

COUNCIL CABINET 19 DECEMBER 2006

Report of the Community Commission

Housing Allocation Policy – agreement of percentages to bands

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That Council Cabinet approve the proposed initial percentages to bands and give delegated authority to the Council Cabinet member to review and vary these.
- 1.2 That Council Cabinet note the Community Commission
 - i) whole heartedly welcome this response to the former Community Regeneration Commission's previous recommendations
 - ii) consider the new 4 band system and percentage of allocations to each should offer much better chances for current social housing tenants seeking to move
 - iii) intend to monitor performance to ensure that existing tenants actually do benefit from greater opportunities to move
 - iv) hope that over the time the trend should be for the percentage allocated to the emergency band to diminish with the dividend that higher percentages can be awarded to the other bands
 - v) may want to explore at a future point the process for verification of applicants' circumstances
 - vi) thank the previous Commission for its work and Cllr Nath and his staff for their co-operation and
 - vii) offer best wishes to all the staff who will operate the new system given the context that social housing is a scarce resource

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 On 4 December the Commission interviewed Mark Menzies and Jamie Eaton about the proposed allocations to bands. Cllr Nath and other officers also contributed to the dialogue.
- 2.2 This and the main report to Council Cabinet today bring to a conclusion a policy review process that began 18 months ago. The 5 February 2007 will see the implementation of the new, simpler system of 4 bands, new software and revised application form signed up to by the 14 social landlords. The new policy should give existing tenants who wish to move a much better chance of doing so.

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Background papers: Housing Allocation and Homelessness topic review conducted by

the Community Regeneration Commission

List of appendices: Appendix 1 – Implications

Appendix 1

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. Addressed in the main report to Council Cabinet.

Legal

2 Addressed in the main report to Council Cabinet.

Personnel

3 Addressed in the main report to Council Cabinet.

Equalities impact

4 Addressed in the main report to Council Cabinet.

Corporate Priorities

5 Addressed in the main report to Council Cabinet.