

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTICE OF THE DECISIONS FROM THE HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 21st November 2023 AT 5.30 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councillors: M. Chacon-Dawson, R. Chapman, C. Cuss, T. Heron, A. Hussey, D. Ingram-Jones, M. James, A. McConnell, B. Owen, H. Pritchard, J. A. Pritchard, J. Rao, A. Whitcombe (Chair), S. Williams (Vice Chair).

Cabinet Members: S. Cook (Housing) and J. Pritchard ((Prosperity, Regeneration and Climate Change).

Officers: N. Taylor-Williams (Head of Housing), J. Reynolds (Landlord Services Manager), L. Allen (Principal Group Account – Housing), M. Jacques (Scrutiny Officer) and A. Jones (Committee Services Officer).

The decisions and declarations of interest are set out below. For further details please refer to the relevant report.

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	VOTE
1.	To receive apologies for absence.	Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C. Bishop, D. Cushing, D. T. Davies and L. Phipps	N/A
2.	Declarations of interest.	<p>Cllr A. McConnell declared a personal and prejudicial declaration of interest on agenda item 4 due to being a Caerphilly County Borough Council Contract Holder.</p> <p>Cllr R. Chapman declared a personal declaration of interest only as a close family member is a Caerphilly County Borough Council Contract Holder.</p>	N/A
3.	Housing Offices Rationalisation	<p>Members comments were collected as part of the consultation process and will be passed back to Cabinet for consideration.</p> <p>1. Members comments were sought in relation to the recommendation that the housing offices at Lansbury Park, Graig Yr Rhacca and Gilfach, and the community housing office at Ty Sign be permanently closed.</p> <p>2. Members comments were sought on the transition of the Landlord Service from a traditional office-based model to a community-based delivery model.</p> <p>3. Members comments were sought on the relocation of the Landlord Service</p>	N/A

		to Penallta House where the wider Caerphilly Homes Housing Service has recently relocated.	
4.	Housing Revenue Account Charges – 2024/2025.	<p>Following consideration of the report it was moved and seconded that the recommendations be approved. By way of Microsoft Forms this was agreed by a majority.</p> <p>RECOMMEND TO CABINET:</p> <p>1. The Housing and Environment Scrutiny Committee provided their views on the following recommendations, which will be presented to Cabinet on the 13th December 2023.</p> <p>2. Officers recommend the following increases for consideration from April 2024 based on the options explained in the report, which are:-</p> <p>(i) Rent is increased per property to the maximum permitted as per the WG rent policy which is 6.7%. This would increase the current average rent by £6.68 per week from £99.72 to £106.40 per week over 52 weeks.</p> <p>(ii) The level of rent for garages from April 2024 be increased by the same level at 6.7% to £9.44 per week.</p>	11 For 1 Against 0 Abstention

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