

AGENDA

COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

THURSDAY 22 MARCH 2012 AT 10.00AM

in the Flensburg Room, Civic Centre, Carlisle.

****Briefing meeting for Members will be at 9.15 am in
the Flensburg Room****

Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence and notification of substitutions.

Declarations of Interest (including declarations of “The Party Whip”)

Members are invited to declare any personal interests, any personal interests which are prejudicial and any declarations of “The Party Whip”, relating to any item on the agenda at this stage.

Public and Press

To agree that items of business within Part A of the agenda should be dealt with in public;

To agree that items of business within Part B of the agenda should be dealt with when the public and press are excluded from the meeting.

Minutes of previous meetings

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2012 [Copy Minutes in Minute Book Volume 38(5)] and to note the minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2012 (Copy Minute Herewith)

PART A

To be considered when the Public and Press are present

CALL-IN OF DECISIONS

To consider any matter which has been the subject of call-in.

A.1 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Riverside Carlisle

Pursuant to Procedure Rule 10.1, the Director of Governance to report the receipt of the following questions to the Chairman which have been submitted on notice by Mr Barker, Secretary of the Carlisle and Rural Tenants' Federation.

"Question One

Given the expressions of improved relations between the city council and Riverside Housing Association made at the Panel meeting on February 9 2012, and given the emphasis by Panel members at the same meeting on the importance of these improved relations between the two bodies, what advice or form of condemnation does the Panel have to give/apply to Riverside Housing Association in order that it will improve its relations with community groups in the city, particularly in view of Riverside`s well- documented attempts to block and deny Carlisle and Rural Tenants` Federation members their rights as taxpayers to participate in the business of the city council`s Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel; and particularly in view of Riverside`s attempts to block and deny the rights of some of its leaseholders to participate in negotiations over leaseholders` problems; and particularly in view of Riverside`s denial of human rights and natural justice by exercising favouritism in giving financial and corporate help to a Carlisle community group, the Tenants` and Residents` Association of Morton Park (TRAMP, which is run by Carlisle City Councillor Nan Farmer) and not to give that corporate and financial help to other groups in the city?.

Question Two

Given the expressions of improved relations between the city council and Riverside Housing Association made at the Panel meeting on February 9 2012, and given the emphasis by Panel members at the same meeting on the importance of these improved relations between the two bodies, what advice or help does the Panel have for Carlisle and Rural Tenants` Federation in its attempts to address issues concerning its members, particularly the issue of the city`s desperate need for social housing (according to figures released by the National Housing Federation) when no details of how the shortage is being tackled are available from the city`s principal landlord, Riverside, which announced on December 3 2011 via Mr Patrick Leonard, that it would not reply to any further requests for help from the Federation;
and when the Federation is unable to get replies requesting help to break the impasse with Riverside from Councillor Joe Hendry, one of the four city council representatives on the Riverside governing board; and when Riverside would have been statutorily compelled to supply information about its activities had it not been excluded from Freedom of Information requirements?

A.2 OVERVIEW REPORT INCORPORATING THE WORK PROGRAMME AND FORWARD PLAN ITEMS

To consider a report providing an overview of matters related to the work of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel, together with the latest version of the Work Programme and details of Forward Plan items relevant to this Panel
(Copy Report OS.09/12 herewith)

A.3 WELFARE REFORM AND THE LOCALISATION OF COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT

The Director of Community Engagement and the Director of Resources to submit a report detailing the Welfare Reform and the Localism of Council Tax and how the authority was planning to address the changes.
(Copy Report CD.28/12 herewith)

A.4 CUMBRIA AFFORDABLE WARMTH PROJECT - UPDATE

The Director of Community Engagement to submit an update on the Affordable Warmth Project including the Green Deal Scheme and the Cumbria Affordable Warmth Strategy.
(Copy Report CD.29/12 herewith)

A.5 DRAFT EQUALITIES

The Policy and Communications Manager to submit the draft objectives of the Qualities Duty.

(Copy Report PPP.05/12 herewith)

PART B

To be considered in Private

- NIL -

Members of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

Conservative: Nedved, Parsons, Prest

Labour: Bradley, Glover (Vice Chairman), McDevitt, Scarborough

Liberal Democrat: Luckley (Chairman)

Substitutes: Bainbridge, Bowman S, Layden(Conservative), Hendry, Quilter, Riddle (Labour) Farmer (Liberal Democrat)

Enquiries, requests for reports, background papers, etc to Committee Clerk:

Rachel Rooney – 817039

Notes to Members: Briefing meeting will be held at 9.15am in the Flensburg room
