



Leicester  
City Council

Extract from the Minutes of the Meeting of the  
HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: THURSDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER 2005 at 5.30pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Smith - Chair  
Councillor Allen- Conservative Spokesperson  
Councillor Bhatti- Labour Spokesperson

Councillor Keeling                      Councillor Tessier  
Councillor Hall (for Councillor Lloyd-Harris)  
Councillor Dempster (for Councillor Westley)

Co-opted Member

Mr. George Narraway - Leicester Federation of Tenants' Associations

Also in attendance

Councillor Metcalfe – Cabinet Member for Housing

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**16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were requested to declare any interests they may have in the business to be discussed and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them.

Members declared the following personal and prejudicial interests in the entire agenda: -

Councillor Keeling	tenant of a Council owned property
Councillor Smith	tenant of a Council owned property
George Narraway	tenant of a Council owned property

The prejudicial interests did not apply under the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct, Paragraph 10(d), and therefore the Members remained in the meeting and took no part in discussion on the items.

**20. HOUSING STRATEGY (2005-2010) AND HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT  
BUSINESS PLAN 2005**

The Corporate Director of Housing submitted a report that sought endorsement of the City Council's Housing Strategy for the City and its Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan covering the management and maintenance of its own housing stock. The Committee was also asked to note that the Housing Strategy and the HRA Business Plan would be considered as part of the Council's Comprehensive Performance Assessment.

A brief presentation in two parts was given at the meeting. The first part of the presentation explained the purpose and the key objectives of the City Council's Housing Strategy. The key objectives as set out below were explained: -

- Achieve 100% Decent Homes Standard in Leicester City Council housing by 2010
- Increase the percentage of Decent Homes in the Private Sector
- Promote affordable housing
- Prevent and tackle homelessness

The second part of the presentation covered the HRA Business Plan 2005 and Members were informed that the Plan had to be sent to the Government Office of the East Midlands (GOEM) for assessment. The content of the Plan was highlighted and further information was given on key issues.

The Committee welcomed the report and thanked the officers for the presentation. The Committee noted that the report had already been referred to Cabinet, but had no further comments to make.

RESOLVED:

- 1) that the Leicester City Council's Housing Strategy for the City be endorsed
- 2) that the Leicester City Council's Housing Revenue Account Business Plan for the Council's housing stock be endorsed
- 3) that it be noted that the Housing Strategy and the HRA Business Plan would be considered as part of the Council's Comprehensive Performance Assessment.

## **21. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT AND HOUSING REPAIRS TRADING SERVICES 2004/05 OUTTURN**

The Corporate Director of Housing and the Chief Finance Officer submitted a report that set out the outturn position for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and the Housing Repairs trading Services (formerly the Housing DSO) for the financial year 2004/05.

The Committee was informed that the actual level of balances at the end of 2004/05 was £4.495 million, which compared to £2.944 million when the original budget was set. The Housing Repairs Trading Services surplus for the year was reported as £345,000, of which £300,000 had been used for financing the Housing Capital Programme and £45,000 had been transferred to the

Trading Services reserve.

The Committee noted the content of the report and had no further comments to make.

RESOLVED:

that the Housing Revenue Account and Housing Repairs Trading Services outturns for 2004/05, and the areas earmarked for the use of the reserves identified in the report, be noted.

### **31. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.00pm

