

## CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

15 June 2017

### **COUNCILLOR ADRIAN LAWRENCE - CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNITY**

For the period March to 5 June 2017

#### **Progress on Portfolio Matters.**

##### **Home Choice**

There were 1131 applicants on the housing register at the end of May

218 in the high band  
315 in the medium band  
598 in the low band

32 applicants were housed

##### **Community Led Housing Fund**

On receipt of the second tranche of funds for 2016/17 work is underway to prepare a strategy to deliver some community led housing. There will be two key components firstly there will be a focus on direct delivery with consideration of a site or sites the council owns, and secondly a longer term aim to support existing or newly formed groups with their plans for community led housing. A fixed term post has been created (hosted by North Norfolk DC) to be shared between this Council , North Norfolk and Breckland DC to start to take forward this work with existing teams. Further information will follow soon on this exciting new initiative.

##### **Broad Street Offices – residential conversion update**

The project to convert second floor offices above retail units to self-contained residential apartments has planning approval. Work is progressing on the tender documents to secure a works contractor. The project will assist the Council in providing temporary accommodation in line with its statutory obligations.

##### **Supporting People Funding changes**

I have previously mentioned the planned reductions in the housing related support (Supporting People) services. We have started some work with the County Council on identifying some local priorities, and designing some new services that reflect changing circumstances and reflect the funding reductions. We are undertaking this work in conjunction with the West Norfolk CCG who understand the need to design services including those connected with homelessness and housing, recognising the link between housing and health. Proposals for some new service priorities include

potentially an outreach services for rough sleepers and those in wholly inappropriate living conditions.

**Careline**

The call handling transfer was as challenging as predicted due to non-compliance by the previous contractor, however we now only have a handful of clients left to be reprogrammed/cancelled. Herefordshire Housing to date have been excellent.

The Careline team are due to relocate to Kings Court around 10<sup>th</sup> July  
Our Careline Admin staff are due to become Careline Support Officers shortly and be trained in alarm installations- this will increase capacity and further improve our performance.

The procurement of the Servicing and Maintenance contract has just been completed and is due to be awarded in the next week.

**Meetings Attended**

Cabinet  
Cabinet sittings  
Meetings with Officers  
Full Council  
Portfollio Meetings