Environment Select Committee

A meeting of Environment Select Committee was held on Monday, 16th January, 2012.

Present: Cllr Nigel Cooke (Chair), Cllr Derrick Brown, Cllr Jean Kirby, Cllr Ray McCall, Cllr Mrs Maureen Rigg, Cllr Mick Womphrey, Cllr Bill Woodhead

Officers: R Bradley, P Diggins (DNS); Mrs T Harrison, Miss M Jones, J Trainer (LD)

Also in attendance: No other persons were present

Apologies: Cllr Steve Walmsley and Cllr David Wilburn

1 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2 Minutes for Signature - 12th September 2011

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th September 2011 were signed by the Chair.

3 Draft Minutes - 24th October 2011

Consideration was given to the draft minutes of the meeting held on 24th October 2011.

Members noted that Cllr Steven Walmsley had been unable to attend Committee meetings owing to a recent illness and Members asked that a letter conveying the best wishes of the Committee be sent to him.

AGREED that:

1. The minutes be approved.

2. A letter be sent to Cllr Walmsley conveying the best wishes of the Committee following his recent illness.

4 EIT Review of Care for Your Area - Action Plan for Agreed Recommendations

Members were presented with the Action Plan setting out how the agreed recommendations from the EIT Review of Care for Your Area will be implemented and target dates for completion.

An update was provided on recommendation 4 regarding the weekly collections support scheme.

A recent survey had been undertaken by the Local Government Association (LGA), which revealed that only 22% of the local authorities contacted felt that they would be applying for funding under the £250m Scheme.

Details of the submission criteria and application process were due to be

released by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) in February 2012. Once those details were available, an informed decision could be taken by Stockton Borough Council on whether to make an application for this funding.

Further details would be provided to Members of the Committee as part of the regular monitoring of progress against the Care for your Area EIT Review Action Plan.

AGREED that the Care for your Area Action Plan be approved.

5 Work Programme

Members were advised that the first topic for this Committee would be fuel poverty, and the review would begin at the start of the next municipal year.

AGREED that the report be noted.

6 Chairs Update

The Chair highlighted that the Care for Your Area review had reported to Cabinet earlier than first scheduled.

AGREED that the update be noted.