

Community and Wellbeing Policy Development Advisory Group
12 NOVEMBER 2019

Present: Councillors: Tricia Youtan (Chairman), Chris Brown, Frances Haigh, Roger Noel, Kate Rowbottom, Jim Sanson and Belinda Walters

Apologies: Councillors: Andrew Baldwin, Colin Minto and Ian Stannard

Also Present: Ruth Fletcher and David Skipp

12 **NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The notes of the meeting held on 17 September were received.

13 **COMMUNITY LINK LIFELINE ALARM MONITORING CONTRACT**

The Head of Environmental Health & Licensing updated the Group on the procurement process that had taken place to ensure the continued smooth running of the Community Link Lifeline service. The contract would provide a twenty-four hour telephone call monitoring service for people using Horsham District Council's Lifeline alarms. There had been five bids for the contract in a joint tender with Crawley Borough Council.

A report recommending the bid that performed best on quality and price would be considered by Cabinet on 28 November.

14 **WEST SUSSEX DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT POLICY**

The Head of Environmental Health & Licensing advised the Group that the Disabled Facilities Grant Policy 2020 – 2024 had been developed to enable better joint working and budget management for all West Sussex district and borough councils. Joint working had already improved speed of delivery and the current draft Policy would facilitate the awarding of grants to qualifying applicants.

The Group noted the range of products and adaptations to people's homes provided through the Disabled Facilities Grant and that there was currently no waiting list.

The Group were in favour of Cabinet approving the recommendation to agree to adopt the policy at the meeting on 28 November.

15 **HORSHAM DISTRICT HOMES**

The Head of Housing & Community Services and the Corporate Accountant updated the Group on the first two sites to provide housing through the Council's recently created Affordable Housing Company (Horsham District

Homes). The presentation focussed on financial arrangements for the holding company. Details of the homes to be provided had been discussed at the previous meeting of the PDAG.

The Group noted the project overview and business case for each site, including funding requirements and projected yields. The site in Billingshurst would accommodate three affordable homes built on Council land, and was subject to planning permission and Cabinet approval. A single dwelling in Slinfold would be purchased from a developer and was subject to contract and Cabinet approval. Funding would come from s106 developer contributions held by the Council.

Proposals for the first two sites would be considered by Cabinet on 28 November. The Group were supportive of the proposals.

16 **FORWARD PLAN EXTRACT FOR THE COMMUNITY AND WELLBEING PORTFOLIO**

The meeting closed at 7.08 pm having commenced at 6.15 pm

CHAIRMAN