

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE

CABINET

HELD ON THURSDAY, 20 DECEMBER, 2012 AT 5.45 P.M.

IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors:

Adamson, G.	Leader of the Council
Toth, J.	Deputy Leader of the Council and Environment Portfolio Leader
Dixon, D.I	Corporate Improvement Portfolio Leader
Holder, M.J.	Crime and Partnerships Portfolio Leader
Mitchell, Mrs. C.	Culture and Sport Portfolio Leader
Alcott, G.	Economic Development and Planning Portfolio Leader
Davis, Mrs. M.A	Health and wellbeing Portfolio Leader
Allen, F.W.C.	Housing Portfolio Leader
Todd, Mrs. D.M.	Town Centre Regeneration Portfolio Leader

96. Apologies

None.

97. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members

No other declarations were made in addition to those already confirmed by Members in the Register of Members' Interests.

98. Updates from Portfolio Leaders

Culture and Sport

Post-Olympics and Paralympics Legacy Pledge

The Portfolio Leader advised that she, along with the Chairman of the Council, the Leader of the Council, and the Head of Commissioning had recently attended St. George's Park, near Burton to celebrate the Paralympics. The Chairman had picked up a pledge on behalf of the Council for a continued commitment to protecting a post-Olympics legacy.

Consultation on the Former Stadium Site

The Portfolio Leader advised that the consultation period had closed at the end of November, 2012 and work was currently being undertaken to analyse and evaluate the feedback.

Heritage Lottery Fund Bid for Hednesford Park

The Portfolio Leader advised that Cannock Chase Council had been successful in its bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for £2.2m. This was the highest funding allocation to any parks project by HLF in this round of allocations. A Stage 2 bid with all the supporting evidence would normally take 12 months to develop, but Council Officers had completed this work in 6 months and secured a successful outcome in this National competitive round. The bid was fully supported by Friends of Hednesford Park who also assisted in the work.

The Portfolio Leader wished to place on record her thanks and the thanks of Cabinet to Tom Walsh, Parks and Open Spaces Manager, all of the Officers involved in the bid and the Friends of Hednesford Park for such an achievement.

Economic Development and Planning

London Midland Franchise Continuation

The Portfolio Leader advised that he had received a communication from London Midland confirming that the London Midland (rail) Franchise would continue to September, 2015. At the same time, the Department for Transport had given details of a £7million package of compensation to passengers who suffered disruption during the LM driver shortage, including:

- 5 days' worth of free travel for season ticket holders
- Half a million extra cheap advance tickets
- Further investment in infrastructure improvements

Leader

The Leader advised that he and the Town Centre Regeneration Portfolio Leader had been shown around the new Hednesford Community facility and had been very impressed, and considered it to be a great asset in the town. Early indications were that Hednesford town was enjoying an increased footfall since the new Tesco supermarket had opened at the end of November.

Crime and Partnerships

The Portfolio Leader advised that the Police and Crime Panel had met on a number of occasions prior to the appointment of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire and had, on 17 December, met with the PCC, Matthew Ellis, for the first time. The PCC had announced a number of ideas about policing in Staffordshire and his desire for an increased and more visible

police presence on the streets. The Panel had voiced concerns to the PCC about a number of issues including how he would go about consulting with Local Community Safety Partnerships, generally; and, in particular in relation to setting a Police precept for 2013-14.

There had also been a second meeting to confirm the appointment of the Deputy PCC, Sue Arnold. Ms. Arnold's appointment was in the gift of the PCC, and did not require a formal recruitment / appointment process. The Portfolio Leader advised that the Panel had expressed some reservations about her intention to not stand down from her position as a Lichfield District Councillor, although she did indicate she would be standing down as Chair of its Scrutiny Committee.

The Leader advised that he and the Chief Executive had also recently met the PCC and had taken the opportunity to express concerns about budget allocation in relation to policing needs.

99. Minutes of Cabinet Meeting of 15 November, 2012

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 November, 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed.

100. Forward Plan

An updated Forward Plan of Decisions for the period December, 2012 – February, 2013 (Item 5.1 – 5.2 of the Official Minutes of the Council), had been circulated and published prior to the meeting, which was considered.

RESOLVED:

That the (updated) Forward Plan of Decisions for the period December, 2012 – February, 2013, be noted.

101. Minutes of Policy Development Committees

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the following Policy Development Committees and other Committees be received for information:

- (i) Town Centre Regeneration – 9 October, 2012
- (ii) Economic Development and Planning – 10 October, 2012
- (iii) Culture and Sport – 17 October, 2012
- (iv) Housing – 22 October, 2012

102. Recommendation(s) from Town Centre Regeneration Policy Development Committee – 9 October, 2012

Consideration was given to the recommendations received from the Town Centre Regeneration Policy Development Committee held on 9 October, 2012:

“That Cabinet be recommended:

- That the views of Rugeley Traders Association be taken into account in any Council decision on the siting of the proposed Miners Memorial.
- That Rugeley Traders Association be involved in discussions regarding the provision of street furniture in Rugeley town centre.”

In response to the recommendations of the Town Centre Policy Development Committee, the Town Centre Regeneration Portfolio Leader advised that:

- Rugeley Traders Association had been able to express its views on the siting of the proposed Miners’ Memorial during the recent public consultation conducted by the Lea Hall and Brereton Memorial Society. Rugeley Traders’ Association had expressed a preference for a town centre location rather than the Globe Island. The feasibility of siting the proposed memorial in a town centre location was currently being investigated by the Memorial Society, working with Staffordshire Highways Authority. The actual location would be determined by the planning process as a planning consent would be needed to erect the proposed memorial.
- There were no active discussions regarding the provision of street furniture in Rugeley town centre which involve Cannock Chase Council as there were no funds available for this purpose in the current municipal year. If the Miners’ Memorial failed to secure planning consent, then Cabinet had already determined that the £68,000 would be re-allocated for environmental improvements in Rugeley town centre which would include street furniture. In these circumstances, Rugeley Traders Association could be involved in discussions regarding the provision of street furniture. However, it would also need to be borne in mind that Cannock Chase Council has certain corporate standards for street furniture that apply across the District. This means that there is not an open choice about different types of street furniture that could be installed. These standards had come about as a result of the experience of the District Council in installing, maintaining and emptying certain street furniture items.

103. Armed Forces Community Covenant

Consideration was given to the Report of the Chief Executive (Item 7.1 – 7.41 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) Responsibility to sign the Armed Forces Community Covenant for Staffordshire on behalf of the Council be delegated to the Chief Executive.
- (B) The Council's actions in respect of the Armed Forces Community Covenant, and associated matters be reflected in the Council's Priority Delivery Plans for 2013-14.

Reason(s) for the Decision

The Ministry of Defence has identified Staffordshire as a priority area within the West Midlands for the establishment of an Armed Forces Community Covenant. This is in part to recognise and anticipate the significant relocations and development in the local area including the Medical Defence Establishment at Whittington and the Barona Programme in Stafford (which between them will lead to an influx of 2200 army personnel and their families into the area). The District Council and other local partners are being encouraged to sign up to a Community Covenant for Staffordshire.

Signing a community covenant offers a way for Local Authorities to show they are doing their bit to honour the Armed Forces Covenant locally; the aim of which is to encourage communities to support in a tangible way their local Service Community. Signing a Community Covenant is a demonstration of the Council's commitment to apply the principles to their policy and decision making processes and provides access to some £30m funding through grant applications.

104. Update on Town Centre Issues and Improvements

Consideration was given to the Report of the Corporate Director (Item 8.1 – 8.10 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The progress made on town centre issues across the District be noted.
- (B) The further planned improvements to be delivered in 2013 be noted.

- (C) Council be recommended to include the £100,000 allocation from English Heritage for 2012/13 in the Council's Capital Programme, matched with £50,000 Town Centre Improvement capital resources and £50,000 Staffordshire County Council contribution, making a total budget of £200,000.
- (D) Subject to Council approving (C), above, that Cabinet grant Permission to Spend this allocation from English Heritage in the Rugeley Conservation Areas Partnership Scheme.

Reason(s) for the Decision

The strategic context for the improvement of the District's Town Centres is the Portas Review (An Independent Review into the future of our high streets) published by Government in December 2011. A wide range of recommendations are made in the Review including business rates concession schemes, free controlled parking schemes and a co-ordinated operation management approach for town centres. In response, Cabinet has prioritised action to improve the District's town centres and a significant financial sum has been allocated to deliver a programme of improvements and initiatives in 2012/13.

The regeneration of Hednesford town centre has entered its final critical phase; Tesco opened at the end of November 2012 and the new retail units on the Rugeley Road are being let. A new discount food store (Aldi) will start construction in 2013. Applications and decisions have been made in terms of the Town Centre Business rates Discount Scheme, Community Toilet Scheme and the Rugeley Conservation Areas Partnership scheme. Cabinet has determined that free parking will apply to Council car parks in the two Saturdays before Christmas.

As town centres are a significant priority for Cabinet and Council, a progress update is provided for consideration so that all Members are aware of current delivery and future plans to enhance the offer and environment of the District's three town centres.

105. Communication Survey 2012

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Policy (Item 9.1 – 9.41 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The results of the 2012 Communications Survey be noted.
- (B) Implementation of the 2013/14 Communications Improvement Plan, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

Reason(s) for the Decision

The 2012 communications survey was carried out over six weeks from 23 July to 31 August. Two separate surveys were conducted: one for Council employees on the effectiveness of internal communications; and one for residents on the Council's external communications.

Satisfaction with Council communications has increased both internally and externally in the last 12 months.

106. Draft General Fund Revenue Budget 2013-14 to 2016-17 Update

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Finance (Item 10.1 – 10.7 of the Official Minutes of the Council). The Head of Finance also distributed an addendum to the report which outlined the detail of the Department for Communities and Local Government's Draft Settlement, as published on 19 and 20 December, 2012.

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The contents of the report and addendum be noted.
- (B) Due consideration be given to the impact of the Provisional Local Government Financial Settlement.
- (C) The Leader of the Council, in conjunction with the Chief Executive and the Section 151 Officer be authorised to determine a Consultation Budget in advance of the next Cabinet Meeting enabling consultation with Scrutiny (Delivering Change Panel); Shadow Cabinet and other stakeholders to take place as soon as practically possible in the new year.

Reason(s) for the Decision

Cabinet at its meeting of the 15 November resolved to receive further reports on the General Fund Revenue Budget and Reserves and Balances when the financial settlement details from the Government were known, enabling a budget for consultation to be determined.

The Government had since that date published a Policy statement on Business Rates Retention (dated 21 November 2012), and the Chancellor published his Autumn Statement on the 5 December 2012.

The Department for Communities and Local Government published its Draft Settlement on the 19th and 20th December and covered the period 2013-14 and 2014-15.

The settlement reflects the introduction of the Business Rates Retention

system with the overall Government funding (Start Up Funding Assessment) incorporating the Localisation of Council Tax Support; Council Tax Freeze and Homelessness allocations as well as allocations for Revenue Support Grant and Business Rates Retention..

The overall figures show a reduction of 7.4% funding in 2013-14 and a further 12.8% reduction in 2014-15 amounting to a cash reduction of £432,000 and £772,000 respectively.

The Financial Plan as approved by Cabinet in November only assumed a 3.9% and 7% reduction in funding. The additional reductions as reflected in the settlement result in an additional funding requirement of £185,000 and £567,000 for 2013-14 and 2014-15, respectively, as compared to the November financial plan.

The Government will set out detailed spending plans for 2015-16 in the first half of next year. The Autumn Statement of 2011 set out that Public Expenditure would continue to fall at the same rate in 2015-16 and 2016-17 as in the last spending review period. The Chancellor indicated in the 2012 statement that there will need to be a further year of spending reductions in 2017/18.

The provisional settlement included baseline figures for Business Rates, and further guidance has been provided on how the Business Rates retention scheme will operate. These will now need to be evaluated to determine forecast resources for 2013-14 to 2015-16 since this element of funding is not guaranteed.

107. Local Authority Mortgage Scheme

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Housing and Head of Financial Management (Item 11.1 – 11.7 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That Council on 23 January 2013 be recommended to:-

- (i) Approve the participation of Cannock Chase Council in the Local Authority Mortgage Scheme in partnership with Lloyds TSB Bank Plc.
- (ii) Agree the following eligibility criteria for the operation of the scheme within the Cannock Chase area:-
 - A total indemnity value of £2 million.
 - A maximum loan of £135,000.

- Qualifying properties comprise all dwellings which have a postcode within the Cannock Chase District Council area.
- (iii) Approve additional Council borrowing of £2 million to provide the required indemnities in respect of the scheme.
 - (iv) Indemnify the Monitoring Officer in respect of any personal liability which may occur as a result of providing the required Opinion Letter to the Lloyds TSB Bank plc.

Reason(s) for the Decision

The majority of mortgage lenders are currently prepared to lend a maximum of 75% “loan to value” to mortgage applicants. This constrains some first time buyers from purchasing a dwelling due to the need for a 25% deposit.

The Local Authority Mortgage Scheme is designed to assist first time buyers who can afford the mortgage payments but do not have the funds for the initial deposit. A financial indemnity would be provided by the Council to a partner mortgage lender, which enables the potential purchaser to apply for a 95% “loan to value” mortgage and thus purchase a dwelling with a 5% deposit.

Mortgages would, however, only be approved if the potential buyers meet the lending and credit criteria set by the partner mortgage lender.

Funding for the mortgage indemnities would be financed through additional Council borrowing and deposited with the mortgage lender. However, the Council would receive a deposit rate which exceeds the annual cost of the additional borrowing and it is therefore considered that there would be “no cost” to the Council’s participation in the scheme.

It is therefore proposed that Council is recommended that Cannock Chase Council participate in the Local Authority Mortgage Scheme (LAMS) and select Lloyds TSB as their lending partner, due to the bank being the only LAMS lender which has branch offices in the Cannock Chase area.

Subject to the Council’s participation in the LAMS being agreed certain local eligibility criteria for the scheme also needs to be determined and it is proposed that:-

- (i) A maximum total indemnity of £2 million is offered under the scheme to enable at least 70 mortgages to be provided.
- (ii) A maximum loan of £135,000 is agreed to enable a purchaser to buy a dwelling to the value of £142,000 with a 95% mortgage.
- (iii) All properties with a postcode within the Cannock Chase District Council area are eligible for purchase under the scheme.

As previously stated the mortgage indemnities will be financed through additional borrowing and approval is therefore sought to borrow the £2 million required to provide indemnities under the scheme.

Lloyds TSB require the Council's Monitoring Officer to provide them with an Opinion Letter confirming that the Council has the power to enter into, observe and perform the terms and obligations required under the LAMS. It is therefore necessary to indemnify the Monitoring Officer for any personal liability which could be incurred by providing the Opinion Letter.

108. Conversion of "Type 40" One Bedroom Bungalows

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Housing (Item 12.1 – 12.9 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) Conversion works are undertaken to the Council's "Type 40" one bedroom bungalows to enable the former "utility room" to be utilised as a second bedroom.
- (B) Following the implementation of the conversion works, the rent be increased to that of a two bedroom bungalow in accordance with the national rent setting policy and formula.
- (C) The action taken by the Head of Housing following consultation with the Housing Portfolio Leader regarding the conversion work and rent increase in respect of the vacant bungalow at 17 and 35 Breeze Avenue, Norton Canes be confirmed.
- (D) The two bedroom conversion works and the associated rent increase be implemented in respect of all future vacant "Type 40" bungalows and the Council's void relet standard be amended accordingly.
- (E) Consideration be given, as part of the 2013-14 budget process to including budgetary provision of £80,000 within the revised Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan and the three year HRA Capital Programme for 2013-14 to 2015-16, to undertake the conversion works to occupied "Type 40" bungalows.

Reason(s) for the Decision

The Council's stock of one bedroom bungalows includes 56 built to a "Type 40" design, the internal layout of which includes a "utility room" with a floor area of 5.6 m². Due to the demand for two bedroom bungalows (which is greater than that for one bedroom bungalows) it is proposed that conversion works (as detailed in paragraph 5.7) are undertaken to enable the "utility room"

to become a second bedroom. The cost of these works is estimated to be £2,900 per bungalow.

As a result of converting the "Type 40" bungalow to two bedroom it is necessary in accordance with the national rent policy to increase the rent in line with the national formula by £8.05 per week. The full increase would be applied immediately to vacant properties before reletting but would be phased over a three year period for occupied bungalows.

Two "Type 40" bungalows at Breeze Avenue, Norton Canes have recently become vacant. In order to minimise the time these bungalows are void, the Head of Housing, following consultation with the Housing Portfolio Leader, authorised the necessary conversion work and one bungalow has now been relet at the revised two bedroom rent, whilst the other will be relet early in the New Year. Confirmation of this action was therefore sought.

It is proposed that the two bedroom conversion work and the associated rent increase are implemented in respect of all future vacant "Type 40" bungalows before they are relet.

It is considered that the conversion works could also be of benefit to existing "Type 40" bungalow tenants and that they should be given the choice of having the conversion works undertaken to their homes. However, not all tenants will, for a variety of reasons, wish to have the works implemented and it is estimated that half will choose to have the conversion works undertaken.

In order that these works can be implemented (where the tenant chooses to have the conversion work) it is proposed that consideration is given as part of the 2013-14 budget process to including budgetary provision of £80,000 within the revised Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan and the three year HRA Capital Programme for the period 2013-14 to 2015-16.

109. Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph(s) 1, 2, and 3, Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

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PART 2

110. Relocation of Wintech Limited to Kingswood Lakeside

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Head of Planning and Regeneration (Item 14.1 – 14.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The ongoing discussions with Wintech Limited regarding a possible relocation of their business to Kingswood Lakeside in Cannock.
- (B) Budgetary provision be made to facilitate the relocation of Wintech Limited to Kingswood Lakeside in Cannock for the purpose of securing significant benefits to the local economy.
- (C) The Head of Financial Services and the Head of Planning & Regeneration be authorised, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Economic Development and Planning Portfolio Holder, to agree the terms of any financial arrangements designed to facilitate Wintech's relocation.

Reason(s) for the Decision

Wintech Limited are a growing façade engineering consultancy currently located in poor quality office accommodation in Wednesfield, Wolverhampton. They are looking to relocate to modern purpose-built accommodation suited to the needs of their expanding workforce in a location which projects a positive image to current and future clients. Because they have a high number of clients based in the Middle East and South East Asia reliable connectivity to Birmingham International Airport is an important consideration and one of the key reasons why a site on Kingswood Lakeside is being seriously considered as a relocation option.

The potential relocation of Wintech Limited to a plot on Kingswood Lakeside would be regarded as a major success for the District and would contribute positively to ongoing efforts to diversifying the employment base of the local economy and the securing of jobs in those sectors which are currently under-

represented. More specifically the economic benefits include:-

- Bringing 70 jobs to the District, with the prospect of additional new jobs shortly after relocation.
- Increased business representation at the hi-tech end of the construction technologies cluster which could stimulate interest in the area from similar companies.
- Secures prestige developments at either end of Zone A on Kingswood Lakeside, the other end being provided by Veolia (completed July 2012), thus establishing a benchmark for the remainder of the zone in terms of design quality and business profile.
- Opportunities for increased local employment in a high value added business.
- A positive contribution to the image of the District, strengthening its credentials as a viable office location.
- An expansion of the business rate base of the District.

The recommendations set out in the report reflect the importance of the Wintech relocation to the achievement of the above, hence the need for a positive response from the Council to the opportunity to assist their potential move to the District.

111. Management Debt Recovery

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Head of Financial Management (Item 15.1 – 15.22 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The amounts detailed in Appendices 1 to 3 of the report be written off.
- (B) The actions of the Head of Financial Management in writing off the irrecoverable debts, below £1,000 be noted.

Reason(s) for the Decision

Council Tax

Appendix 1 details Council Tax arrears over £1,000 which cannot be collected for the reasons stated. Included in this Appendix are 18 cases with arrears totalling £29,035.06. Additionally 30 irrecoverable Council Tax debts, with a value of £14,144.61 have been written off by the Head of Financial Management.

Non-Domestic Rates

Appendix 2 details Non-Domestic arrears over £1,000 which cannot be collected for the reasons stated. Included in this Appendix are 40 cases with arrears totalling £161,937.16.

Some of the Business Rates debts are being recommended for write-off on the grounds of insolvency of the companies that previously occupied properties. It is not uncommon, in these circumstances for the properties concerned to be re-occupied, fairly quickly, by new companies often with similar names to the insolvent organisation. It often therefore appears that the company has continued to trade, though this is not the case. Where this situation occurs, the new occupier is an entirely separate legal entity to the previous occupant and cannot be held liable for rates due from the insolvent company. Members can be assured that we only submit these debts for write-off, when we are sure that they cannot be recovered.

Housing Benefit Overpayments

Appendix 3 details Housing Benefit Overpayments with arrears over £1,000 which cannot be collected for reasons stated. Included in this Appendix is 1 case with arrears totalling £1,262.56. Additionally 16 irrecoverable Benefit Overpayments with a value of £3,992.67 have been written off by the Head of Financial Management.

112. Structural Reinstatement of Precast Reinforced Concrete Houses

Consideration was given to a Not for Publication Report of the Head of Housing (Item 16.1 – 16.9 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The action taken by the Head of Housing following consultation with the Housing Portfolio Leader in “bringing forward” the structural reinstatement of the precast reinforced concrete houses in the Rowley Close area, Pye Green to achieve completion during 2013 be confirmed.
- (B) The budgetary provision for the structural reinstatement of the pre-reinforced concrete houses on the Moss Road Estate, Chadsmoor and in the Rowley Close area be revised and re-profiled as follows:-

*	2012-13	-	£564,200
*	2013-14	-	£1,926,150
- (C) The revised budgets be included within the revised Housing Revenue Account Business Plan to be considered by Cabinet on 17 January 2013, and the agreed HRA Capital Programme for the period 2012-13

to 2014-15 be amended accordingly.

- (D) The amended Capital Scheme Service Standard for the Structural Reinstatement of Pre-reinforced Concrete Houses (attached as Appendix 1 to the report) be noted.

Reason(s) for the Decision

Tenders had been received for the structural reinstatement of the Council's 107 Pre-reinforced Concrete (PRC) houses situated on the Moss Road Estate, Chadsmoor (63 Reema houses) and in the Rowley Close area, Pye Green (44 Cornish houses) in accordance with:-

- (i) A two year construction period whereby the works to the Cornish houses in the Rowley Close area are undertaken after the completion of the works to the Reema houses on the Moss Road Estate;

and as a variant, in accordance with:-

- (ii) A shorter construction period to enable the Cornish houses in the Rowley Close area to be completed earlier.

The tender submitted by Keepmoat is the most economically advantageous in relation to both of the above tender scenarios. However, by implementing the two schemes concurrently (in accordance with the variant tender submission) a shorter construction period and tender savings of £116,000 can be achieved. This would result in the works to the Cornish houses in the Rowley Close area being completed in November 2013 rather than December 2014. In view of the advantages of the earlier completion date and the resultant budget savings the Head of Housing, following consultation with the Housing Portfolio Leader, accepted the variant tender submission from Keepmoat. Confirmation of this action regarding "bringing this scheme forward" was therefore sought.

The shorter construction period will have implications for current agreed budgetary profile as it will be necessary to "bring forward" expenditure to earlier years. There is, however, sufficient capacity within the agreed HRA Business Plan to accommodate this change and it is therefore proposed that the PRC structural reinstatement budget is revised and re-profiled as follows:-

<u>2012-13</u>	<u>2013-14</u>	<u>Total</u>
£564,200	£1,926,150	£2,490,350

It is further proposed that the revised budget profile is included within the revised HRA Business Plan to be considered by Cabinet on 17 January 2013 and that the agreed HRA Capital Programme for the period 2012-13 to 2014-15 is amended accordingly.

Following resident consultation, two amendments have been made to the structural reinstatement scheme for the Reema houses on the Moss Road Estate, i.e.

- (i) Comprehensive re-roofing.
- (ii) Re-rendering of the garages situated within the curtilage of the houses.

In accordance with the Cabinet decision of 21 June 2012, these amendments have been agreed by the Head of Housing, following consultation with the Housing Portfolio Leader and cost implications are included within the accepted tender. Cabinet are therefore asked to note the revised Capital Scheme Service Standard for the structural reinstatement of PRC houses, attached as Appendix 1.

113. Former Tenants' Arrears Recommended for Write-Off

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Head of Housing (Item 17.1 – 17.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the former tenants' arrears as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved for write-off.

Reason(s) for the Decision

Appendix 1 to the report detailed ten former tenants' arrears cases of £1,000 or above which cannot be collected for the reasons stated. The arrears total £24,964.75 and were recommended for write-off in accordance with the Council's policy

LEADER

The meeting closed at 6.50 p.m.