Housing & Community Safety Select Committee

A meeting of Housing & Community Safety Select Committee was held on Thursday, 6th July, 2006.

Present: Cllr Roberts(In the Chair), Cllr P Baker, Cllr D T Brown, Cllr Mrs S Fletcher, Cllr T Laing, Cllr Mrs E A Nesbitt, Cllr R Rix, Cllr Mrs A Trainer, Cllr S F Walmsley, Cllr B Woodhead.

Officers: PK Bell, DE Bond, S Connolly, P Mennear, J Trainer (LD).

Also in attendance: L Minns, D Pickard (Tristar Homes Ltd).

Apologies: Cllr Inman, Cllr Jones, Cllr Teasdale.

349 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Roberts declared a personal/non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item no.5 – Monitoring Review of Tristar Services as she was a member of the Tristar Management Board.

Councillors Brown declared a personal/non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item no.5 – Monitoring Review of Tristar Services as he was a member of the Tristar Management Board and his son also works for Tristar Homes Ltd.

Councillors Mrs Trainer declared a personal/non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item no.5 – Monitoring Review of Tristar Services as she was a member of the Tristar Management Board.

Councillors Woodhead declared a personal/non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item no.5 – Monitoring Review of Tristar Services as he was a member of the Tristar Management Board.

350 Draft minutes of the meetings held on 8th June 2006.

Consideration was given to the content of the draft minutes of the meeting on 8th June 2006 prior to their submission to Council.

CONCLUDED that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 2006 be submitted to Council.

351 Monitoring Report - Review of Anti Social Behaviour

Members were presented with the Monitoring Report of the Review of Anti Social Behaviour.

Members agreed that the item could be considered as a late item due to its urgent nature.

Discussions took place on whether or not the below recommendation should be deleted from the Monitoring Report:-

6. The Head of Legal Services, in conjunction with the Head of Housing Services, examine the extent to which covenants on Council house sales can

be used as a measure against anti social behaviour.

The Director of Law and Democracy was in attendance at the meeting and explained that the enforcement of covenants in "Right to Buy" documentation was already a potential option which could be considered in relevant cases, but that there were other options designed specifically to combat anti social behaviour which were likely to be more appropriate and more effective.

Members discussed the Director of Law and Democracy's comments after which a vote took place and it was agreed that the recommendation should remain in the report.

CONCLUDED that the Monitoring Report of the Review of Anti Social Behaviour be forwarded to Cabinet for consideration.

352 Monitoring Review of Access to Tristar Services – To receive an update on the Housing Quality Network Mock Inspection (Access to Services):-

Members were presented with the Tristar Action Plan for the Access to Tristar Services. Members and Officers from Tristar Homes Ltd discussed each of the recommendations relating to Housing Centres and the action that had been taken.

A large majority of the recommendations had been completed with only a few still ongoing but nearing to completion. Members indicated where they were satisfied with progress against the recommendations and identified some further actions in relation to implementation.

Members started to discuss the results of the Staff Satisfaction Survey but agreed that issues relevant to the Tristar Action Plan would be considered at the next meeting of the Committee.

CONCLUDED that the Tristar Action Plan for the Access to Tristar Services Review be updated to include comments from the Select Committee on progress against the recommendations and presented to the next meeting of the Select Committee for approval.