

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17

Date	Item	Notes	Objective	Proposed Outcomes	Action / Witness	Actual Outcome
<p>Meeting 1: 14/07/16</p>	<p>Presentations:</p>	<p>1. MK YMCA Development Plans</p>	<p>To gain an understanding of the work being done by MK YMCA with young homeless people and its plans for the future</p>	<p>To see how the YMCA and Council can work together to support each other in their work with the homeless, particularly the under 35s</p>	<p>Simon Green Director of Operations at MK YMCA (now CE)</p>	<p>Recommendations made to Cabinet supporting YMCA's expansion plans and the possibility of selling the land to YMCA at a below market rate to enable the project to be completed in its entirety.</p>
		<p>2. The Homeless Landscape in Milton Keynes</p>	<p>To gain insight into the issues intertwined with homelessness, the barriers faced on day to day basis by the homeless and some solutions moving forward.</p>	<p>To understand the extent of the problem locally, its complexity and the reasons why the situation is getting worse, not better</p>	<p>Daniel Haydon Homeless Support Worker at Christ the Cornerstone</p>	<p>Being addressed as part of the Council's Meeting the Needs of Non-Statutory Homeless People – Strategy to be discussed at meeting on 23/08/16</p>
		<p>3. Wellbeing Centre Campaign</p>	<p>To hear proposals from the Milton Keynes People's Assembly for a Wellbeing Centre for the Homeless</p>	<p>To see where this overlapped with the recommendations from the Homelessness Task and Finish Group for a One-Stop Shop and how duplication of effort could be avoided</p>	<p>Kevin Vickers Chair of the Milton Keynes People's Assembly</p>	<p>As above</p>
	<p>Task and Finish Group Updates</p>	<p>2 Task and Finish Groups – Housing Allocations Scheme and Homelessness – made recommendations to Cabinet in 2015/16</p>	<p>To review progress by the Council against the recommendations in the 2 TFG reports</p>	<p>Confirmation that the recommendations had been taken on board (as promised by Cabinet) by the Council and that progress was being made with the implementation of the recommendations.</p>	<p>Duncan Sharkey: Corporate Director Place Cllr Nigel Long: Acting Cabinet Member Housing:</p>	<p>Committee not satisfied that sufficient progress was being made and requested a further update for the next meeting</p>

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Meeting 1: 14/07/16 Cont'd	Work Programme 2016/17	Work Programme approved by the Scrutiny Management Committee on 22/06/16	To receive and note the 2016/17 Work Programme	Committee Members to be aware of the proposed subjects for scrutiny during 2016/17	Cllr Chris Williams: Chair – H&C Cttee Elizabeth Richardson: Overview & Scrutiny	Committee Members received and noted the 2016/17 Work Programme
Meeting 2: 23/08/16	Alternative Forms of Housing	Most applicants for housing assistance from the Council are family units, rather than individual rough sleepers, who very often spend time in expensive room-only hotel accommodation	To consider possible alternative forms of housing which might be suitable for use	Committee to consider possible options and make recommendations to Cabinet on what might be the most appropriate solutions for MK	Bret Leahy: Head of Development Management Julie Nokes: Housing Options Manager	Recommendation made to Cabinet requesting Council to seriously consider alternative forms of housing – update requested for Jan 2017 meeting "YOUMK" group now looking at alternative forms of housing
	Draft Homelessness (Statutory Need) Strategy	Cabinet requested that H&C scrutinise and comment on strategy prior to commencement of public consultation	To provide comment to Cabinet on the draft strategy	Formulation of recommendations on the strategy which will be feed into the consultation process	Cllr Nigel Long: Acting Cabinet Member Housing:	Recommendations forwarded to Cabinet and into the consultation process
	Task and Finish Group Action Plans	Referred from meeting on 14/07/16	To review progress against the recommendations made by the TFGs	Where necessary, challenge Housing Team on progress against the recommendations	Update provided by Linda Ellen: Acting Service Director Housing and Community	Due to lack of time, cllrs asked to review progress report in own time and send any comments to the Cttee's Planning Group. Only 1 response received which will be reviewed in due course.
	Meeting the Needs of Non-Statutory Homeless People	Urgent item from Cabinet Member for Housing	To scrutinise and comment on the Cabinet Report <i>Meeting the Needs of Non-Statutory Homeless People</i>	Submission of recommendations to Cabinet	Cllr Nigel Long: Acting Cabinet Member Housing:	Recommendations considered by Cabinet on 06/09/16 – agreed to establish the MK Homelessness Partnership

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Meeting 2: 23/08/16 Cont'd	Site Visit to Emmaus Community, Carlton Bedfordshire	Briefing Note on visit to Emmaus Community on 04/08/16	To note the work being done with the homeless by the Emmaus Community	Consider how MKC and Emmaus can work together	Briefing note provided by Dwight McKenzie, Scrutiny Review Officer	Further visits / meetings with Emmaus Community being progressed
	Work Programme 2016/17	Work Programme approved by the Scrutiny Management Committee on 22/06/16	To receive and note the any changes to the 2016/17 Work Programme	Committee Members to be aware of the proposed changes to the 2016/17 Work Programme	Cllr Chris Williams: Chair Elizabeth Richardson: O&S Officer	Committee Members received and noted the changes to the 2016/17 Work Programme
Meeting 3: 10/10/16	Updates	1. Use of Old Bus Station Building as the Winter Night Shelter 2016/17	To receive and note an update on how the Winter Night Shelter will use the Old Bus Station Building to support rough sleepers during winter 2016/17	Committee to be briefed on how the Winter Night Shelter will operate 2016/17	Richard Wightman: Winter Night Shelter	Cabinet to be asked to fund set costs of £1400 Cttee to endorse WNS bid for permanent use of the old Bus Station depending on merits of other bids for the property 8/11/16 – Cabinet agreed to fund set up costs for the WNS at the Buszy
		2. Working with the Emmaus Community	To receive and note an update on progress in establishing a working relationship with the Emmaus Community	Committee to be updated on progress	Colin Bramall: Treasurer, Emmaus Community (TBC)	Cabinet/Council recommended to work with Emmaus Carlton to find suitable property to stat establishing a community in MK 8/11/16 – Cabinet indicated support for the work of Emmaus to establish a community in MK

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Meeting 3: 10/10/16 Cont'd		3. Update on the first meeting of the Milton Keynes Homelessness Partnership held on 28 September 2016	To receive and note an update on progress in establishing the Milton Keynes Homelessness Partnership	Committee to be updated on progress	Eleanor Nickless: Housing Services Manager	Cttee supportive of work done so far to establish the Partnership and will monitor progress with interest
		4. Update on referrals to Cabinet from Meetings on 14/07 and 23/08	To update the Committee on the Cabinet's response to the resolutions referred to it by the Committee following its meetings on 14/07 and 23/08	Monitoring of progress by Cabinet against the Committee's referrals	Committee's Planning Group	Cttee Members received and noted Cabinet responses and asked to submit any comments to Planning Group for next meeting (TBC)
	Working with Private Landlords	How the Council works with Private Landlords to address the current housing crisis in MK by use of various schemes such as Landlord Accreditation, Homes in Partnership etc	To scrutinise how the Council works with Private Landlords and tenants	Committee to gain an understanding of how and why Council places tenants with Private Landlords, how well this is working for the Council. Landlords and tenants and whether there are areas for improvement	Written report on schemes and how they work from Housing Team Private Landlord Association to be approached to send rep	Cabinet recommended to work closely with MKPLA to eliminate rogue landlords in order to provide a decent standard of accommodation for tenants and improve reputation of private rental sector.
	Briefing Note on 30% affordable housing in new developments	Referral from 23/08/16	To be advised of the amount of affordable housing being provided as part of new developments in MK	Encourage the Council to, where possible enforce the 30% affordable housing criteria as a minimum aspiration wherever possible	Written Briefing note to be provided by Bret Leahy - Head of Development Management	Briefing paper received and noted. Cttee to forward any queries to O&S Officer to avoid duplication

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Meeting 3: 10/10/16 Cont'd	Draft Revenue and Capital Budget (Housing) Proposals 2017/18	Standing Agenda Item (Will be scrutinised by Budget Scrutiny Committee on 05/10/16)	To allow Committee plenty of opportunity to comment on the budget in advance of its final adoption.	Committee to feed any comments on the 2017/18 draft budget proposals into the consultation process	Cabinet Member Housing Finance Manager?	Standing Item on agendas until budget finally agreed. Cttee reminded that they can attend BSC Challenge meetings
	Work Programme approved by the Scrutiny Management Committee on 22/06/16	Work Programme approved by the Scrutiny Management Committee on 22/06/16	To receive and note the any changes to the 2016/17 Work Programme, including updates in "Actual Outcomes" column	Committee Members to be aware of the updated 2016/17 Work Programme	Cllr Chris Williams: Chair Elizabeth Richardson: O&S Officer	Received and noted – Planning Group to amend / update as necessary
Meeting 4: 30/11/16	Community Issues: Welcoming Syrian refugees to Milton Keynes	MKC agreed to participate in the Government's official resettlement scheme for refugees from Syria	To scrutinise the Council's plans for, and delivery of, resettlement services for nominated refugees from Syria and how the assistance of voluntary organisations such as Refugees Welcome, or individual initiatives (White Clarke) complements this; Is this having a knock-on effect with other Council policies ie housing provision for the homeless;	An assessment of how well the Council's policies for the resettlement of Syrian refugees is working; Are the efforts of other organisations/ individuals a help or hindrance and should be encouraged or discouraged? Reassurance that this is not having a knock-on effect on other Council policies in relation to housing services	Jeremy Beake – MKC Corporate Equality & Diversity Officer Refugees Welcome Organisation Refugees from White Clarke Group (software company)	
	Housing Mix	Scrutiny of the balance of housing required – eg Council has already identified need for more bungalows to allow older people to downsize	To assess the volume of the availability of different types of accommodation available in MK and whether this mix is right for MK.	Identify any shortfalls in particular types of housing and what can be done address this – could follow-on from the Alternative Types of Housing item on 23/08/16	Officers from both the Council's Planning and Housing Teams Cabinet Member – Housing	

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	Work Programme 2016/17	Work Programme approved by the Scrutiny Management Committee on 22/06/16	To receive and note the any changes to the 2016/17 Work Programme, including updates in "Actual Outcomes" column	Committee Members to be aware of the updated 2016/17 Work Programme	Cllr Chris Williams: Chair Elizabeth Richardson: O&S Officer	
Meeting 5: 17/01/17	Residents' Forums	Why have some worked and some not, should the Council be providing more support to make these viable organisations/	To meet with representatives of both successful and less successful Residents' Forums/Groups and discuss what works, what doesn't etc	Make recommendations on the future of Residents' Forums, whether they should continue in the present format or whether there is scope to revise them to make them more relevant to meet current needs	Members of Residents' Forums/Groups	
	Views of Council and private sector tenants	Are local housing policies working for them?	To meet with both Council and private sector tenants to discuss local housing policies and how they impact on residents	If necessary make recommendations on any changes the Committee thinks are required to improve current policies and make them workable	Both Council and Private Sector tenants	
	Progress Report on establishment of MK Homelessness Partnership	Cabinet agreed to establish the Partnership at its meeting on 06/09	To update Cttee on establishment of Partnership and how it is working	Committee to scrutinise and comment on progress and make further recommendations if necessary.	Cabinet Member Housing Finance Manager?	

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Meeting 5: 17/01/17 Cont'd	Draft Revenue and Capital Budget (Housing) Proposals 2017/18	Standing Agenda Item	To allow Committee plenty of opportunity to comment on the budget in advance of its final adoption.	Committee to feed any comments on the 2017/18 draft budget proposals into the consultation process		
	Work Programme approved by the Scrutiny Management Committee on 22/06/16	Work Programme approved by the Scrutiny Management Committee on 22/06/16	To receive and note the any changes to the 2016/17 Work Programme, including updates in "Actual Outcomes" column	Committee Members to be aware of the updated 2016/17 Work Programme	Cllr Chris Williams: Chair Elizabeth Richardson: O&S Officer	
Meeting 6: 09/03/17	Update on cost of temporary accommodation	Including 'hidden' costs such as home to school transport, and the cost of leasing schemes with private landlords.	To review all costs associated with the provision of temporary accommodation and whether the Council's proposed measures to reduce the use of temporary accommodation are working.	A better understanding of all the costs associated with the use of temporary accommodation and whether the Council's plans to reduce this are working effectively	Finance Officers Housing Officers	
	Scrutiny of changes to Repairs Service for Council properties	How well is the current Repairs Service operating – is it meeting tenants needs in a timely manner?	To consider the operation of the Council's Repairs Service and whether it is fulfilling its remit	Make recommendations on how the Repairs Service Operates if appropriate	Service users Repairs Service Rep Housing Officers responsible for Repairs Service	
	Review of 2016/17 Work Programme & proposals for 2017/18 Work Programme	What has been achieved, what happens next, draft Work Programme for 2017/18	To consider what work the Committee needs to undertake in 2017/18	Produce a draft Work Programme for 2017/18 for submission to the Scrutiny Management Committee		

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Reserve Meeting: 26/04/17	Just in case anything else comes up.	To be decided				