

COMMITTEE: SOCIAL INCLUSION SCRUTINY

DATE: 12TH APRIL 2007

SUBJECT: CALLED-IN DECISION – PETITION – HOUSING SERVICES

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE (HEAD OF LOCAL DEMOCRACY)

CONTACT OFFICER: DEBORAH GARNER 546669

IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL

COMMUNITY SAFETY

EQUALITIES

ENVIRONMENT

FINANCIAL

CONSULTATIONS

STAFFING

OTHER

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to invite the Committee to consider the called-in decision of the Executive in relation to Petition – Housing Services (Executive Decision No. EX/66/07).

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. **Social Inclusion Scrutiny Committee is recommended to consider the called-in decision of the Executive (EX/66/07) in relation to Petition – Housing Services.**

REPORT

3. At its meeting held on 12th March 200, the Executive considered a Petition – Housing Services and resolved:
 - "(i) That the petition be noted.
 - (ii) That the petitioners be thanked for making their views and concerns known to the Council.
 - (iii) That the petitioners be advised that the Luton North Area Housing Office will continue to operate at the same hours as currently being run."
4. The decision was subject to the call-in process and in accordance with Standing Order 55.2, decision EX/66/07 has been “called-in” by two Members of the Council - Councillors Simmons and Shaw.
5. The recommended process for dealing with “called-in” decisions is for the Committee to request the reasons why the two Councillors “called-in” the decisions and then to determine whether or not the decisions should be scrutinised.
6. If the decision(s) are to be scrutinised, the Committee must proceed to do so at this meeting unless the Executive agree otherwise.
7. The relevant officers will be in attendance at the meeting.

PROPOSAL/OPTION

8. The options available to the Committee are:
 - (a) To advise the Executive that the Committee are happy with the decisions.
 - (b) To advise the Executive that it is of the view that the decisions should be reconsidered and of any alternative recommendations.Or
 - (c) To refer the decisions to the Council for debate.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9. This report has no legal implications, as agreed by the relevant solicitor in Legal Services on 29th March 2007.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. The Service Excellence Project is expected to generate significant cashable efficiency savings for the Council that can be reinvested in the housing service. Should the Council decide to delay or change the project this would have an adverse impact on the savings that could be achieved. This report has been agreed by the Finance Manager (Housing and Community Living) on 29th March 2007.

APPENDIX

Appendix A - Executive Report and appendix EX/3/07/7.1

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D**

Executive Decision No. EX/66/07.