



Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Board

3 July 2012

-: Present :-

Councillor Thomas (J) (Chairman)

Councillors Barnby, Bent, Darling (Vice-Chair), Hill, Kingscote, Pentney,
Pountney and Stockman

(Also in attendance: The Mayor and Councillors Addis, Cowell, Davies, Excell,
Hernandez, James, Parrott and Morey)

10. Apologies

An apology for absence was received from the Executive Lead for Strategic Planning, Housing and Energy (Cllr Thomas (D)) who was absent on Council business.

11. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 20 June 2012 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

12. Anti-Social Behaviour and the Private Rented Housing Sector - Mayoral Decision

The Board considered the details of a call-in by five Members of the Council of the decision by the Mayor to, amongst other things, consider the Board's report into Anti-Social Behaviour and the Private Rented Housing Sector as part of the internal service review of Community Safety and subsequently as part of the overall prioritisation of the budget for this service later in the year.

The Call-in Promoter (Councillor Darling) set out the reasons for calling-in the decision and each of the Call-in Supporters also addressed the Board about their concerns regarding the decision.

The Board heard representations from Melville Hill Community Group and Torquay Neighbourhood Plan who were opposed to the decision of the Mayor.

The Mayor responded to the points raised by both the Call-in Promoter and Supporters and the Members of the Board that, whilst he welcomed the Board's report, he wished to consider (in the Autumn) a wider report on the issue which covered Registered Social Landlords as well as private landlords together with information from ward councillors and Community Partnerships.

Resolved:

The Overview and Scrutiny Board believes that the Record of Decision and the explanation given at the meeting by the Mayor of his decision have limited relation to each other. Further, the Mayor indicated that he needed additional data which the Board was advised should be readily available.

Therefore, the matter be referred back to the Mayor at the meeting of the Council on 12 July 2012.

(Note: Prior to consideration of the item in Minute 12, the Mayor and Councillors Cowell, Excell, Hill and Pountney declared personal interests as landlords in Torbay, Councillor Barnby declared a personal interest as her husband is a landlord in Torbay and Councillors Darling and Pentney declared personal interests as directors of a company with a tenant in Torbay.)

Chairman