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13 March 2008

To: The Leader – Councillor RMA Manning  
Deputy Leader – Councillor SM Edwards  
Members of the Cabinet – Councillors Dr DR Bard, Mrs SM Ellington,  
Mrs VG Ford, MP Howell, Mrs DSK Spink MBE and NIC Wright  
Quorum: 4 plus the Leader or Deputy Leader

Dear Councillor

This is a supplement to the previously-published agenda for the meeting of **CABINET** on **THURSDAY, 13 MARCH 2008**, containing an e-mail which was read at the meeting and which had not been received by the original agenda publication deadline.

Yours faithfully  
**GJ HARLOCK**  
Chief Executive

Requests for a large print agenda must be received at least 48 hours before the meeting.

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## AGENDA

9. **Housing Futures: Agreement of process for the selection of model for a new landlord (Key)**

**PAGES**  
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**From:** [Dave Kelleway](#)

**To:** [Deborah Roberts](#) ; [Neil Scarr](#) ; [sebastian.kindersley@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:sebastian.kindersley@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) ; [simon.edwards@integratedcomms.co.uk](mailto:simon.edwards@integratedcomms.co.uk) ; [cllr.edwards@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.edwards@scambs.gov.uk) ; [Alex Riley](#)

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 12, 2008 6:36 PM

**Subject:** Cabinet Thursday - Tenant representatives.

Dear all

I would just like to explain some concerns over the process for deciding on the membership of the "Landlord Selection Panel" (LSP) which is part of the Housing Futures project, and will be discussed at the Cabinet meeting.

1) Most tenants will not realise that there is an opportunity to be on the body, because they had to respond to an earlier request to indicate which of a long list of possible ways of being involved in tenant participation they were interested in, and have chosen the correct one (TAG) which was last of about six or seven choices in a long document.

Only those that correctly worked this out after ploughing through the paperwork have been asked if they are interested in being on the LSP.

All tenants should have been invited to nominate, and then a ballot held.

2) If there is more than one candidate for the Sheltered Housing or Leaseholder representative, then Sally Harbey assures me that there will be an election of all tenants/leaseholders who are in those categories, but the documents do not reflect this – they just say that the representative will be chosen by the relevant forum i.e. the Sheltered Housing representative will be "selected by the Sheltered Housing Forum" As there are three separate sheltered housing forums and there is no mention of the possibility of an election, this should be clarified. The representative should not be chosen by a few people in a room, but by all those that they will represent. The papers sent out are misleading.

3) Once again, an attempt is being made to prescribe what can be said by candidates for the three general tenants representatives position in their "candidates profile" by the council choosing the questions to be answered, and saying that this will "be used for the selection process if there is more applications than places available" As with the tenant elections to the HFWG, candidates should be able to make their own statement to their electorate, without interference from the council.

4) The process should address the suggestion from the ombudsman, following my complaint regarding the filling of vacancies on the HFWG, that it would be better to set out the method of filling a vacancy should one occur after an election, prior to the election. My opinion is that, like other elections, a further nomination/ballot process should be followed, and not have the place offered to a rejected candidate, as this is undemocratic. Whatever the decision on the method, in the interests of fairness, it should be decided *before* the election, not made up afterwards.

5) It is ridiculous to try to rush this through so quickly, that nominations are sought for an election that does not have a process agreed!! I will not put an application in until the rules are decided on Thursday, so it will be difficult for the nomination papers to get to Cambourne by the deadline of Monday, given the vagaries of the postal system. Others I know, have put their papers in, under the duress of the deadline, but unhappy that the rules have not yet been set out. The deadline should be extended, and candidates invited to make a separate election statement if there is more than the required number of candidates.

Yours sincerely

Dave

Dave Kelleway

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