

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cabinet Member for Housing and Jobs**
held on Thursday, 6th November, 2014 in the Fred Flint Room, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillors D Stockton.

Officers in attendance

Nic Abbott – Homechoice Team Leader
Stuart Penny – Planning Policy and CIL Manager
Paul Mountford – Democratic Services Officer

23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

25 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

No members of the public were present.

26 CHESHIRE HOMECHOICE ALLOCATIONS POLICY REVIEW

Consideration was given to proposed amendments to the Cheshire Homechoice Allocations Policy which had been launched in April 2010 as a partnership approach to allocating social housing in the Borough alongside the three largest social housing providers: Wulvern Housing, Plus Dane and Cheshire Peaks and Plains Housing Trust.

The Allocations Policy was reviewed during 2012 to take into account the lessons learnt from the first 18 months, and also to incorporate changes that had been introduced in legislation. The Partners and Members of Cheshire East Council have identified that there are further adaptations which now need to be made following economic changes both nationally and locally. The Council wishes to include input from a wide spectrum of organisations, providers and the public which will ensure that the policy is robust and reflects the current and future local and national environment for social housing.

The 5 key areas of the Policy which will impact on the residents of Cheshire East will need to be consulted upon during the 6 week consultation period.

RESOLVED

That the risk and benefit analysis of the proposed changes be noted, and that approval be given to consult on them before they are incorporated into the new Allocations Policy.

27 CONGLETON NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA APPLICATION

Consideration was given to an application by Congleton Town Council to designate this neighbourhood area. Discussions on the extent of the neighbourhood area have been held, the extent of which reflects the extent of the Parish boundary for Congleton.

The Congleton Neighbourhood Area application has been prepared in accordance with existing regulations and guidance and is desirable to designate for these reasons:

- The application submitted meets the requirements as presented at Part 2 (5) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.
- Congleton Parish Council is the relevant body to undertake Neighbourhood Planning.
- The Neighbourhood Plan Area follows the existing political and administrative boundary for the Parish of Congleton and does not include land in any adjoining Parish.
- No other applications have been made for Neighbourhood Areas covering all or part of the area.
- Issues concerning strategic interests in the Parish have been discussed and relevant strategic issues have been identified in respect of Local Plan Strategy Strategic Locations SL6, SL7, SL8, and Local Plan Strategy Site CS17; these strategic sites and location are located partially within the Congleton Parish Boundary and partially in neighbouring Parishes.

The Localism Act 2011 introduced new legal rights that enable communities to prepare local development plans (neighbourhood plans) with equal weight to the Local Plan for decision making purposes on development proposals. The first stage in establishing a neighbourhood plan is the designation of a neighbourhood area the geographic extent within which future policies and land designations will apply.

RESOLVED

That approval be given to designate Congleton Parish as Congleton Neighbourhood Area, for the purposes of preparing the Congleton Neighbourhood Plan, as shown on the map attached as Appendix 1 of the report.

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 10.10 am