

Committee: COMMUNITY AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

Agenda Item

Date: March 19, 2009

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Title: LEAD OFFICER'S REPORT

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Item for information

Summary

1. This report updates Members on matters arising from the minutes that are not otherwise on this Agenda and provides information items.

Recommendations

2. That the report is noted.

Background Papers

3. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report.

- Minutes of Community Committee 22 January 2009.

Situation/Update

There are updates from the January 2009 meeting followed by items for information.

Bishop's Stortford Citizens' Advice Bureau

- 5 In accordance with this Committees request, the Chairman has written to East Herts District Council, no response had been received at the time of writing this report.

Emergency Planning – Parish Council Emergency Plans

- 6 A workshop is to be held 20th April 7pm aimed directly at Parish Councils
This multi agency event will show how a major incident is responded to and how if it is in your area, the parish plans will fit in with those of the blue light services who will rely on local knowledge. The workshop is around a virtual scenario so that you can get a feel for the type of incident and suitable collective response.

Health Protection Agency

- 7 Notification has been received that the Health Protection Agency (HPA) is withdrawing from all current Port Health arrangements. This affects us in that they pay us to manage this function on their behalf at Stansted Airport.

Officers have commenced the necessary arrangements to close our involvement; the HPA will continue to cover all costs until the exit process is complete.

NATS Proposed changes to airspace

- 8 NATS has announced that there will be consultation on revised proposals to redraw the aircraft route map in the area of south east England known as Terminal Control North (TCN). The second consultation will be later this year. The dates are not yet decided, but it will not be before July. New design rules have been introduced for the use of Precision Area Navigation (P-RNAV) technology, which means that new options for some routes in the TCN can now be considered. In some areas, NATS says, it hopes to present an alternative route for consideration, to allow a degree of choice for those in the area affected. NATS stresses that these proposals are not associated with any proposed airport development such as Stansted G2. Members will be aware that the Council's response to the initial consultation criticised the lack of real alternatives to the proposals presented. NATS had agreed to meet the Council if it holds further consultation.

Transfer of amenities to local councils

- 9 Discussions have opened with Saffron Walden Town Council regarding the transfer of some local amenities from the Council to the Town Council at its request. Once officers have identified if this option is possible and assessed the implications a report will be brought to the appropriate committee in respect of the matters within its terms of delegation.

Update Holloway Crescent and Holloway Close

- 10 At the last Community and Housing meeting officers advised that further revised plans were being drawn up to address concerns regarding Phase 2 and would be presented to the next committee meeting.

Progress on the plans has been slower than anticipated because scheduled meetings with affected residents had to be cancelled due to adverse weather conditions. Most have now taken place with the remaining meetings re-scheduled for 18 and 20 March. Once these have taken place the architect will be in a position to make any necessary amendments to the plans. These will be shared with the parish council and the concern group before being presented to the next Committee meeting in June.