



## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD ON 14th MARCH 2024**

**PRESENT:** Councillor T Jay (Chair), Councillors S Smith (Deputy Chair), T Clements, A Cooper, J Oates and M Summers

The following officers were present: Andrew Barratt (Chief Executive), Rob Barnes (Executive Director Communities), Tina Mustafa (Assistant Director Neighbourhoods), Paul Weston (Assistant Director Assets), Leanne Costello (Senior Scrutiny and Democratic Services Officer) and Laura Sandland (Democratic and Executive Support Officer)

### **138 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor P Thompson.

### **139 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 were approved as a correct record.

*(Moved by Councillor A Cooper and seconded by Councillor S Smith)*

### **140 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

### **141 QUESTION TIME:**

### **142 MATTERS REFERRED TO THE CABINET IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES**

Report of the Chair of Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny to notify Cabinet of the report and recommendations from the Update on Housing Assistance Policy Item that was discussed at the meeting of Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

**Resolved:** That Cabinet agreed:

1. to look at a proposal for providing extra resource to assist the Assistant Director with the backlog and a review of the process.

An amendment to recommendation two from:

that page 7 includes a priority of those that have been medically discharged from the armed forces to:

2. to look to revise the Housing Assistance Policy to include a provision to provide medically discharged armed forces personnel a priority.

*(Moved by Councillor S Smith and seconded by Councillor T Clements)*

#### **143 ALLOCATIONS POLICY AND MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNCILS HOUSING REGISTER**

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing and planning to update Cabinet on the proposed changes to the Councils Allocations Policy; to highlight the need for further investigation into the letting of high-rise properties in Council stock; to set out the arrangements for sheltered accommodation (in the Councils own stock) and its use to be linked to the asset management strategy, ensuring the independent living for older people needing social housing is refreshed and best use of stock is made.

**Resolved** that Cabinet :

1. Endorsed the updated Allocations Policy as shown at Annex 1, which is supported by the policy change table shown at Annex 2. The changes to the policy are highlighted in turquoise and covered in more detail in 3.2 below
2. Delegated authority to the Portfolio Holder of Housing & Planning, in consultation with the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods, to agree the statutory consultation on a proposed local lettings policy for high rise properties, with a report back to Cabinet in 2024/2025 on detailed options and proposals
3. Approved, as part of the Asset Management Strategy, an assessment of sheltered units in relation to making best use of stock.

*(Moved by Councillor S Smith and Seconded by Councillor A Cooper )*

#### **144 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED:** That members of the press and public be now excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that the business involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

*(Moved by Councillor A Cooper and seconded by Councillor S*

*Smith)*

**145 UPDATE ON COMMERCIAL LEASE**

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Town Centre and Assets to provide a further update on a commercial lease in Tamworth.

Resolved that Cabinet:

agreed the four recommendations made to Cabinet.

*(Moved by Councillor A Cooper and seconded by Councillor S Smith )*

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Leader

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