

Cabinet Meeting – 22nd October 2012

Item 10 – Welfare Reform Mitigation Action Plan

At its meeting held on 11th October 2012, the Epping Forest Tenants and Leaseholders Federation considered the report of the Housing Portfolio Holder to this meeting on the proposed Welfare Reform Mitigation Action Plan. The Cabinet Report explains that the views of the Federation would be provided to the Cabinet at its meeting.

The Tenants and Leaseholders Federation asked that their following three comments on the report be reported to the Cabinet at its meeting:

- 1) The Federation understands the main effects that the welfare reforms will have on many Council and private tenants and fully supports the proposed actions within the Action Plan;
- 2) The Federation supports the Housing Portfolio Holder's recommendation that two additional Housing Management Officers be appointed, funded by the Housing Revenue Account, to help minimise the anticipated increased level of rent arrears and the effect of the welfare reforms on Council tenants; and
- 3) The Federation supports the proposed funding to the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB), to enable the CAB to appoint 2 paid advisors for 18 months to provide independent debt and other advice to Council tenants, private tenants, and other residents affected by the welfare reforms.