
REVIEW OF ALLOCATIONS POLICY

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Members are asked to consider the appended draft documents (listed below), to incorporate any amendments and to authorise release for public consultation.
- a) Policy Preamble
 - b) Waiting List
 - c) Transfer List
 - d) Allocations Policy
 - e) Other Matters
 - f) Statement of Housing Stock at given date
 - g) Statement of Housing Register at given date

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 At the November 1999 meeting of this Sub-Committee, Members agreed an approach and timetable for the review of the Council's Housing Allocation Policy and Pointing System. That process involved informal consultation between certain Members, Officers and Tenant Representatives to produce a 'first draft document' for submission to this Meeting.

3 REVISIONS

- 3.1 Early in January the Head of Service wrote to participants in the preliminary informal consultation group asking for their proposals for change of the existing policy. This process closed on 20th January so that requests could be accommodated and included in the 'first draft document'. Generally it seems there is not a great deal of change required except in the areas identified below:-
- 1. Transfer led policy to change to 50/50 split.
 - 2. Some revisions to pointing system.
 - 3. Use of 'Plain English' whenever possible.
 - 4. Policy document to be included in Tenants Handbook.
 - 5. Inclusion of racial equality monitoring form.

These issues have now been incorporated into the documents appended to this report (Appendices A – G) which are submitted for Members' final approval before release for public consultation.

4 CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Consultation must follow a specific path as outlined in the initial report on this review. The period of statutory consultation will conclude on 30th April 2000 and comments and observations will need to be considered by this Sub-Committee again in May 2000. Final amendments can be made at this stage before passing to the parent Committee for ratification.
- 4.2 The new allocations policy will then come into effect around 1st July 2000. Details can be included in the Summer edition of 'Your Home' Tenants Newsletter. In the run up to July it will be necessary for Housing Management staff to reassess all those on the Waiting and Transfer Lists. This amounts to around 1300 cases.

5. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None of any significance at this stage.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Budget provision is made in the Housing Revenue Account for 2000/01 in order to carry out this review.
- 6.2 Additional resources needed for reassessment of points will be incorporated into Annual Work Plan.

7 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Major policy changes need to follow a process of statutory consultation outlined above and in accordance with Section 168 of the Housing Act 1996.

8 RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1 It is proposed that this Sub-Committee **RESOLVES**
- 1 That, subject to consultation the Allocations Policy and Pointing System as set out in the Appendices be adopted.
 - 2 That the Head of Revenue and Housing Management undertakes a comprehensive consultation exercise with all tenants, those on the Housing Register, local Housing Associations and Shelter. (HRHM)

Steven Clarkson
Head of Revenue & Housing Management

Background Papers:

None.

For further information please contact S J Clarkson on (01702) 546366