



Leicester
City Council

MINUTE EXTRACT

Minutes of the Meeting of the HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: THURSDAY, 21 AUGUST 2003 at 4.00pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Draycott - Chair
Councillor Allen - Conservative Spokesperson
Councillor Smith - Liberal Democrat Spokesperson

Councillor Corrall
Councillor Getliffe (for Cllr Shelton) Councillor Karim
Councillor Keeling (for Cllr Almeay)

Also in Attendance

Christine Cronogue - Leicester Federation of Tenants' Associations

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16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests which they might have in the business on the agenda, and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them.

The following personal and prejudicial interests were declared in Minute 21 - 'Stock Options Appraisal', Minute 25 - 'Collection of Water Charges', Minute 26 - 'Chestnut Pale Fencing' and Minute 27 - 'Window Replacement Prioritisation'.

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Councillor Corrall - related to the tenant of a Council property
Councillor Draycott - related to the tenant of a Council property
Councillor Getliffe - tenant of, and related to, a tenant of a Council property
Councillor Smith - tenant of a Council property
Chris Cronogue - tenant of a Council property

Members were advised that the interests did not apply under the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct, Paragraph 10(d), and therefore these Councillors and Mrs Cronogue could remain in the meeting, and take part in discussion on these items.

21. STOCK OPTIONS APPRAISAL

The Corporate Director of Housing submitted a report concerning plans to undertake a Stock Options Appraisal, to include a process for tenants to play a key role.

The report explained that the Government had required all Local Authorities to assess how much money was needed to reach the 'decent homes standard', to be completed by July 2005.

A Stock Options Appraisal would include :-

- * Identifying what tenants wanted to improve their homes/streets
- * calculating how much it would cost
- * considering other factors
- * advising on what options could meet all/part of the cost
- * gaining tenants' views on options
- * making recommendations to Full Council

Following consultation, four options would be looked at to see how tenants' investment priorities and other factors could be addressed. These were :-

- * No change
- * Private Finance Initiative (PFI)
- * Arms Length Management Organisation (ALMO)
- * Stock Transfer - Large Scale Voluntary Transfer (LSVT)

Councillor Allen moved that the Scrutiny Committee support the undertaking of a Stock Options Appraisal; this was seconded by Councillor Smith, and put to the vote.

Councillors Allen, Karim, Keeling and Smith voted for the motion.
Councillors Corrall, Draycott and Getliffe voted against the motion.

The motion was carried by four votes to three.

RESOLVED :

- (1) that the requirement by Central Government to undertake a Stock Options Appraisal be noted;
- (2) that the Corporate Director of Housing, in consultation with the Cabinet Link for Housing, and a Steering Group would engage consultants to undertake the work;
- (3) that it be further noted that the process would be managed by the Steering Group, comprising six tenants, one from each community association, three trade union representatives, the Housing Scrutiny Committee Triumvirate, the Cabinet Link for Housing, and the Chair of

the Leicester Federation of Tenants Associations, who would chair the meetings; and

- (4) that Cabinet be informed that the Housing Scrutiny Committee supported the undertaking of a Stock Options Appraisal.