

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

27 July 2017

COUNCILLOR ADRIAN LAWRENCE - CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNITY

For the period 15 June to 17 July 2017

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Home Choice

Currently there are 931 applicants on the Home Choice register for the month of June

473 Low band

270 Medium band

188 High band

51 applicants were housed in the month of June

Homelessness Reduction Act

This new piece of legislation received Royal Assent earlier this year, and is likely to be enacted in April. This legislative change will have significant implications for our work. The matter was mentioned at the recent Environment and Community Panel where the point was made that it is now necessary to review our strategy and practices and procedures.

Supporting People funding Reductions - update

We had the opportunity to share our proposals worked up with the CCG for some new services to replace those that are being de-commissioned. An event was organised in June where we met with local stakeholders. The draft housing related support proposals were met with support – we will continue working on these ideas to ensure that those in most need and those most likely to then further help from health or social services are prioritised. The proposals include an outreach service for very vulnerable people including rough sleepers.

We are aware of the plans that some of our partners are working on in conjunction with the Churches Together Group to support some emergency accommodation services over the winter months.

Housing Infrastructure Fund

The Homes and Communities Agency have now published the Housing Infrastructure Fund. This is a fund that is aimed at supporting the provision of new infrastructure to unlock new housing development – It was announced in the Housing White Paper. Housing and Planning colleagues are working on

the potential submission of a funding bid in relation to the relief road for the areas key strategic site at West Winch. The deadline is 28th September.

Telehealth/telecare

Currently we are working up a plan so that we can consider utilizing Careline Installers to also install other assistive technology. This could include aids for dementia sufferers . This will require some initial expenditure and in the longer term will rely on support from within the NHS and NCC.

Handypersons Service

Has now relocated into Care and Repair to enable access the Disabled Facility Grant (DFG) budget and look at ways to support the adaptations service/reduce the waiting list

Hackney Carriage Fares

Between the 24th March 2017 and 30th April 2017 all members of the Hackney Carriage licensed trade were consulted as to whether they would like an increase in charges. Of the 90 letters sent 42 (47%) responses were received.

The Majority of those who responded asked for no change to Hackney Charges.

The Community Housing Fund

As I've mentioned before the second part of the fund has arrived and we are working to draw up a plan to make this money work the best way possible. I know some coastal members have been asked questions but I can assure you as soon as there is something concrete to report I will let you know.

2 Meetings Attended

- Planning
- Planning Training
- Meetings with Officers
- Cabinet
- E&C Panel
- LILY
- CPP

