

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

19 JUNE 2013

THE HEAD OF COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS

TENANT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT (COMPACT) 2013-2016

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Members' approval and agreement to adopt the Tenant Participation Compact 2013-2016.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **That member's approve the Tenant Participation Compact 2013-2016 (Appendix A) and agree to support a policy of encouraging tenant involvement in the future development of the Council's housing services.**

3.0 KEY ISSUES/BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Tenant Participation Compact is an agreement between Melton Borough Council and its housing tenants on how to involve them in the management of housing services.
- 3.2 The decision was taken to call the compact an Agreement due to issues with some tenants of the Borough not fully understanding the term "Compact". This issue was highlighted under results from the Tenants Status Survey 2008 whereby 56.8% of tenants had not heard of the Tenant participation Compact.
- 3.3 In 2003, the Tenants Forum Executive Committee created a Tenant Participation Compact Working Group, which comprised of six TFEC members and two MBC officers. Their remit was to create a suitable Tenant Participation Compact for housing tenants, MBC officers and Councillors. The final document was subsequently agreed by the full TFEC in June 2003. The working group have since revised the document in 2005, 2006 and 2009. This last Compact (2013-2016) was reviewed by all members of TFEC, MBC officers and subsequently approved by full TFEC at the Tenants Forum on 3 June 2013.
- 3.4 This Compact has been developed in accordance with the guidelines from the National Framework for Tenant Participation Compacts, issued in March 2005 by the CLG. The Tenant Participation Compact addresses the following items outlined in the guidelines:
- Tools for effective involvement
 - How to successfully implement compacts
 - Core standards
 - How to monitor compacts and measure performance
- 3.5 It is the intention to hold an official Tenant Participation Compact signing ceremony during the Tenants Forum on Monday 4th August 2013. As referred to on the final page of the Compact, it is hoped that the Chair of this Committee, Councillor David Wright, the Chair of TFEC, Mr John Skerritt and the Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods Development, Mr Harrinder Rai will be the signatories of the Compact.

4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The Compact complies with the following Corporate Objectives:

- Decent and Affordable Housing to meet the needs of the community
- Community Safety
- Encourage people to take an active role in their community

4.2 The development of the agreement is in accordance to service objectives identified in the Communities and Neighbourhoods service plan, to promote resident involvement throughout Housing and related services.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Within the Housing Revenue Account, a Resident Involvement Budget has been created which will support any implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Although not a strict legally bound document, the Compact is an agreement between the Council and the Tenants' Forum Executive Committee to enhance and encourage tenant involvement and it is a document that the Audit Commission recommend is adopted.

7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY

7.1 The Tenant Participation Agreement 2013-2016 incorporates anti-social behaviour as an area where the Council and tenant representatives will together to develop good practice standards.

8.0 EQUALITIES

8.1 The Compact exists to enable officers, members and T.F.E.C to work together to benefit all sections of the community.

9.0 RISK

9.1 Probability

Very High A				
High B				
Significant C				
Low D				
Very Low E			1,2	
Almost Impossible F				
	IV Negligible	III Marginal	II Critical	I Catastrophic

Risk No.	Description
1	The council does not provide significant provision for tenant engagement
2	Tenants feel that the council does not listen to them
3	
4	
5	

10.0 CONSULTATION

10.1 TFEC were fully consulted and took a major part in amending and updating the compact. TFEC approved this document at the Tenants Forum on 3 June 2013.

10.2 It is intended that further work is carried out to promote the Compact to all tenants within the Borough once it has been approved by this committee.

11.0 WARDS AFFECTED

11.1 All Wards.

12.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

12.1 No climate change implications have been identified.

Contact Officer: Sam Spencer, Resident Involvement Officer

Date:

Appendices A Tenant Participation Compact

Background Papers Tenants Forum Meeting - minutes of meeting held on 3 June 2013