



EXECUTIVE

5.30 p.m. – 5.50 p.m.

12 November 2008

Present: Councillors Morphew (Chair), Morrey (Vice Chair), Arthur, Blakeway, Bremner, Brociek-Coulton and Sands

Apologies: Councillor Waters

Also Present: Councillors Lubbock and Ramsay

1. MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 29 October 2008.

2. CHOICE BASED LETTINGS – CHANGE TO POLICY

The Housing Options Manager introduced the report. Members were advised that the changes to policy were to clarify areas where there may have previously been confusion and to ensure that the scheme was fair and transparent.

Councillor Arthur said this was a very good service and research had proved to be welcomed by people applying for social housing.

The Chair congratulated officers on the nomination of the Sub-Regional Home Options Scheme for an E-government award in the category of "Building a fairer society with e-government services".

RESOLVED to agree the proposed changes to the Greater Norwich Choice Based Lettings policy as set out in Appendix A of the report.

3. PLANNING IMPROVEMENT PLAN – PHASE 2

The Head of Planning and Regeneration Services presented the report and explained that the purpose of the Planning Improvement Plan was to develop and deliver a second phase of the improvement plan for the planning service, which would respond to the Audit Commission's Inspection and reflect the implications of the Council's Corporate Plan. He confirmed that a grant of £509,000 had just been secured from the Housing and Planning Delivery Grant.

During discussion the Head of Planning and Regeneration answered questions on issues relating to a reduction in workload and the performance of officers and the Planning Committee from Councillors Lubbock and Ramsay.

RESOLVED:-

- (1) to endorse the aims and workstreams listed in paras 8 and 9 of the report for the second phase of the Planning Improvement Plan;
- (2) to agree in principle that the Housing and Planning Delivery Grant award for 2008/09 and underspend from 2007/08 be directed, as encouraged by Government, to support the delivery of planning services and particularly the implementation of PIP2 at the discretion of the Director of Regeneration and Development through the Performance Management Improvement Board; and
- (3) that the Performance Management Improvement Board receive quarterly updates to review progress and take further decisions as required

CHAIR