

ISSUES ARISING FROM COMMUNITY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1 REPORT OF THE HOUSING BEST VALUE SUB-COMMITTEE – 8 APRIL 2005

- 1.1 This item of business was referred to the Community Services Committee by the Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 19 April 2005 with a number of recommendations.
- 1.2 A copy of the Housing Best Value Sub-Committee's report to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee including the recommendations from its meeting held on 8 April 2005 is appended
- 1.3 The Sub-Committee were congratulated on the amount of work and careful consideration that had been undertaken.
- 1.4 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**
 - (1) That, for the necessary purpose of identifying key workers for the identified Housing Corporation funded projects, the definition of key worker be as follows:-

“a key worker is an individual who works in either the public sector or whose employment is of particular importance to the community”

and that a banded approach be adopted to the letting of these units as set out in the report.
 - (2) That, apart from its specific application to the identified projects, the term 'key worker' be removed from the lettings policy.
 - (3) That the financial criteria that will be used to assess a person's affordability to rent privately or purchase a property, as set out in the report and associated update document, be inserted into the lettings policy.
 - (4) That the five points for not having a separate garden with children be removed from the lettings policy.
 - (5) That the Council reserve the right to deviate from the points system in order to allocate an extensively adapted property for the disabled to someone in need of that adaptation.
 - (6) That the Reasonable Preference category of the letting policy be expanded to read – “people who need to move to a particular locality in the District where failure to move would cause hardship to themselves

or others. This may be due to a need to access medical treatment, to give or receive care, or to take up employment, education or training opportunity”.

- (7) That there be no alteration to the policy in respect of accommodation provisions where that accommodation has small bedrooms or unusual layout.
- (8) That the policy on shared facilities be altered for clarification to read – “you share with a relative, but are a separate family/household or an extended family”. (HRHM)

Sarah Fowler

Head of Administrative & Member Services

Background Papers:-

None

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