

ISSUES ARISING FROM COMMUNITY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1 INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITY – SPA COURT

- 1.1 This item of business was referred to the Community Services Committee by the Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2005 with the recommendation that the Primary Care Trust be requested to repay to the Council the sum of £9,500, which had been paid in response to their request to the Council for the provision of an intermediate care facility, which to date had not been utilised.
- 1.2 A copy of the officer's report is appended at Appendix A.
- 1.3 The facility, which is situated on the ground floor, has only been used on two half-days by the PCT for training purposes as the money had been spent in refitting the flat so that it would be suitable for special needs tenants.
- 1.4 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

That the Primary Care Trust be requested to repay to the Council £9,500, which had been paid in response to the PCT's request to provide an intermediate care facility, which the PCT had subsequently failed to utilise.
(HRHM)

2 PETS IN SHELTERED ACCOMMODATION

- 2.1 This item of business was referred to the Community Services Committee by the Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2005 with three recommendations relating to allowing tenants in sheltered accommodation to keep companion animals.
- 2.2 A copy of the officer's report is appended at Appendix B.
- 2.3 Members of the Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee recommended that an amendment be made to the first part of the resolution to aid clarity.
- 2.4 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**
- (1) That tenants of communal sheltered accommodation be not allowed to keep pets, save with the prior written approval of the Council; each application for approval to be at the absolute discretion of the Council

and to be considered on its individual merits having regard in particular to the suitability of the accommodation, the nature and size of the pet and the interests of its other tenants.

- (2) That the Policy remains unaltered and that Scheme Managers be encouraged to keep larger pets.
- (3) That pet owning applicants on the Sheltered Housing Register attract one additional point when being considered for linked bungalows and self-contained flats as part of the sheltered housing complex.

3 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY & PROCEDURES

- 3.1 This item of business was referred to the Community Services Committee by the Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2005 with the recommendation that the draft Anti-Social Behaviour Policy & Procedures be agreed.
- 3.2 A copy of the officer's report is appended at Appendix C.
- 3.3 The Members of the Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee recommended three alterations to the draft Policy & Procedures.
- 3.4 In respect of the third recommendation relating to the section entitled 'Racial Harassment', the Head of Service advised Members that as a result of the Race Relations Act 1976 and the Race Relations Amendment Act 2002, the Council was required to have a policy in place to deal with this type of harassment and that this section was intended to be a summary only with the full details included in Appendix 3.
- 3.5 However, Members were of the view that as there are low ethnicity levels within the District and no reports of racial harassment, the document provided too much detail within the section entitled Racial Harassment and that the last two paragraphs of the section be deleted in their entirety.
- 3.6 The Head of Service concurred with the view of one Member that, by way of clarity, the last sentence ought to be retained.
- 3.7 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

That the draft Anti-Social Behaviour Policy & Procedures be agreed, subject to the following amendments:-

- The inclusion of the word 'reasonably' after the words 'children playing' in a bullet point on page 2 of the document.
- The substitution of the words 'treated seriously' in place of 'justified' in a bullet point on page 2 of the document.

- The deletion of the final two paragraphs within the section entitled 'Racial Harassment' on page 5 of the document.

4 BYE LAWS TO REGULATE SKATEBOARDING

- 4.1 This item of business was referred to the Community Services Committee by the Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2005 with the recommendation that no further action be taken at the present time to introduce bye laws to regulate skateboarding.
- 4.2 A copy of the officer's report is appended at Appendix D.
- 4.2 Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee noted that the Police were satisfied that the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 gave them adequate powers to deal with any nuisance arising from skateboarding activity in the High Street and other areas of the District and they could not therefore support the introduction of bye laws.
- 4.3 Members requested that, as complaints regarding skateboarding activities were presently centred on noise nuisance arising from the use of the skate ramps in King George's Playing Field, a report be brought back to this Committee dealing with this issue.
- 4.4 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**
- (1) That no further action be taken at the present time to introduce byelaws to regulate skateboarding.
 - (2) That a report be brought back to the Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee on the current position regarding complaints of noise nuisance associated with the use of the skateboard facility in King George's Playing Field.

Sarah Fowler

Head of Administrative & Member Services

Background Papers:-

None

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