

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cabinet Member for Prosperity**
held on Tuesday, 5th April, 2011 at Room F1/2 - Westfields, Middlewich
Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillors Jamie Macrae, Cabinet Member for Prosperity

Officers

Karen Carsberg, Strategic Housing Manager
Paul Mountford, Democratic Services

31 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

32 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

There were no members of the public present.

33 HOUSING STRATEGY

The Cabinet Member considered a report seeking permission to proceed with the formal consultation on the draft housing strategy.

Following the commissioning of the Strategic Housing Market Assessment and the Private Stock House Condition Survey, a decision had been taken to produce a local housing strategy which would complement the sub-regional housing strategy. The strategy focussed on the unique opportunities and challenges within Cheshire East and had been developed at a time of significant change within the housing sector.

The local housing strategy outlined the housing vision and priorities which were:

- Delivering market and affordable housing;
- Making the best use of our existing stock;
- Meeting the needs of our most vulnerable residents;
- Meeting the needs of an ageing population; and
- Investing in our neighbourhoods.

The local housing strategy had taken account of Government policy, as well as sub-regional and local strategic approaches. The strategy linked into the statutory Homelessness Strategy and the emerging Ageing Well Plan. It took account of the developing Local Development Framework and the draft Economic Development Strategy.

Resident and stakeholder engagement had been a priority when developing the strategy to ensure that the Council addressed the issues that were important to local communities. Consultation feedback had played a fundamental part in formulating priorities.

The Cabinet Member emphasised that the strategy would enable the Council to identify suitable sites for future housing provision where there was specific need, bring empty properties back into use and, at a time of financial constraint on local authorities, use its own assets to deliver affordable housing.

The draft strategy was now ready to progress to the 12 week consultation stage immediately following the local elections. Following any necessary amendments to the strategy arising from the consultation, the strategy would be submitted to Cabinet for approval.

RESOLVED

That permission be granted to proceed with the 12 week formal consultation on the draft housing strategy commencing 6th May 2011.

The meeting commenced at 9.00 am and concluded at 9.20 am

Councillor Jamie Macrae (presiding)