

Minutes of Health & Housing Committee

Meeting Date: Thursday, 31 October 2013, starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor B Hilton (Chairman)

Councillors:

S Bibby	R Newmark
S Brunskill	L Rimmer
R Hargreaves	M Robinson
J Hill	C Ross
K Hind	I Sayers
J Holgate	J Shervey
S Hore	

In attendance: Chief Executive, Head of Environmental Health Services, Head of Financial Services, Housing Strategy Officer.

401 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillor E M H Ranson.

402 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 August 2013 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

403 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

404 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

405 REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES

The Director of Resources submitted a report seeking Committee's approval on proposals to increase this Committee's fees and charges with effect from 1 April 2014. These proposals were the first stage in the review of this Committee's budget for the forthcoming 2014/15 financial year. The Council's fees and charges are reviewed on an annual basis and the charges would be implemented with effect from 1 April 2014 and would operate for the following financial year.

The Council's latest budget forecast allows for a 2.75% increase in the level of income raised from fees and charges. After applying his percentage increase, proposed charges had mainly been rounded up to the nearest 10p to minimise any problems with small change.

In September 2013 a report was taken to the Budget Working Group on the review of the Council's fees and charges for 2014/15 to get a steer on the level of increase that should be sought. At their meeting the Budget Working Group agreed with the guideline increase of 2.75% for the Council's fees and charges for 2014/15, allowing for the roundings up. A proposed level for fees and charges for implementation from the 1 April 2014 was included in the report for Committee's consideration.

RESOLVED: That Committee approve the list of fees and charges as appended to the report for implementation with effect from 1 April 2014.

406 APPROVAL OF MODEL LICENCE CONDITIONS FOR DOG DAY CARE FACILITIES

The Chief Executive submitted a report asking Committee to consider and approve model licence conditions for kennel operators providing dog 'day care' facilities. Earlier this year the Council had been approached for the first time by a local operator wishing to open a dog day care facility, commonly referred to as a dog crèche. It was recognised that the current model conditions were not entirely relevant and applicable to dog 'day care' facilities.

Following enquiries to the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health, advice had been received that although there were a growing number of these facilities, there were no model standard available or proposed in the near future. As such enquiries had been made with neighbouring Lancashire authorities and copies of adopted model standards had been obtained from both South Ribble and Preston. Both authorities had used their standards for several years without experiencing problems. The Head of Environmental Services had used these standards in conjunction with the existing model standards to formulate the proposed model conditions that were attached to the report. These had been considered accepted as reasonable and appropriate by the operator concerned.

Committee discussed the proposed model conditions and felt that clarification was needed with regard to whether a condition regarding planning permission should be included and more detailed conditions regarding the "fitness" of a person having such a licence.

RESOLVED: That Committee

1. approve the attached model conditions in relation to the licensing of dog 'day care' (crèche) facilities within the Ribble Valley under the provisions of the Animal Boarding Establishment Act 1963; and
2. delegate to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman of Committee the clarification of points relating to planning permission and the fitness of a licensee.

407 PREVENTION OF ROUGH SLEEPING AWARD

The Chief Executive submitted a report informing Committee of the budget available and the requirement for the Council to adopt the personalised solution scheme policy to enable the Council to draw down grant monies. For Ribble Valley Borough Council to be able to draw down £1,000 to assist rough sleepers, the Council must demonstrate that they have adopted the personalised solution budget policy as outlined in the report. The scheme would be of benefit to the housing services department especially in the winter months.

RESOLVED: That Committee approve the adoption of a personalised solution policy as outlined in the report to allow the release of funding to the Ribble Valley Borough Council.

408 CAPITAL MONITORING 2013/14

The Director of Resources submitted a report for Committee's information relating to the progress of the approved capital programme for the period April to September 2013 with regards to schemes which fall under the responsibility of this Committee.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

409 REVENUE MONITORING 2013/14

The Director of Resources submitted a report for Committee's information on the position for the first 6 months of this year's revenue budget as far as this Committee was concerned.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

410 INTRODUCTION OF INTEGRATED TRANSFORMATION FUND

The Chief Executive submitted a report informing Committee of the proposed changes to the Disabled Facilities Grant funding. It had emerged that from 2015 all of the Central Government funding would be provided by the Department of Health with no capital spend on DFG's by DCLG. It had now been made clear that this Department of Health funding for DFG's would be included in the new integration transformation fund. Plans for the use of the pooled monies have to be developed by a clinical commissioning group and local authorities (LCC) and signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

411 WARM HOMES HEALTHY PEOPLE REVIEW

The Chief Executive submitted a report for Committee's information providing an overview of the impact of the Warm Homes Healthy People funding received 2011/12 and 2012/13.

We were currently awaiting the outcome of a bid for funding from the CCG.

RESOLVED: That

412 GENERAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE ON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

Committee considered the general report of the Chief Executive which had been submitted to Committee for information which included the minutes of the Hanson Cement Liaison Meeting and updates on the Clitheroe Cemetery extension, environmental health staff and shale gas fracking. Committee requested that the Head of Environmental Health Services keep them updated on developments in relation to recovery of 'unconventional fuel' resources.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

413 MINUTES OF THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING PARTNERSHIP GROUP

The minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Partnership Group meeting held on 16 October 2013 were submitted for Committee's information, along with the updated Terms of Reference. The Chairman gave Committee brief updates on the Lancashire County Council Health and Wellbeing Board and the Vice Chairman gave an update on developments with regard to Slaidburn doctors surgery.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

414 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That by virtue of the fact that the following items of business be an Exempt Information under Categories 1 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be now excluded from the meeting.

415 GENERAL REPORT – GRANTS

The Chief Executive submitted details of six disabled facilities grants that had been approved.

416 AFFORDABLE HOUSING UPDATE

The Chief Executive submitted an update on the affordable housing schemes in progress and proposed in the borough. These had been split into applications which had been submitted and were either approved or waiting determination subject to Section 106 Agreements being completed.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.47pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Marshal Scott (414400).