

Governance Team, County Hall Chelmsford CM1 1LX
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Community and Older People Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Date: Thursday 8 March 2012

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Venue: Committee Room 1

(Private pre-meeting for Committee Members at 9.30am in Committee Rm. 1)

Governance Officer: Robert Fox

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Committee Officer: Graham Hughes

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Agenda

This meeting is open to the public and the press. The agenda is also available on the Essex County Council website, www.essex.gov.uk. In the 'Get Involved' box on the Home Page click on 'Public Council Meetings', then on 'Committee Management Information System (CMIS)' and select 'View Committees'. Finally, scroll down the list to the relevant Committee, click the 'meetings' tab and select the date of the Committee.

Please note that an audio recording may be made of the meeting. If you have a need for documents in the following formats, large print, Braille, on disk or in alternative languages and easy read please contact the Committee Officer before the meeting takes place. If you have specific access requirements such as access to induction loops, a signer, level access or information in Braille please inform the Committee Officer before the meeting takes place. For any further information contact the Committee Officer.

The main items of business for discussion at this meeting are:

- Report from Deputy Chief Executive
- Disabled Facilities Grants
- Blue Badges
- Personal Budgets Task and Finish Group - Interim Report
- Carers Strategy – Interim Report



Essex County Council

Part I

(Business to be taken in public)

1. Apologies and Substitution Notices

The Committee Officer to report receipt (if any).

2. Declarations of Interest

To note any declarations of interest to be made by Members.

3. Minutes

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 9 February 2012 (attached on blue paper).

(Pages 1-8 of agenda pack)

4. Jenny Owen, Deputy Chief Executive

In advance of her forthcoming retirement, the Deputy Chief Executive will be invited to comment upon her time at Essex County Council and forthcoming challenges.

5. Disabled Facilities Grants

To receive a further report (COP/05/12) on Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG), including an interim report on the Basildon DFG pilot programme. The following witnesses will be in attendance at the meeting to introduce and supplement the report and to answer questions: John Mackinnon, ECC Commissioning & Delivery Director - West, John Fairweather, Brentwood Borough Council, and Geoff Smith, Uttlesford District Council.

(Pages 9-12 of agenda pack)

6. Blue Badges

To receive a report (COP/06/12) on changes being made to the Blue Badge Scheme. Sue Hawkins, Commissioning & Delivery Director – ESCD & Safeguarding Essex, will be in attendance at the meeting to introduce and supplement the report and to answer questions.

(Pages 13-14 of agenda pack)

7. Personal Budgets Task and Finish Group

To receive the interim report and recommendations of the Personal Budgets (Direct Payments) Task and Finish Group (COP/07/12).

(Pages 15-18 of agenda pack)

8. Carers Strategy Task and Finish Group

To receive the interim report of the Carers Strategy Task and Finish Group (COP/08/12).

(Pages 19-23 of agenda pack)

9. Forward Look

To receive a report (COP/09/12) that sets out the current position on the Forward Look and to note any updates.

(Pages 25-35 of agenda pack)

10. Dates of Future Meetings

To note that the next meeting of the Committee will be held on Thursday 12 April 2012. It is proposed that the following dates be reserved for this committee as activity days, and may comprise:

- Meetings in private
- Meetings in public
- Working groups
- Sub-Committee meetings
- Outside visits

11. Urgent Business

To consider any matter which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered in public by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

12. Exclusion of the Public

To consider whether the public (including the press) should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of an agenda item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as

specified in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (exclusion is recommended for the items set out in Part II below).

PART II

(Business to be taken in private)

At the time of preparation there are no items for inclusion in this part of the agenda.

13. Urgent Business

To consider any other matter which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered in private by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.