

Housing Sub Committee Report to Main Forum from meeting 2/3/06

The meeting had been called to look at how the group should progress, the excellent work that had been undertaken by the group and its members required expansion now to deal with many other issues.

Prior to Mike Nichols Resignation he had met with Emma Palmer to discuss how to take the group forward. It had been agreed that this meeting be called to look at what the issues were for older people in Wolverhampton in relation to housing.

It was agreed that a speaker be invited to help identify some of the issues the group may wish to look at in more depth. Anne Bailey was invited to come to the meeting to talk to the group about how housing could affect older people.

Anne introduced herself to group members and explained that she did have a housing background but that it was a little out of date as she had worked for the Social Services Department for ten years. As the manager of the older peoples strategy team, Anne , had drawn together a list of issues she felt older people faced in relation to housing, she hoped this would widen the debate for the group and allow them the opportunity to decide how they move forward.

Anne spoke about the issues for older people identifying the following key points:

1. **Tenure**
2. **Owner Occupiers**
3. **Tenants**
4. **Specialist Housing**
5. **Aids and Adaptations**
6. **Information and Advice**
7. **Supporting People and Housing Benefit**
8. **Ethnic Minority Needs**

Anne answered questions for the group, and advised them on the provision of future speakers.

It was agreed to look at the possibility of inviting Sandra Jones to the next Housing Meeting. Emma Palmer was to make this arrangement.

It was also agreed for Jim Speakman to do a press release expressing the group's intention to diversify and engage new issues in relation to housing for example, people in the private rented section and owner occupiers.