

CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

11 July 2013

**REPORT OF CORPORATE
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

CABINET DECISION

Environment – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor David Rose

FUEL POVERTY PARTNERSHIP

A scrutiny review was carried out by the Environment Select Committee on Affordable warmth. The recommendations from the review were considered at Cabinet on 7th February 2013 (minute CAB 128/12 refers). One of the agreed recommendations was that a Fuel Poverty Partnership be formed to bring together all key stakeholders which will, as part of its remit, monitor the progress of the Stockton-on-Tees Affordable Warmth Strategy and delivery plan and report to all relevant groups and committees and that detailed terms of reference be developed for approval by the organisations involved. As the lead strategic and delivery body in securing funding and delivering programmes to tackle fuel poverty in the Borough, Stockton on Tees Borough Council should provide the Chair to this Partnership.

As the Fuel Poverty Partnership was emerging there was a thinking that for consistency and profile that the Chair of the Environment Select Committee should be the Chair of the Fuel Poverty Partnership.

2. Recommendations

1. It is recommended that the Chair of the Environment Select Committee be appointed the Chair of the Fuel Poverty Partnership.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations/Decision(s)

To provide the Chair of the Fuel Poverty Partnership.

4. Members' Interests

Members (including co-opted Members) should consider whether they have a personal interest in any item, as defined in **paragraphs 9 and 11** of the Council's code of conduct and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with and/or taking account of **paragraphs 12 - 17** of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 16** of the code, in any business of the Council he/she must then, **in accordance with paragraph 18** of the code, consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest and the business:-

- affects the members financial position or the financial position of a person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code, or
- relates to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to the member or any person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code.

A Member with a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, may attend the meeting but must not take part in the consideration and voting upon the relevant item of business. However, a member with such an interest may make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to that business before the business is considered or voted on, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under a statutory right or otherwise (**paragraph 19** of the code).

Members may participate in any discussion and vote on a matter in which they have an interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, where that interest relates to functions of the Council detailed in **paragraph 20** of the code.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

It is a criminal offence for a member to participate in any discussion or vote on a matter in which he/she has a disclosable pecuniary interest (and where an appropriate dispensation has not been granted) **paragraph 21** of the code.

Members are required to comply with any procedural rule adopted by the Council which requires a member to leave the meeting room whilst the meeting is discussing a matter in which that member has a disclosable pecuniary interest (**paragraph 22** of the code).

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SUMMARY

A scrutiny review was carried out by the Environment Select Committee on Affordable warmth. The recommendations from the review were considered at Cabinet on 7th February 2013 (minute CAB 128/12 refers). One of the agreed recommendations was that a Fuel Poverty Partnership be formed.

1. Recommendation

1. It is recommended that the Chair of the Environment Select Committee be appointed the Chair of the Fuel Poverty Partnership.

DETAIL

2. A scrutiny review was carried out by the Environment Select Committee on Affordable warmth. The recommendations from the review were considered at Cabinet on 7th February 2013 (minute CAB 128/12 refers). One of the agreed recommendations was that a Fuel Poverty Partnership be formed to bring together all key stakeholders which will, as part of its remit, monitor the progress of the Stockton-on-Tees Affordable Warmth Strategy and delivery plan and report to all relevant groups and committees and that detailed terms of reference be developed for approval by the organisations involved. As the lead strategic and delivery body in securing funding and delivering programmes to tackle fuel poverty in the Borough, Stockton on Tees Borough Council should provide the Chair to this Partnership.

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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3. None.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4. None.

RISK ASSESSMENT

5. This (subject matter of the report) is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS

6. Environment and Housing

District heating schemes would provide opportunities for the provision of low cost heat supplies to domestic dwellings.

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7. Not applicable.

CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS

8. Consultation with the Cabinet for Environment.

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Education related: No

Background Papers: Scrutiny Review of Affordable Warmth by the Environment Select Committee and Cabinet Decision CAB 128 (7th February 2013)

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors: Not ward specific.

Property: None