

Environment Select Committee

A meeting of Environment Select Committee was held on Monday, 10th September, 2012.

Present: Cllr Nigel Cooke (Chairman), Cllr Derrick Brown, Cllr Jean Kirby, Cllr Mrs Maureen Rigg, Cllr David Wilburn, Cllr Mick Womphrey, Cllr Bill Woodhead

Officers: Neil Ellison, Richard McGuckin, Antony Phillips (DNS); Victoria Cooling (CESC); Tanya Harrison, Michelle Jones (LD)

Also in attendance: Nik Turner (Vela Homes), Cllr David Rose (Cabinet Member for Environment)

Apologies: None

ENV 29/12 **Evacuation Procedure**

The evacuation procedure was noted.

ENV 30/12 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Woodhead declared a personal interest in relation to the Review of Affordable Warmth due to sitting on the Tristar Board.

ENV 31/12 **Draft Minutes - 16th July 2012**

Consideration was given to the draft minutes of the meeting held on 10th September 2012.

AGREED that the minutes be approved.

ENV 32/12 **Scrutiny Review of Affordable Warmth**

Members received information regarding Affordable Warmth from a representative from Vela Homes and updated information from other registered housing providers was tabled.

The following were reported on from Vela Homes:

- Category 1 Hazards
- Current Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) ratings
- Role of Vela
- Achieving affordable warmth through physical and behavioural measures
- Vela Housing Group Affordable Warmth Strategy

Members were updated on future energy efficiency policies and funding streams which included:

- The current situation with Carbon Emissions Reduction Target (CERT) and Community Energy Savings Programme (CESP) coming to an end in 2012
- A loan scheme called Green Deal would replace CERT and CESP, which would be attached to the property and be paid back via the energy bill. The amount paid back under the Green Deal must be the same or below the savings made by the installation of the measures

-For properties not benefiting from Green Deal, there would be Energy Companies Obligation (ECO) details of which were not yet available

Members were also presented with Stockton-on-Tees Seasonal Health and Wellbeing Strategy

The following were discussed:

- Ease of use of installations such as ground source heating
- Energy efficiency installations that were not fit for purpose or did not provide savings
- Planned improvement works for Vela properties in the Stockton area
- Vela's development of an Affordable Warmth Strategy
- Local Authorities becoming responsible for excess seasonal deaths by April 2013
- The importance to understand the link between the outcomes of the scrutiny review and the Seasonal Health and Wellbeing Strategy to ensure the actions were complimentary in achieving affordable warmth in Stockton

The Committee requested the following further information:

- Figures of the number and location of properties that had energy efficiency measures installed and how many were planned under schemes such as CERT and CESP
- Details from the remaining registered providers to present a comparison
- More information on planned work programme for the Grosmont Drive Estate

AGREED that:

1. The report be noted.
2. Figures of the number and location of properties that had energy efficiency measures installed and how many were planned under schemes such as Carbon Emissions Reduction Target (CERT) and Community Energy Savings Programme (CESP).
3. Details of other registered housing stock holders and integrated figures be given to provide a comparison.
4. More information on planned work programme for the Grosmont Drive Estate

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Work Programme

Consideration was given to the project plan and it was noted that the Committee would start formulating recommendations for the Review of Affordable Warmth.

AGREED that the report be noted.