

FRAIL ELDERLY HOUSING NEEDS STUDY

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Committee to receive a presentation on the results of the Frail Elderly Housing Needs study, and to consider the implications for housing and support services.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Last year, Council approved the commissioning of a study of the housing and support needs of frail elderly residents in the District.
- 2.2 This was seen as a particularly pertinent issue, both because of the growth in the number and proportion of older people in the population of the District, and also because of the need for the Council to consider the future of its sheltered housing schemes, particularly those that do not meet current standards.
- 2.3 The study has recently been completed by the Housing and Support Partnership. A copy of their full report has been placed in the Members Room and sent to Group Leaders. The executive summary and conclusions are appended. Nigel King and Clive Durdle from the consultancy will make a presentation to the Committee.
- 2.4 A bid for Housing Corporation funding has been made by Swan Housing Association with the Council's support to construct a new older persons' unit on land adjacent to Hardwick House, Rayleigh, to contain a mix of frail elderly and sheltered housing. It is anticipated that announcements on Housing Corporation allocations will be made by the end of February.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The Council needs to consider how to respond to the information contained in the report, as well as to other influences such as the Essex County Council Best Value Review of Older People Services and the changes resulting from implementation of "Supporting People". It is not possible at this stage to quantify the resource implications for the Council.

4 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee identifies issues arising out of the report and presentation, including the future management of sheltered housing schemes, which the Committee wish to consider further. (HHHCC)

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Background Papers:

“Frail Elderly Needs in Rochford and the Need for a Frail Elderly Scheme in Rayleigh” – The Housing & Support Partnership 17 January 2002.

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