

## MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

### MINUTES of a SPECIAL MEETING of the DECENT AND AFFORDABLE HOMES POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP held on 25 February 2016 at 2.15 pm

#### Present

##### Councillors

P J Heal (Chairman)  
Mrs E M Andrews, Mrs H Bainbridge,  
W J Daw, Mrs G Doe, R J Dolley, R Evans  
and J D Squire

#### Apologies

##### Councillor

L D Taylor

#### Also Present

##### Officers

Nick Sanderson (Head of Housing and Property Services),  
Simon Newcombe (Public Health and Professional  
Services Manager), Hedley Steele (Private Sector Housing  
Lead Officer) and Sarah Lees (Member Services Officer)

## 72 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Apologies were received from Councillor Luke Taylor.

## 73 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present.

## 74 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2016 were confirmed as a true and accurate record and **SIGNED** by the Chairman.

## 75 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman had no announcements to make.

## 76 ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT - EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Group were informed that any discussion relating to the financial details contained within the report was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information. Having considered the commercially sensitive nature of the report it was:

**RESOLVED** that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the next item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 respectively of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, namely information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

## 77 WESSEX HOME IMPROVEMENT LOANS

The Group had before it a report \* from the Public Health and Professional Services Manager seeking a recommendation on whether the Council should continue to participate in the Devon Wessex Home Improvement Loans consortium.

He outlined the contents of the report and provided clarification regarding the strengths and weaknesses in relation to withdrawing or continuing within the scheme.

Thorough consideration was given to all the relevant issues, in particular the financial implications involved in relation to both options.

**RECOMMENDED** to the Cabinet that the Council serves notice to withdraw from the Devon Wessex Home Improvement Loans scheme and does so no later than 31 March 2016.

(Proposed by Cllr Mrs E M Andrews and seconded by Cllr J D Squire)

Notes: (i) \* Report previously circulated; copy attached to the signed minutes;

(ii) Cllr R J Dolley declared personal interests in that he had received home improvement loans in the past and his brother was Chairman of another financial company.

(The meeting ended at 3.37 pm)

**CHAIRMAN**