

Minutes

Minutes of Area 3 Area Panel meeting held on Tuesday 27th January 2009 at The Sheila Russell Centre

PRESENT:

Julie Crook	(JC)	Director of Finance
Brenda Serrant	(SP)	Area Housing Manager
Jim Hartshorn	(JH)	Property Services
Chris Thelen	(CT)	Property Services
Claire Reeves	(CR)	Tenant and Leaseholder Involvement Officer
John Day	(JD)	SMART
Jeff Herring	(JH)	STARA
Glyn Jenkins	(GJ)	
Dr Mahbub Alam	(MA)	
Bert Marshall	(BM)	KAMRA
Brenda Peel	(BP)	KAMRA

APOLOGIES:

Ina McCallum, Gill Moy Director of Housing Operations, Margaret Pugsley, Councillor James, Carole Limb, John Hendren, Tracey Parkin, Clive Thorpe, Sue Stevenson, Peter Linford, Councillor Chapman and Alison Thorpe

ACTION

1.0 **Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

2.0 **Budget Priorities**

- 2.1 JC advised that the rent setting consultation had finished in early December and unfortunately Area Panel 3 meeting dates had not fallen during this period. However lots of groups were consulted and we have provided case studies to show what a large increase would mean to tenants. The final decision on the level of the rent increase will be made by Nottingham City Council (NCC) by the 17th February and rent letters will be circulated to tenants from the 1st March. NCC doesn't have to follow the Government guidelines on the rent increase but if they decide to increase the rents by less than

the guideline amount we will have to find savings. The Area Panels we consulted in November and December did voice their concerns over the level of rent increase in the current economic climate and NCH and NCC agree with this.

It was agreed that further updates about the rent setting for 2009/10 would be provided to the Panel and the Panel would be linked to consultation regarding rent setting for 2010/11.

3.0 Regeneration of the Area

- 3.1 This item was deferred as the Regeneration Team were unable to attend the meeting on this occasion.

4.0 Minutes from the last meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

5.0 Delivery Plan

- 5.1 BS went through the presentation slides for the Delivery Plan and invited the Panel to return any feedback to CR.
- 5.2 Property Services: Advised the Panel about the 1 in a Million scheme where for every million pounds spent on Decent Homes work a local apprentice would be employed.
- 5.3 BS advised that now NCH has secured the 2* with excellent prospects for improvement we are on the journey to become a 3* organisation.

6.0 Property Services

- 6.1 CT advised that now we had received the 2* with excellent prospects for improvement the extra funding has been secured to complete the Decent Homes improvement work to properties. Contractor partners will be engaged to help us complete all the improvements. The Panel will be kept updated about the progress of the work in Area 3 and linked with any consultation and performance management as it arises.

BS asked the Panel to spread the message about the achievement of 2* and that it is for the communities in the city of Nottingham.

7.0 Performance in the Local Area

- 7.1 The monthly performance report had been circulated with the papers prior to the meeting and BS highlighted key indicators in a summary that the Panel wished to monitor.
- 7.2 BS advised that Bilborough and Aspley came 1st and 2nd in Office of the Month in December. Performance is on an upward trend but we do still receive a relatively high number of official complaints which is being monitored and assessed.

8.0 Forward Plan

- 8.1 CR advised that she had collated the forward plan from the feedback received from the workshop sessions at the previous meeting. This Forward Plan was now presented in draft format for the comments of the Panel and amendments if required.
- 8.2 Panel members present were happy with the Forward Plan and that it reflected their priorities for this year. However due to the high number of apologies at this meeting it was agreed that the official signing of the Forward Plan would take place at the AGM in April.

9.0 Local Area Round Up / success stories

- 9.1 Dr Allum advised that the front gardens are looking tidier on the Broxtowe Estate.
- 9.2 BP advised that the Kennington Rd park has been awarded money to have all the fencing repainted
- 9.3 Jeff advised that the meeting of the green flag parks had taken place and a second meeting would be taking place in Bulwell about the bogs.
- 9.4 Glyn advised that the Big Spring Clean would be starting in March and that Seagrave School was creating postcards about dog fouling.

10.0 Area Committee

10.1 This item was deferred to the next meeting

11.0 Any Other Business

11.1 Dr Alum advised that the visibility of the CCTV on Withern Road was being impaired by trees.

BS

11.2 Glyn advised that there is a resource centre in Moorgreen which is lacking support

11.3 BS agreed to discuss this at the managers meeting with the Neighbourhood Manager to see if there is any support that could be offered.

BS

11.4 Glyn advised that there were serious problems of ASB on Lindfield Road mainly being caused by a family in private housing.

11.5 BS agreed to investigate as this had not been flagged at local tasking meetings with the Police.

BS

11.6 CR advised that a training event was taking place on the 25th February for Community Crime Fighters and invited and invited Panel members to nominate themselves to attend.

Dr Allum agreed to attend.

12.0 Date, Time and Venue of next meeting

24th March 2009, 9.30am-12.30pm, Sheila Russell Centre