2. For the reasons outlined in the options appraisal in the report together with the feedback from tenants during the consultation period, the introduction of a cluster based service delivery be approved.
3. To meet the requirement to assess the housing related support needs of each tenant the introduction of a 'banded' service be approved with costs reflecting the varying levels of support provided.
4. Cleaning arrangements in sheltered housing schemes will be extended to cover all schemes.
5. The introduction of a new structure to integrate older persons service into one team, including the appointment of an Activities Co-ordinator as detailed in paragraph 4.5.2 of the report be approved.
6. Based on support from tenants in sheltered housing and other designated older persons housing, the development of a range of other services, for example, handypersons services, decorating and gardening services be progressed and reviewed to establish usage and viability.
7. Arrangements for scooter storage, car parking and other improvement requests that arose during the consultation process be considered as part of stock appraisal and WHQS investment programme.
8. A further report be submitted on partnership developments with Social Services.
9. A progress report be submitted on the introduction of the new service delivery model in twelve months time.

3. COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT FUND

The report sought approval for two applications received from community groups for funding from the Community Improvement Fund.

The application details were confirmed and an outline of each of the community schemes was given. It was noted that the Britannia Community Association were seeking £2,300.00 and the 'Ann's Kitchen' project in Craig y Rhacca were seeking £5000.00 of grant funding. Members welcomed the first two applications and hoped to see many more come forward.

The sub-committee considered the recommendations from the meeting of the Caerphilly Homes Task Group (WHQS) and having fully discussed the report it was proposed and seconded that the recommendations be approved subject to the conditions contained in the Officer's report and by a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reason contained in the Officer's report the recommendations in relation to the Community Improvement Fund grant applications be approved: -

1. Funding to support the redevelopment of the Britannia Community Association be approved subject to: -

- a) Receipt of confirmation that approval has been obtained from CCBC Housing for the improvements proposed.
 - b) Receipt of two written quotes from appropriate suppliers for the materials/equipment required.
2. Funding for the refurbishment of the former Graig y Rhacca Police Station into an expanded community café providing healthy food, training and employment for the local community be approved subject to: -
- a) Confirmation that a lease has been granted by CCBC to the Graig y Rhacca Resource Centre.
 - b) Confirmation that a change of use has been approved.
 - c) Receipt of a second comparable quote for the works to be undertaken.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMME - ENGAGEMENT AND INVOLVEMENT PLAN

The report sought approval for the resources required to delivery an engagement and involvement plan to underpin the WHQS environmental programme and delivery strategic projects identified by communities, for communities as part of the programme.

Members welcomed the plan as an important step forward in the WHQS environmental programme. The importance of community involvement and commitment was acknowledged in order to ensure the future sustainability of the improvement projects.

The sub-committee considered the recommendations from the meeting of the Caerphilly Homes Task Group (WHQS) and having fully discussed the report it was proposed and seconded that the recommendations in the Officer's Report be approved and by a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reason given in the Officer's Report the recommendations in the Officer's report be approved: -

1. The proposals for engagement with residents to develop the WHQS environmental programme be approved.
2. The resources allocated for the appointment of the Caerphilly Homes Environmental Officers be approved.
3. The integrated approach across the Council's organisation to support the engagement plan be approved.

5. WHQS PROGRAMME CHANGES

The report outlined programme changes in light of progress with the 2013/14 capital programme.

Members commended Officers on the progress made with the works programme and noted the projected expenditure against the properties that would be brought forward.

The sub-committee considered the recommendations from the meeting of the Caerphilly Homes Task Group (WHQS) and having fully discussed the report it was proposed and seconded that the recommendations in the Officer's Report be approved and by a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officers report the recommendations in relation to the WHQS programme changes be approved.

Approved as a correct record subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held on

The meeting closed at 7:15pm

CHAIRMAN