

DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting of the Council for the hearing of depositions from members of the public. Each deposition may be heard for a maximum of five minutes.

Deputation: Area Panel Housing Representatives – Reinstatement of Housing Management Consultative Sub Committee

At the last round of Area Panels all panels agreed that a proposal for the reinstatement of the Housing Management Consultative Sub-Committee (HMCSC) should be presented to the Housing & New Homes Committee (HNHC) for consideration.

Council Officers have presented Area Panels with various reasons as to why the HMCSC was abolished and why it should not be reinstated, however these have been rejected point by point. Given that the City Council faces severe financial constraints it would seem to be negligent to turn away from the considerable resource of voluntary talent, expertise and knowledge that is available from within the committees represented by Area Panels and by extension HMCSC.

Area Panels also suggested that Councillors on the HNHC should engage with tenant and leaseholder representatives by meeting with the Chairs of the Resident Only Meetings and the Special Interest Groups to discuss the way forward. We are disappointed to have heard nothing further regarding this suggestion.

We note that the matter of reinstatement of HMCSC was raised “ex situ” at the last HNHC Meeting and that it was indicated by the Chair that “the process was unlikely to be completed in time for the next meeting”. We do hope that this does not indicate procrastination on the part of the executive.

We do not think that Councillors are taking our concerns regarding the reinstatement of HMCSC with due seriousness and we would urge that HNHC make a formal commitment to engage with tenant and leaseholder representatives to reverse the decision of the previous administration and reinstate HMCSC.

Barry Hughes (Lead Spokesperson)

Charles Penrose

Ron Gurney

Chris El Shabba

Bob Spacie

Linda Shaw

