

## DECISION LIST

### COMMUNITY AND HOUSING COMMITTEE– 17 SEPTEMBER 2009

AGENDA ITEM	ITEM	DECISION	REASON	OFFICER
5	Lead Officer's report	RESOLVED to note the report of the Lead Officer.		DB
6	Holloway Crescent and Holloway Close	<p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 to authorise Officers urgently to explore a way to deliver the Council's key objectives, with priority being attached to the provision of 5 bungalows on the Council-owned garage site and the redevelopment of the site on which the sheltered flats stand, meeting the needs of those currently living in the Holloway Crescent bungalows;</li> <li>2 that Swan Housing Association's Option 1 proposal be rejected on the grounds that it is not able to provide a capital receipt under current economic conditions;</li> <li>3 that Officers' investigations include the possibility of the Council bidding for a Sheltered Housing Grant and developing the garage site, procuring assistance from a Registered Social Landlord to prepare a strong bid;</li> <li>4 that Officers also invite proposals from Registered Social Landlords to develop the garage site, with Swan Housing Association being given first opportunity.</li> <li>5 that if necessary, the lead officer considers calling an</li> </ol>	To resolve the issue of hard to let sheltered accommodation at Holloway Crescent and re-provide more suitable affordable housing, whilst taking into account the impact on proposals of the current economic downturn.	RM/SW

		extraordinary meeting of the Committee to expedite decisions following exploration of further options.		
7	2009/10 Budget Monitoring	RESOLVED that the Committee approve the budget monitoring report.	As part of the agreed budget monitoring process, to monitor budgets relating to the General Fund Service, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programme Schemes.	DB/SJ
8	Review of council housing finance	<p>RESOLVED that, subject to amendments to the draft responses (to questions 6 and 12 detailed below), the Committee approve the Council's consultation response for consideration by Full Council on 20 October.</p> <p><i>Amended response to question 6:</i> 'The Council welcomes the proposal to abolish the housing subsidy system.</p> <p>However, as a debt-free Council that has a long history of maintaining its stock in good order, we are most strongly opposed to the principle of having other councils' debt allocated to us, and in turn, our tenants.</p> <p>Depending on the amounts involved, this could be as unfair as the present subsidy system.</p> <p>If, as proposed, debt allocation will achieve neutrality with the subsidy system, it would take years before benefits are felt locally. Meanwhile, the unfairness would continue. The Government has not demonstrated why debt free Councils should be expected to pay for debt that other authorities have not repaid.</p>	To enable the Council to respond to the Government's consultation on reform of council housing finance.	RM/SJ

		<p>If the Government proceeds with this proposal, negotiations with councils must take place over the allocation of debt.'</p> <p><i>Amended response to question 12: 'We support the proposal to discontinue the pooling system.'</i></p>		
9	Housing Strategy	RESOLVED that the Committee approve the Housing Strategy 2009-12.	To set out the Council's housing priorities for the next three years.	SW
11	Sheltered Housing Review update	<p>RESOLVED that</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 the Committee note the progress made by the Sheltered Housing Task Group, and</li> <li>2 the Task Group continue in existence for a further twelve months, with the reappointment of existing members.</li> </ol>	To enable the completion of the Sheltered Housing/Lifeline review.	EP
13	Tenant Forum Minutes	RESOLVED to note the Minutes of the meeting of the Tenant Forum held on 6 July 2009.	To take note of the ongoing work of the Tenant Forum.	EP