

## **MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** held at the Council Offices, Needham Market on 8 June 2015 at 10:00am.

### **PRESENT:**

Councillor Derrick Haley (Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder), Chairman – Conservative and Independent Group

#### **Conservative and Independent Group**

Councillors: Gerard Brewster  
David Burn  
Nick Gowrley  
Diana Kearsley  
Jane Storey  
John Whitehead

#### **Green Group**

Councillors: Andrew Stringer

#### **Liberal Democrat Group**

Councillors: Penny Otton

**In attendance:** Strategic Director – Corporate  
Strategic Director – Place  
Corporate Manager – Food and Safety  
Corporate Manager – Tenant Services  
Governance Support Officer (VL)

### **EX01 APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTIONS**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Rachel Eburne, Chair of Scrutiny Committee.

### **EX02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **EX03 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 9 MARCH 2015**

#### **Report X/19/15**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2015 were confirmed as a correct record.

#### **EX04 TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF PETITIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S PETITION PROCEDURE**

No petitions had been received.

#### **EX05 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions from the public.

#### **EX06 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**

Councillor Andrew Stringer had raised the following questions which fell within the terms of reference of the Committee and for which due notice had been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rules:

1. When will MSDC's five year land supply be back in surplus?
2. When will elected Members be briefed on the consequences of this failure to comply with government policy?
3. When will Members be informed of proposals in their wards arising from this position?

Councillor Derrick Haley responded:

Councillor Stringer, you will know that the five year supply is not a fixed position in that there is not a definitive number that is rolled forward indefinitely. You will also know that the five year supply is made up of allocations and planning permissions. Government policy is about sustainable development. Regardless of the five year land supply position, if a site is fundamentally flawed it should not get permission. It simply means that in balancing all material planning considerations greater weight is given to how a scheme will help meet housing need. Meeting our housing need is one of our corporate objectives. The impact on development management decisions will need to be considered on the merits of each case that comes forward in the light of the supply position when it does so. For that reason, work is continually ongoing on all aspects of planning policy to ensure we can meet our five year land supply target and our policy planners and development management teams work closely so that our overarching objectives, planning authority functions and policy obligations can be met.

I am expecting a briefing as Leader of the Council shortly and then all Members can be briefed as already planned as part of the First 100 Day Member induction plan. As regards any specific case coming forward in any Ward, Tom Barker and his team will be able to advise Members on a case by case basis.

In case Councillor Stringer has any follow up questions, I have already asked one of the PA's to arrange a meeting with him and relevant officers and I will be happy to answer any further questions at that meeting.

**Note:** It was confirmed that if a Member had a specific interest in an item on an agenda he/she was able to attend that meeting and with the agreement of the Chairman raise a question or make comment relating to that item

## **EX07 MID SUFFOLK AND BABERGH FOOD SAFETY AND HEALTH AND SAFETY SERVICE PLANS 2015/16**

**Report X/20/15**

**Corporate Manager – Food and Safety**

Members were asked to consider and approve the Joint Mid Suffolk and Babergh Food Safety and Health and Safety Service Plans for 2015/16.

The Corporate Manager – Food and Safety advised that paragraph 3.4 and its table should more correctly read 'The frequency of intervention is dependent ...' and 'Number of planned interventions', and said that this change would be made in the published Service Plan.

Following clarification of various points by the Corporate Manager a motion to approve recommendation 2.1 subject to the above change was proposed and seconded.

By a unanimous vote

### ***RESOLUTION***

*That the Joint Mid Suffolk and Babergh Food Safety and Health and Safety Service Plans for 2015/16, attached as Appendices 1 and 2 to the report) be approved subject to the above amendment*

## **EX08 APPROVAL OF TENANCY AGREEMENT**

**Report X/21/15**

**Corporate Manager – Tenancy Services**

The report provided Executive Committee with a summary of the work that had been undertaken to introduce a revised Tenancy Agreement for Mid Suffolk District Council. The Committee was asked to recommend approval of the new Tenancy Agreement to Full Council.

Members were advised of an additional recommendation as follows:

- That the Head of Housing in consultation with the Chairmen of Executive and Strategy Committees be authorised to agree any typographical or other minor changes to the Tenancy Agreements prior to submission to both Councils for approval.

Members questioned the Corporate Manager on various areas within the Agreement and noted that it related to Secure Lifetime Tenancies. The Flexible Tenancy Agreement would have the same wording but would include the statutory break clauses.

Members agreed the proposed Tenancy Agreement was clear and fair and would give protection to the Council, tenants and neighbours. A motion to approve the recommendations was proposed and seconded.

By a unanimous vote

## **RESOLUTION**

*That the Head of Housing in consultation with the Chairmen of Executive and Strategy Committees be authorised to agree any typographical or other minor changes to the Tenancy Agreements prior to submission to both Councils for approval*

### **RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL**

That the revised Tenancy Agreement for Mid Suffolk District Council be approved

## **EX09 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FORWARD PLAN**

### **Report X/22/15**

Members noted the following amendments to the Forward Plan:

- Draft Local Plan – September/March – Planning Portfolio Holder not Economy and Stowmarket Regeneration
- HRA Sites in Mendlesham and Stowmarket – add to 7 September
- Suffolk's Devolution Proposal – add to 13 July

## **RESOLUTION**

*That the Executive Committee Forward Plan be received*