

**HOUSING IMPROVEMENT OPTIONS ADVISORY
PANEL****19 JANUARY 2005**

Chair: * Councillor Burchell

Councillors: * Bluston * Vina Mithani
* Currie * Thornton (1)
* Knowles

* Denotes Member present
(1) Denotes category of Reserve Member

PART I - RECOMMENDATIONS**RECOMMENDATION 1 - Housing Improvement Options - Terms of Reference**

At this inaugural meeting of your Advisory Panel, draft terms of reference were presented for consideration. A minor amendment to the wording of paragraph (3) was proposed and agreed.

Resolved to RECOMMEND:

That Cabinet confirm the amended terms of reference under which the Housing Improvement Options Advisory Panel will operate, as now set out:-

- “1. To receive updates on the progress of the Housing Options Appraisal process and to consider proposals for the Council’s housing stock in detail, prior to consideration by Cabinet.
2. To receive updates on progress towards the decent homes standard in respect of the Council’s housing stock and to consider proposals in detail, prior to consideration by Cabinet.
3. To consider and make recommendations to Cabinet on the letting of property improvement, planned maintenance and responsive maintenance contracts and periodically to review performance and value for money of these contracts.”

PART II - MINUTES**1. Appointment of Chair:**

RESOLVED: That the appointment of Councillor Burchell, at the Cabinet meeting on 11 November 2004 (Minute 644(4)), as Chair of the Advisory Panel for the Municipal Year 2004/05, be noted.

2. Attendance by Reserve Members:

RESOLVED: That the attendance at this meeting of duly appointed Reserve Members be noted as follows:-

<u>Ordinary Member</u>	<u>Reserve Member</u>
Councillor Miss Lyne	Councillor Thornton

3. Declarations of Interest:

RESOLVED: To note that there were no declarations of interest on behalf of Members in relation to the business under consideration at this meeting.

4. Appointment of Vice-Chair:

Further to the nominations respectively of Councillor Currie and of Councillor Knowles to the office and upon a vote, it was

RESOLVED: That Councillor Currie be appointed Vice-Chair of the Advisory Panel for the Municipal Year 2004/05.

5. Terms of Reference:

Further to the draft terms of reference submitted to the inaugural meeting of the Panel it was agreed to recommend the same to the Cabinet for approval, as now amended.

(See Recommendation 1 above).

In the course of a discussion on the general remit of the Panel and its role in the context of the Housing Improvement Options appraisal process, some Members expressed their reservations concerning that process.

(Note: Councillors Knowles and Vina Mithani left the meeting at 7.45 pm).

6. **Arrangement of Agenda:**

RESOLVED: That all the items on the agenda be considered with the press and public present.

7. **Appointment of Non-Voting Co-opted Advisers:**

Further to an oral update from the Director of Strategy (Urban Living) on the arrangements being undertaken to date to secure nominations/appointments as Advisers to this Panel, it was

RESOLVED: That (1) the numbers and sources of Advisers proposed by the Cabinet when establishing the Panel (Minute 637(5): 11.11.04) be noted, as follows:-

- | | | |
|-------|----------------------------|-----|
| (i) | Tenants' Federation | - 2 |
| (ii) | UNISON | - 1 |
| (iii) | (Former) ALMO Shadow Board | - 2 |

(2) it be noted that the Tenants' Federation Advisers were intended to be the same nominees as would also serve on the Tenant Options Appraisal Working Group; notification of the UNISON nominees was awaited; and volunteers from among the former ALMO Shadow Board participants were being sought.

8. **Petitions:**

RESOLVED: To note that no petitions had been submitted for this meeting under the provisions of Advisory Panel and Consultative Forum Procedure Rule 13.

9. **Deputations:**

RESOLVED: To note that no deputations had been sought to this meeting under the provisions of Advisory Panel and Consultative Forum Procedure Rule 14.

10. **Public Questions:**

RESOLVED: To note that no public questions had been submitted for this meeting under the provisions of Advisory Panel and Consultative Forum Procedure Rule 15.

11. **Decent Homes Options Appraisal Project Brief:**

The meeting received a tabled briefing note from the Director of Strategy (Urban Living) in this matter.

Following detailed discussion of the issues covered in the briefing paper including the Decent Homes Standard, Government objectives, resident involvement and the role of this Panel, it was,

RESOLVED: (1) That the tabled paper be received and noted;

(2) that an indicative timetable of dates for future meetings of the Panel (approximately monthly) be drawn-up;

(3) that the requirement for Members to be provided with extensive documentation on the relevant tasks assigned to the Panel, both for formal meetings and as an informative process between meetings, be noted.

(Note: The meeting having commenced at 7.30 pm, closed at 8.25 pm)

(Signed) COUNCILLOR KEITH BURCHELL
Chair