

## COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 15 APRIL 2015

### NOTICE OF MOTION

This Council notes with concern that it is now more than 6 months since an independent investigation was commissioned into the whistle blowing allegations of corruption and mismanagement within Circle Housing Merton Priory's (CHMP) repairs and maintenance service. Yet, despite the severity of the allegations and the number of people potentially affected, the audit report is still to be released and no firm timetable for publication has been forthcoming.

This Council takes seriously its legal responsibilities and duties to hold CHMP to account on behalf of all tenants, leaseholders and freeholders and therefore:

- a) Demands the immediate publication by CHMP of the independent audit report on alleged fraud and repeated overcharging of residents by its repairs contractor, Keepmoat Property Services;
- b) Requests that any other such investigations conducted in the future in relation to CHMP or any of its contractors, including by the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), are published in a timely fashion to ensure full transparency and accountability; and
- c) Calls on the Cabinet as a matter of urgency to set out clearly how best to use the various legal powers available to the Council under the terms of the housing stock transfer agreement to safeguard the needs of residents on Merton's housing estates and hold CHMP to account on the quality of its repairs and maintenance service, particularly in light of the HCA Regulatory Notice served on Circle Anglia Limited in February 2015.

**Cllr Michael Bull**

**Cllr Janice Howard**

**Cllr Linda Taylor**

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