Leicester City Council

MINUTE EXTRACT

Minutes of the Meeting of the HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: 9 FEBRUARY 2006 at 5.30pm

<u>PRESENT:</u>

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

Councillor Hall (for Cllr Lloyd-Harris) Councillor Keeling Councillor Joshi Councillor Tessier

Co-opted Member

Mr. George Narraway - Leicester Federation of Tenants' Association

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78. PROPOSAL FOR THE RESIDENTIAL REDEVELOPMENT OF ROWLATTS HILL BUNGALOWS

The Corporate Director of Housing submitted a report that considered options for 60 bungalows on four sites within the Rowlatts Hill area of the City.

The Service Director, Housing Renewal and Options introduced the report. She directed Members to the table on page 7 of the report that gave details of the costs to bring up each site to the decent homes standard.

In terms of consulting with the residents affected by the demolitions, Members were informed that all those within Site A had been consulted, and although some views of unhappiness were given, the general view was positive and one of consensus around the demolition. It was stressed that the priority was to look after those affected by the scheme, and it was assured that those people would be given very high priority on the re-housing list.

In terms of Site A, the Service Director, Housing Renewal and Options outlined the proposed new site, stating that it would compose of around 20 properties with 30% affordable housing, with some properties being fitted with full wheelchair access.

Members expressed their desire that openness and clarity was given to those residents affected by the scheme. Officers assured that this was the case and was very much their intention.

One Member asked a question around how officers would ensure that the needs requested by all those affected would be met. The Service Director, Housing Renewal and Options explained that relocation to the immediate Rowlatts Hill area was not likely, but that there was a sufficient amount of suitable properties within the East of the City. It was reported that the process of re-housing should take around nine months to a year.

A query was raised around the security of properties when they were empty. It was reported that extra resources could be placed into security if it was felt necessary.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the report be noted
- (2) that the Committee expresses their sympathy with people disrupted by the demolitions, and requested that sensitivity to the wishes of those people be given.