

# **Agenda**

Council

#### **Time and Date**

4.00 pm on Tuesday 30 October 2007

#### **Place**

Council Chamber, Council House, Coventry

### **Public Business**

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Minutes of the meeting held on 18 September 2007 (attached)
- 3 Illuminated Address

Presentation of Illuminated Address to Councillor Shabbir Ahmed, Lord Mayor for 2006/2007

- 4 Correspondence and Announcements of the Lord Mayor
- 5 Petitions
- 6 Declarations of Interest
- 7 Matters Left for Determination by the City Council/Recommendations for the City Council
  - 7.1 Annual Report of the Audit Sub Group as the Council's Audit Committee 2006/07

From the Scrutiny Board 1 held on 26 September 2007 (Minute 27, Page 1, Recommendation Booklet 1) (attached)

**7.2** It is anticipated that the following matter will be referred as a Recommendation from the Cabinet on 23 October 2007. The report is attached. The relevant minutes will be contained in Booklet 2 (to be circulated).

## Response to Consultation: Re-Cycle on the Go

7.3 It is anticipated that the following matter will be referred as a Recommendation from the Planning Committee on 25 October 2007. The report is attached. The relevant minutes will be contained in Booklet 2 (to be circulated).

**Coventry Development Plan 2001: Saved Policies** 

#### 8 Question Time

## 8.1 Written Questions (Booklet 3) (attached)

(Note: Written answers to questions contained in Booklet 3 will be circulated prior to the meeting)

- 8.2 Oral Questions to Chairs of Scrutiny Boards/Chair of Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee
- 8.3 Oral Questions to Chairs of other meetings
- 8.4 Oral Questions to Representatives on Outside Bodies
- 8.5 Oral Questions to Cabinet Members on any matter
- 9 Statement by the Leader of the Council (if any)

#### 10 Debates

## 10.1 To be moved by Councillor Ridley and seconded by Councillor Mrs Dixon:

"This Council recognises the difficulty faced by first time buyers in purchasing their own home. This Council also recognises the benefits of home ownership and welcomes Conservative Party plans to abolish stamp duty on houses valued below £250,000 for first time buyers."

## 10.2 To be moved by Councillor Windsor and seconded by Councillor Nellist:

"Coventry Council believes that the 25% affordable housing threshold that developers have to meet in order to obtain planning permission is set too low given the 12,000 plus currently registered with Coventry Homefinder, and also the rise in interest rates and other factors in the housing market which are closing off the possibility of home ownership to wider layers within society.

Council now believes that 40% of all new developments should comprise affordable housing, the bulk of it to be rented out by Housing Associations, and instructs officers to bring forward a report to show how that new threshold could be introduced as a local requirement at the earliest opportunity.

Council also believes that substantial numbers of terraced and other housing could be left vacant in the not too distant future due to the effect of large scale new, purpose built student housing; this Council believes that that local housing should be "recycled" by the City Council in conjunction with Housing Associations in order both to reduce the necessity for new-build homes that could cause difficulties in Coventry's Green Belt, to avoid over development and the swallowing up of all green space in inner city Coventry, and to try and recreate some of the more settled communities which have been fractured by a rapid development of short-term lets.

In order to achieve these proposals Council urges both extra housing finance from central government be allocated to the city and that urgent discussions begin with government to introduce the necessary powers to take over and re-let badly managed privately rented housing or empty properties".

### **Private Business**

Nil

**Note:** Member's attention is drawn to Council Procedure Rule 4.1.8

There will be no restriction on the duration of meetings except that if any Council meeting continues for a period of more than 3 hours, there will be a break in proceedings as soon as 3 hours has elapsed since the start of the meeting unless the Council votes unanimously to continue without a break or the Lord Mayor or other person chairing the meetings determines that the remainder of the business of the meeting can be concluded within a reasonable time so as to render a break unnecessary. The break will be for a minimum of 5 minutes and a maximum of 15 minutes. This provision is intended to safeguard the health and wellbeing of Councillors and employees present at any meeting.

Bev Messinger, Director of Customer and Workforce Services, Council House, Coventry
22 October 2007

Note: The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Carolyn Sinclair, Council House, Coventry. Telephone 7683 3166, Email carolyn.sinclair@coventry.gov.uk

If you would like this information in another format or language please contact us:

Telephone: (024) 7683 3166

Fax: (024) 7683 3024

e-mail: Carolyn.sinclair@coventry.gov.uk

Please note: A hearing loop is available in all Committee

**Rooms and the Council Chamber**