

PORTFOLIO:

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Report of
Portfolio Holder:

**COUNCILLOR
R BLOXHAM**

1 DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE PORTFOLIO- HOLDER

I can report that in the period in Question I have not taken any delegated decisions in respect of the Councils Health and Wellbeing Portfolio.

2 DAIRY DATES SINCE THE LAST COUNCIL.

September.

11th Health Partnership Board
 12th Local Carlisle Health Group.
 16th Housing Consultative Group.
 17th Health Professional Council.
 19th SRB Board.
 23rd Interview Training.
 24th Bishops visit. Longtown Parish Council.
 25th LSP Penrith.

October.

7th JMT. Housing Consultative Group. Tullie House.
 8th Sheepmount User Group.
 9th Peter Tyson, Audio Visual Presentation Council Chamber.
 10th Overview and Scrutiny Community.
 14th County Scrutiny Health Meeting.
 17th Executive Employment Panel.
 18th Overview and Scrutiny.
 21st Haz Meeting Cockermouth.
 22nd Market Management.

3 ISSUES ARISING FROM LSVT.

Progressing the stock transfer is on time to meet the 9th December schedule date.

There are two main issues at present to be resolved

- Nominations for Homelessness.

- Pension Fund

As Members are aware the Council has Nominations with all RSL's and a Nomination Deed has been sent to CHA to agree a Nomination figure. The Acting Director of Housing is negotiating with them as to the percentage amount. It is important that Nominations with all RSL's give the Council cover for its Homelessness cases.

As far as pensions are concerned this is still being negotiated between the Treasurer and the Actuary, it is likely that a special meeting of the Council will need to be called to debate the outcome of the Treasurers findings and recommendations. At present I am not in a position to give any further help.

4 BEST VALUE REVIEW.

As we are all aware the Government is moving towards a new form of Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) with no resources to carry this out Housing Strategy will be in the early rounds. However, we cannot forget Best Value in its current form, as there is still a need to demonstrate how our services compare with others.

We are progressing with a review of strategy and homelessness based on the weakness identified by HACAS Chapman Hendy; this will form the start of the action plan.

The Organizational review structure provides for two posts to deliver the Homelessness service post transfer. One of these officers will have a responsibility for a more strategic and supervisory role.

The Acting Director of Housing as agreed with CHA that they would provide a reception service at the Civic Centre as an interim measure, up until March 2004.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES.

Integrated Pollution and Control (IPPC).

The Environmental Protection Act 1990 introduced powers to control air pollution and is enforced by both local councils and the Environment Agency. The Agency looks after large premises with the council looking after small ones. There has been a concern now for some time that the current Legislation does not integrate well with other emissions e.g. water or land which may be regulated by other agencies.

To address this the Government has introduced new legislation to address all aspects of pollution from industry or trade operations. This has impacted on the work of the department as it means more detailed studies from premises not previously covered by us.

In addition there are a number of other strategies we are now asked to make. Local air Quality management reviews, Contamination Land strategy this will mean a long process of research.

Regulatory Reform Order- Private Sector Renewal.

There is a major reform of this legislation, we will need to publish a policy document outlining our aims and objectives for Grants in the private sector. The thrust of the order is to steer people away from the Grant dependency culture to a loans and equity release schemes. There will be a full discussion document coming to the Executive on this subject.

6 LEISURE AND SPORT.

We now have the results of the consultation taken in respect of Multi-Sport Area for Petteril Bank. The consultation shows that the preferred site for the location of the Multi Sports area is DALE END ROAD PARK. It is hoped that the planning and design for this project can commence within the next month.

We are aiming for a strategy for Physical Activity and sport will be produced January 2003.

A number of ½ term holiday events have been successful; this will act as a pilot for future years. A number of other activities and events for the half term have been found successful such as, Girls football Get Kids Active.

R D Bloxham
Health and Wellbeing Portfolio.