

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY PANEL	Agenda Item No. 7
25 March 2009	Public Report

Report of the Head of Neighbourhoods

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UPDATE ON PROPOSED CLOSURE OF SOUTHVIEW – SUPPORTING PEOPLE PROGRAMME

1. PURPOSE

To update Members following a meeting with Councillor Graham Murphy and Councillor Fran Benton, which followed discussions at the February Community Development Scrutiny Panel meeting.

2. LINKS TO CORPORATE PLAN, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

Not relevant

3. BACKGROUND

At the February Community Development Scrutiny Panel meeting the Supporting People Annual Plan was presented for approval. During the discussion Councillors Murphy and Benton raised concerns regarding the withdrawal of Supporting People funding to 1-3 Southview, Woodston. This property is owned by Axiom Housing and Supporting People funding has been used to provide housing related support for people with learning difficulties.

The meeting agreed that officers would meet with the Councillors before the date of the next Scrutiny Panel meeting, and that an update would be brought to that meeting regarding a way forward.

4. KEY ISSUES

Following the meeting with Councillors Murphy and Benton, which was held on 2nd March, it was agreed that a paper would be taken to the next Supporting People Commissioning Body meeting to review the decision taken to withdraw funding from Southview. This meeting is scheduled to take place on 11th May 2009. The Supporting People Commissioning Body comprises three voting members – PCC (a shared vote between Councillor Murphy and Adrian Chapman), the PCT (Denise Radley, representing Adult Social Care and the PCT), and Cambridgeshire Probation (Margaret Lowe). This Body is the governing body for the Supporting People programme and are responsible for making decisions regarding Supporting People funding.

5. IMPLICATIONS

This issue relates to Fletton ward.

6. CONSULTATION

Adrian Chapman and Ralph Middlebrook met with Councillor Murphy and Councillor Benton on 2nd March.

7. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The Supporting People Commissioning Body will review its decision to withdraw funding from Southview at its next meeting.

8. NEXT STEPS

It is recommended that a further update be brought to the Community Development Scrutiny Panel at the next available opportunity to update Members on the outcomes of discussions at the Supporting People Commissioning Body.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Not applicable

10. APPENDICES

None