## **Public Document Pack**

## **Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee**

Thursday, 13th March, 2014 at 5.30 pm

Council Chamber - Civic Centre

This meeting is open to the public

## **Members**

Councillor Moulton (Chair)
Councillor Vinson (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Fitzhenry
Councillor Hammond
Councillor Hannides
Councillor Keogh
Councillor Mintoff
Councillor Morrell
Councillor Stevens
Councillor Thorpe

## **Appointed Members**

Mrs U Topp, (Roman Catholic Church) R Wharton, The Church of England (Dioceses of Winchester & Portsmouth)

Vacancies

- Primary Parent Governors Representative; and
- Parent Governor Representative

#### Contacts

Sharon Pearson Democratic Support Officer Tel. 023 8083 4597

Email: <a href="mailto:sharon.pearson@southampton.gov.uk">sharon.pearson@southampton.gov.uk</a>

Suki Sitaram
Assistant Chief Executive
Tel: 023 8083 2060

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## **PUBLIC INFORMATION**

## Role of Overview and Scrutiny Overview and Scrutiny includes the

following three functions:

- Holding the Executive to account by questioning and evaluating the Executive's actions, both before and after decisions taken.
- Developing and reviewing Council policies, including the Policy Framework and Budget Strategy.
- Making reports and recommendations on any aspect of Council business and other matters that affect the City and its citizens.

Overview and Scrutiny can ask the Executive to reconsider a decision, but they do not have the power to change the decision themselves.

## Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee holds the Executive to account, exercises the call-in process, and sets and monitors standards for scrutiny. It formulates a programme of scrutiny inquiries and appoints Scrutiny Panels to undertake them. Members of the Executive cannot serve on this Committee.

## **Southampton City Council's Priorities:**

- Economic: Promoting
   Southampton and attracting investment; raising ambitions and improving outcomes for children and young people.
- Social: Improving health and keeping people safe; helping individuals and communities to work together and help themselves.

- Environmental: Encouraging new house building and improving existing homes; making the city more attractive and sustainable.
- One Council: Developing an engaged, skilled and motivated workforce; implementing better ways of working to manage reduced budgets and increased demand.

## **Smoking Policy**

The Council operates a no-smoking policy in all civic buildings.

## **Mobile Telephones**

Please turn off your mobile telephone whilst in the meeting.

#### **Fire Procedure**

In the event of a fire or other emergency a continuous alarm will sound and you will be advised by Council officers what action to take.

## **Access**

Access is available for disabled people. Please contact the Democratic Support Officer who will help to make any necessary arrangements.

## Dates of Meetings: Municipal Year 2013/14

2013	2014
20 May	16 January
13 June	13 February
11 July	13 March
15 August	10 April
12 September	
10 October	
14 November	
12 December	

## **CONDUCT OF MEETING**

#### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The general role and terms of reference for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, together with those for all Scrutiny Panels, are set out in Part 2 (Article 6) of the Council's Constitution, and their particular roles are set out in Part 4 (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules – paragraph 5) of the Constitution.

### **BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED**

Only those items listed on the attached agenda may be considered at this meeting.

### **RULES OF PROCEDURE**

The meeting is governed by the Council Procedure Rules and the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution.

#### **QUORUM**

The minimum number of appointed Members required to be in attendance to hold the meeting is 4.

### **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Members are required to disclose, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, **both** the existence **and** nature of any "Disclosable Pecuniary Interest" or "Other Interest" they may have in relation to matters for consideration on this Agenda.

## **DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

A Member must regard himself or herself as having a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter that they or their spouse, partner, a person they are living with as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they were a civil partner in relation to:

- (i) Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
- (ii) Sponsorship:

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from Southampton City Council) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expense incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

- (iii) Any contract which is made between you / your spouse etc (or a body in which the you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest) and Southampton City Council under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed, and which has not been fully discharged.
- (iv) Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of Southampton.
- (v) Any license (held alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of Southampton for a month or longer.
- (vi) Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) the landlord is Southampton City Council and the tenant is a body in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interests.
- (vii) Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of Southampton, and either:
  - a) the total nominal value fo the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body, or
  - b) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest that exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

### Other Interests

A Member must regard himself or herself as having an, 'Other Interest' in any membership of, or occupation of a position of general control or management in:

Any body to which they have been appointed or nominated by Southampton City Council

Any public authority or body exercising functions of a public nature

Any body directed to charitable purposes

Any body whose principal purpose includes the influence of public opinion or policy

## **Principles of Decision Making**

All decisions of the Council will be made in accordance with the following principles:-

- proportionality (i.e. the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome);
- due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers;
- respect for human rights;
- a presumption in favour of openness, accountability and transparency;
- setting out what options have been considered;
- setting out reasons for the decision; and
- clarity of aims and desired outcomes.

In exercising discretion, the decision maker must:

- understand the law that regulates the decision making power and gives effect to it. The
  decision-maker must direct itself properly in law;
- take into account all relevant matters (those matters which the law requires the authority as a matter of legal obligation to take into account);
- leave out of account irrelevant considerations;
- act for a proper purpose, exercising its powers for the public good:
- not reach a decision which no authority acting reasonably could reach, (also known as the "rationality" or "taking leave of your senses" principle);
- comply with the rule that local government finance is to be conducted on an annual basis. Save to the extent authorised by Parliament, 'live now, pay later' and forward funding are unlawful; and
- act with procedural propriety in accordance with the rules of fairness.

## **AGENDA**

## Agendas and papers are now available online via the Council's Website

## 1 APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN PANEL MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)

To note any changes in membership of the Panel made in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.3.

## 2 <u>DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS</u>

In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, and the Council's Code of Conduct, Members to disclose any personal or pecuniary interests in any matter included on the agenda for this meeting.

NOTE: Members are reminded that, where applicable, they must complete the appropriate form recording details of any such interests and hand it to the Democratic Support Officer.

## 3 <u>DECLARATIONS OF SCRUTINY INTEREST</u>

Members are invited to declare any prior participation in any decision taken by a Committee, Sub-Committee, or Panel of the Council on the agenda and being scrutinised at this meeting.

## 4 <u>DECLARATION OF PARTY POLITICAL WHIP</u>

Members are invited to declare the application of any party political whip on any matter on the agenda and being scrutinised at this meeting.

### 5 STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR

## 6 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)

To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2014 and to deal with any matters arising, attached.

## 7 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM

To move that in accordance with the Council's Constitution, specifically the Access to Information Procedure Rules contained within the Constitution, the press and public be excluded from the meeting in respect of any consideration of Item 8a.

Item 8a the Cabinet report is confidential, the confidentiality of which is based on category 5 (legal professional privilege) and category 3 (financial and business affairs of the Authority) of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules. It is not in the public interest to disclose this information because the overriding

principle in relation to legal professional privilege favours maintaining openness of communication between lawyer and client as a fundamental principle in relation to the administration of justice. Such communications would only be disclosed in very limited circumstances where a strong argument in favour of release outweighed the primary principle of privilege. The release of such privileged advice would undermine the Council's ability to take timely and appropriate confidential legal advice in the future. The financial information contained in this report is not in the public interest to disclose as it would prejudice the Council's ability to meet its statutory duties in relation to Best Value if the information was released into the public domain and undermine the Council's ability to reach appropriate settlement arrangements in due course.

## 8 FORWARD PLAN

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive detailing items requested for discussion from the current Forward Plan, attached.

a) Past Practice in Assessing Contributions for Adult Social Care Non Residential Care

Briefing paper detailing the issues relating to the forthcoming confidential cabinet decision "Past Practice in Assessing Contributions for Adult Social Care Non Residential Care", attached.

b) Changes to Housing Allocations Policy

Briefing paper detailing the issues relating to the forthcoming cabinet decision "Changes to Housing Allocations Policy", attached.

## 9 FAMILIES MATTER UPDATE

Report of the Director, People, providing an update on the progress made in relation to the "Families Matter" programme, attached.

## 10 MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive, detailing the actions of the executive and monitoring progress of the recommendations of the Committee, attached.

Wednesday, 5 March 2014

HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

# SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 JANUARY 2014

Present:

Councillors Moulton (Chair), Vinson (Vice-Chair), Fitzhenry, Hammond, Hannides, Keogh, Mintoff, Morrell and Stevens

## 42. APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN PANEL MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)

The Panel noted the apologies of Mrs Topp and that Mr Blackshaw had retired and Mr R Wharton had been nominated as the Appointed Member for the Church of England (Dioceses of Winchester and Portsmouth). The vacant Labour Group member had still to be named.

## 43. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)

**RESOLVED** that the minutes for the Committee Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2013 be approved and signed as a correct record.

### 44. TRANSFORMATION UPDATE

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Transformation, providing an update on the progress made in relation to the Council's transformation programme during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2013/14.

## **RESOLVED:**

- (i) that the next quarterly report to the Committee on transformation includes a high level summary of savings targets set against the Council's budget gap and a list of transformation projects with timescales, milestones and projected savings against them;
- (ii) that the Committee receives a breakdown of all transformation expenditure across the Council since April 2013; and
- (iii) that the performance of the Families Matter programme is discussed at a future meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

## 45. STREET CLEANSING PERFORMANCE

The Committee considered the report of the Head of City Services, providing an overview of the City Council's street cleansing operations and performance.

## **RESOLVED:**

(i) that information is circulated to the Committee on complaints to the street cleansing service, broken down by street/neighbourhood;

- (ii) that information on street cleansing frequencies for residential streets is circulated to the Committee; and
- (iii) that, by January 2015, the Council publishes on its website backdated information on how often streets have been cleansed.

## 46. CITY STATUS - 50TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

The Committee considered the report of the Assistant Chief Executive, outlining the work underway under the leadership of Southampton Connect, to develop plans to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Southampton being awarded City Status during 2014.

**RESOLVED** that the Leader considers procuring a range of commemorative memorabilia to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the city status award.

## 47. MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE

The Committee received and noted the report of the Assistant Chief Executive, detailing the actions of the Executive and monitoring progress of the recommendations of the Committee.

It was noted that Waste Management Policy, Action Item 3 (a) was still "in progress" and that a summary of the relevant legal opinion on green waste in household waste wheelie bins was still to be circulated to scrutiny members.

DECISION-MAK	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE			MENT	
SUBJECT:		FORWARD PLAN			
DATE OF DECIS	SION:	13 <sup>th</sup> MARCH 2014			
REPORT OF:	REPORT OF: ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE				
CONTACT DETAILS					
AUTHOR:	Name:	Mark Pirnie Tel: 023 8083 3886			
	E-mail:	mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk			
Director	Name:	Suki Sitaram Tel: 023 8083 2060			
	E-mail:	Suki.sitaram@southampton.gov.uk			

#### STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

Item 8 a is confidential, the confidentiality of which is based on category 5 (legal professional privilege) and category 3 (financial and business affairs of the Authority) of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules. It is not in the public interest to disclose this information because the overriding principle in relation to legal professional privilege favours maintaining openness of communication between lawyer and client as a fundamental principle in relation to the administration of justice. Such communications would only be disclosed in very limited circumstances where a strong argument in favour of release outweighed the primary principle of privilege. The release of such privileged advice would undermine the Council's ability to take timely and appropriate confidential legal advice in the future. The financial information contained in this report is not in the public interest to disclose as it would prejudice the Council's ability to meet its statutory duties in relation to Best Value if the information was released into the public domain and undermine the Council's ability to reach appropriate settlement arrangements in due course.

### **BRIEF SUMMARY**

This item enables the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to examine the content of the Forward Plan and to discuss issues of interest or concern with the Executive to ensure that forthcoming decisions made by the Executive benefit local residents.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

(i) That the Committee discuss the Forward Plan items listed in paragraph 3 of the report to highlight any matters which Members feel should be taken into account by the Executive when reaching a decision.

## REASON FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To enable Members to identify any matters which they feel the Cabinet should take into account when reaching a decision.

### ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

2. None.

## **DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)**

3. The Forward Plan for the period March 2014 – June 2014 has been circulated to members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee. The following issues were identified for discussion with the Decision Maker:

Portfolio	Decision	Requested By
Health and Adult Social Care	Past practice in assessing contributions for adult social care non residential care	Cllr Vinson
Housing and Sustainability	Proposed Changes to the Housing Allocations Policy	Cllr Moulton

4. Briefing papers responding to the Forward Plan item identified by members of the Committee are appended to this report. Members are invited to use the papers to explore the issues with the decision maker.

## **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

## **Capital/Revenue**

5. The details for the items on the Forward Plan will be set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.

## **Property/Other**

6. The details for the items on the Forward Plan will be set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

## Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

- 7. The details for the items on the Forward Plan will be set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.
- 8. The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.

## Other Legal Implications:

9. None

#### POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

10. The details for the items on the Forward Plan will be set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.

## KEY DECISION? No

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None directly as a result of this report
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## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

## **Appendices**

1.	8 a Briefing paper detailing the issues relating to the forthcoming confidential cabinet decision "Past Practice in Assessing Contributions for Adult Social Care Non Residential Care", attached.
2.	8 b Briefing Paper – Proposed Changes to the Housing Allocations Policy

## **Documents In Members' Rooms**

1.	None
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## **Equality Impact Assessment**

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality Impact	Dependent upon	
Assessment (EIA) to be carried out.	forward plan item	

## **Other Background Documents**

## Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information
	Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document
	to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)

1.	None	
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## Agenda Item 8a

## **BRIEFING PAPER**

SUBJECT: PAST PRACTICE IN ASSESSING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ADULT

SOCIAL CARE NON RESIDENTIAL CARE

**DATE:** 13 MARCH 2014

**RECIPIENT:** OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

### THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER

## **SUMMARY:**

This report, which is to be published on 10 March, will be presented to Cabinet on 18 March 2014 for decision. The report provides an outline of the investigation into the impact on customers of the past financial assessment practice for non residential care.

#### **BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:**

1. A copy of the Cabinet Report and associated appendices which provide full details of the proposals will be published on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2014.

## RESOURCE/POLICY/FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

### **Financial**

2. This information will be outlined in the Cabinet report.

## **Property / Other**

3. This information will be outlined in the Cabinet report.

#### Legal

This information will be outlined in the Cabinet report.

#### Policy

5. This information will be outlined in the Cabinet report.

## **Appendices/Supporting Information:**

Report and appendices to be published on 10 March 2014

Further Information Available From: Name: Carol Valentine

**Tel:** 023 8083 3802

**E-mail:** Carol.valentine@southampton.gov.uk



## Agenda Item 8b

## **BRIEFING PAPER**

**SUBJECT:** CHANGES TO HOUSING ALLOCATIONS POLICY

**DATE:** 13 MARCH 2014

**RECIPIENT:** OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

#### THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER

#### **SUMMARY:**

A report is scheduled to be presented to the 18 March 2014 meeting of Cabinet requesting the approval of a number of changes to the Council's Allocation Policy. Following changes introduced in the Localism Act 2011 and in statutory guidance on allocations published in June 2012 the Council has been undertaking a review of its current Allocations Policy. Additionally the current policy has over the years become multi-layered and complex to administer meaning it is not always as easy as it should be for residents and applicants to understand how housing is allocated and therefore the review has also attempted to simplify the allocations criteria, reduce administrative processes to enable us to assess housing need in a more timely way and ensure that housing is available to those who most need it.

## **BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:**

 A copy of the Cabinet report and the consultation outcomes is attached to this briefing which provides full details of the changes being proposed to Cabinet on 18 March.

#### RESOURCE/POLICY/FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

#### **Financial**

2. As outlined in the main report

## **Property / Other**

3. None

#### Legal

4. The power to allocate housing and develop a scheme for allocation is contained in the Housing Act 1996.

## **Policy**

5. As outlined in the main report.

## **Appendices/Supporting Information:**

Appendix 1 – Draft Cabinet Paper – Changes to Allocations Policy

Appendix 2 - Summary of consultation responses

Further Information Available From: Name: Liz Slater

**Tel:** 023 8083 2582

**E-mail:** Liz.slater@southampton.gov.uk



DECISION-MAKE	ER:	CABINET			
SUBJECT: CHANGES TO HOUSING ALLOCATIONS POLICY			NS POLICY		
DATE OF DECIS	ION:	18 MARCH 2014			
REPORT OF:		CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND SUSTAINABILITY			
	CONTACT DETAILS				
AUTHOR:	Name:	Liz Slater Tel: 02380832582			
	E-mail:	Liz.slater@southampton.gov.uk			
Director	Name:	Name: Alison Elliott Tel: 02380832602			
	E-mail:	Alison.elliott@southampton.gov.uk			

### STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

#### **BRIEF SUMMARY**

This report contains a number of recommendations in respect of proposed changes to the city council's housing allocation policy. The changes will enable the council to make best use of its own housing stock and of its nomination rights to housing association partners' stock. They will also enable the service to be run more effectively. Council officers have carried out consultation with stakeholders prior to recommending these changes. A summary of the consultation responses is attached at appendix 1.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- (i) It is recommended that Cabinet approve the proposed changes to the allocations policy listed in this report.
- (ii) It is recommended that Cabinet delegate authority to the Head of Housing Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Sustainability, to draw up a scheme to provide 'transitional protection' for the small number of applicants affected by the proposal to align the city's eligibility criteria relating to size of property with the housing benefit regulations.
- (iii) It is recommended that Cabinet delegate authority to the Head of Housing Services, in consultation with the Head of Development, Economy and Housing Renewal and the Cabinet Member for Housing and Sustainability, to approve the proposed annual lettings plan.

## REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. A key aim of recommendations proposed in this report is to reduce the number of applicants waiting for re-housing in Southampton. The City Council's waiting-list for social housing currently stands at approximately 15,000 applications. This represents a significant growth since 2002 when

Version Number: 4

legislation required the authority to move to an 'open' waiting-list.

The number of properties available for letting every year through vacancies in the council's own stock and via partner housing associations is approximately 1,700 so only a small proportion of applicants currently on the waiting-list will ever receive an offer of housing. Managing a waiting-list of applicants who are unlikely ever to be housed is a waste of the council's resources and raises expectations that cannot be met.

- 2. The authority's policy must meet the requirements of existing legislation and government guidance in respect of allocations. In particular, the policy must take account of the Housing Act 1996 as amended by the <a href="Localism Act 2011">Localism Act 2011</a> and the statutory guidance on allocations published in June 2012 <a href="Allocation of accommodation code of guidance 2012">Allocation of accommodation code of guidance 2012</a>. This report identifies measures to ensure the authority both meets the requirements of and makes best use of the recent legislative and advisory changes. The policy changes proposed here comprise a set of fixed rules but, as previously, officers will retain the discretion to deal with any exceptional cases which fall outside of the provisions of the policy.
- 3. The authority is currently in the process of transforming the way services are delivered. This will enable service improvements but will also require services to adapt to new methods of provision. The new processes are likely to include increased emphasis on web-enabled services and on-line access to information and application processes. The changes to policy proposed here are crucial to enabling the authority to move more easily to new ways of working.

## **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

4. Leave the allocations policy as it is with no changes

This was considered and rejected because of the increased number of applicants on the waiting list, reducing housing stock, reduced resources to administer applications and the need to respond to changes in central government policy.

5. Give priority to families living in the private rented sector who are adequately housed

The authority is aware of and sympathetic to cases where families struggle to pay higher rents in the private sector, but giving priority to applicants in the private rented sector who are otherwise adequately housed has a number of undesirable consequences which would make it difficult for the authority to satisfy other policy and statutory objectives.

The problems that such a change in policy would present include:

- The waiting-list and processing of unsuccessful applications would rise significantly but empty properties would not.
- The council is required by law to make sure that some categories of applicants are given 'reasonable preference' over others. Giving adequately housed private sector applicants priority would mean that the council would be less able to provide 'reasonable preference' to other applicants and would significantly compromise the Council's ability to satisfy statutory requirements.

- The private rented sector is an important and often high-quality housing source in Southampton so sending the message that it is 'inadequate' would not be appropriate or helpful.
- The introduction of such a policy in Southampton would be likely to attract additional numbers of applicants from neighbouring areas to compete for the private rented sector in Southampton and, subsequently, to the authority's housing waiting-list.

Consultation results show agreement with the council's stance that renting in the private sector does not constitute a housing need. There is, however, support for recognising housing need for those with higher rents in the private rented sector. It is intended such cases will be addressed by providing advice and assistance on housing options and money advice and where their home may be at risk, help will be made available to prevent homelessness.

#### 6. Introduce income related criteria

The introduction of any income-related conditions has been rejected at this time. Southampton has not previously collected any income information from applicants when they apply for housing so being able to implement a scheme at present would be very difficult. As an alternative, it is proposed to begin collection of such information through a re-designed application process to enable examination of this idea in the future.

7. Introduce additional priority for applicants for working or volunteering

This proposal was rejected because the majority of the council's existing tenants of working age are already either in employment or actively seeking work. Also, one major aim of changing the allocations policy is to make it simpler, speed up the process and reduce the officer time required to handle applications, and this would undermine that aim. Such a policy could also inadvertently penalise those unable to work, for example, those with severe disabilities. We acknowledge that there is support from respondents to the consultation for some preference for social housing for those in work but views are mixed about what should qualify as work. Difficulties in adopting a set of assessments that are fair and consistent are considered too onerous to adopt within available resources. However, it is possible to introduce similar criteria in a more limited way, through local lettings schemes in new developments where the aim is to create a balanced community from the outset. The authority also already supports a number of schemes aimed at addressing worklessness on the city's estates.

## **DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)**

- 8. The proposals in this report are underpinned by three key principles:
  - (i) making sure the council's allocations policy is lawful and makes best use of stock;
  - (ii) removing unnecessary administration so that the service can be operated within the reduced means now available to the local authority; and
  - (iii) updating the way the service is provided so that it can be modernised in accordance with the council's transformation programme.
- 9. Officers have carried out a significant consultation exercise prior to the submission of this report. This has included a postal survey of a representative

sample of applicants and tenants, a freely available consultation on city web, direct consultation with housing associations in the area, direct consultation with stakeholders such as Health and Social Care and neighbouring local authorities, a survey of staff opinion, consultation with tenants' groups and use of various social media such as Facebook and Twitter. The outcomes of the consultation are taken into account in formulating the proposals for change and a summary of the consultation outcomes is attached at Appendix 1. This report now details the final proposals below.

- 10. It is proposed that only applicants in current housing need will be admitted to the housing waiting list. Applicants must continue to be in housing need in order to remain on the list. This would enable the authority to be clearer about which applicants are likely to be successful in being re-housed and enable more appropriate assistance to be given to applicants who do not qualify in order to access alternative housing. There is clear support for this from consultation respondents.
- 11. The 'size' eligibility criteria should be changed so that the council's policy aligns with the housing benefit regulations. The authority's policy is generally more generous than the housing benefit regulations at the moment. Therefore less people can be re-housed than if the same criteria were to be adopted and applicants could be offered properties for which they would not be able to claim full housing benefit should they need to do so, potentially exposing them to debt. In contrast, there are advantages in aligning the two policies as it would enable a greater number of people to be re-housed and avoid creating tenancies affected by the housing benefit spare room subsidy arrangements. This would maximise rent collection whilst minimising the number of tenants who have difficulty paying their rent and be easier to understand for customers. This approach is consistent with Government guidance and with the other major social housing providers in the city, who are already operating on this basis.
- 12. The authority is keen that the allocations policy is seen by citizens to be fair and that the city's resources are used to help people already resident in and with a commitment to the city, in effect, providing local housing for local families. Therefore it is proposed to introduce a residency qualification of three years before applicants can be admitted to the housing waiting-list. The exception is for armed services personnel who are treated as being resident in the city for this purpose as a result of an amendment made to the policy in 2013. The government's own additional guidance issued in December 2013, providing social housing for local people, providing social housing for local people states that 'a reasonable period of residency would be at least two years'. There is overwhelming support from consultees that access to social housing be reserved for Southampton residents. As for the length of residency, the most favoured periods in the consultation range from 1 to 5 years. The council's proposed 3 year requirement is right in the middle of that range. Other local authorities in the region are typically proposing residency criteria of between 2 to 5 years. Consideration of access to the housing list for people working but not living in the city has been made, but the complexity and number of assessments required would be significant and therefore this is not recommended. Advice and assistance will be available about alternative housing options for applicants who do not qualify under the 3 year residency test. The Government has also

- indicated their intention to consult on new provisions for tenants needing to move due to work which could address this situation.
- 13. It is proposed to change the policy relating to household formation so that new household members (other than newborn babies) must have been part of the family for a year before they can be added to a housing application. This is intended to provide greater certainty that households are likely to be together for the long-term before properties are allocated to them. Applicants would still be able to be re-housed in properties appropriate to their pre-existing family size but would not be able to apply for a larger property until the one-year criteria had elapsed. The purpose of this change is to avoid the current situation where newly merging households retain their waiting time points but are allocated accommodation on the basis of their increased numbers. Unfortunately this arrangement sometimes breaks down very soon after re-housing, resulting in properties being under occupied and additional re-housing being required by the displaced household members. As tenants are generally offered a secure tenancy, following an introductory tenancy, the authority is unable to then let the larger property to a family that does require that size and accommodation.
- 14. Officers recommend that the authority introduces a requirement for applications on the housing list to be renewed periodically (e.g. annually/bi-annually). Currently applications can remain on the list for many years, accruing waiting time points, regardless of whether there has been a change in circumstances (verification of housing need is carried out at the time an offer is made). The introduction of a renewal criteria would enable the authority to carry out 'housekeeping' of the waiting-list to ensure that it contains applications only from applicants who are eligible for social housing.
- 15. The test of eligibility for social housing in respect of 'suitability to be a tenant' (e.g. applicants with a history of antisocial behaviour, rent arrears etc) should also be updated. The current test was set out in the 1996 Housing Act and requires a judgement to be made as to whether the authority would have been able to obtain a possession order in court had it been in a position to do so. This is difficult to explain to customers and relies on officer judgement in respect of a hypothetical situation. The law in this area has changed considerably since 1996 so would be appropriate to take this opportunity to update the allocations policy so that the criteria properly reflect the current legal situation and are easier to explain and understand.
- 16. It is proposed to introduce a requirement that applicants update the authority of all changes in circumstances. Applicants who do not do so within a reasonable period (e.g. three months) would be removed from the waiting-list. There is currently no sanction in respect of applicants whose circumstances change but who do not update their housing application. Therefore applicants can remain on the waiting-list and accrue waiting time points regardless of any change in circumstances which may impact on their housing need.
- 17. The current allocations policy makes a distinction between houses and flats, which was introduced many years ago when the authority owned more houses, demand was less and housing association partners were building larger numbers of new houses.

The purpose of the distinction was to enable most families with children to live in

a house. This possibility no longer exists as many houses have been sold through the right to buy, demand has risen significantly and high development costs favour new-build flats over houses.

It is proposed that properties are now allocated on the basis of their size only (i.e. number of bedrooms) and that whether they are a house or flat is no longer significant in making allocations decisions. In practice this would mean families with the correct size of home, and no other housing need, would not be eligible to move from a flat to a house. However, a distinction between flats and houses will be retained, as supported by consultees, with a policy to give a commitment to offer houses only to families with children 16 years of age or under.

Moving to this new policy would have a number of advantages:

- Current policy has the inadvertent consequence of encouraging applicants to 'chase' approval for a house. This results in considerable extra administration and is the subject of numerous appeals and complaints to the authority. The new policy would remove this issue
- The current process is difficult to administer in a way that is fair and transparent. Extra rules have to be in place to identify which families qualify for a house and from what date they qualify. This adds an unnecessary extra layer of complexity to the policy, adding to council administration costs.
- Current waiting times also mean that it is difficult to target houses to families with younger children anyway (the original intention of the policy) since the average length of time waited means the children in many families have grown up by the time the family moves. Attempts to restrict re-housing to families with younger children are inevitably seen as unfair since they move away from the principle of 'waiting your turn' and introduce the element of officer discretion which is open to challenge and unpopular with customers.
- 18. It is proposed to introduce a yearly lettings plan. This would enable the authority to exercise better control over the use of its properties and for this to be done in a way which is open to public scrutiny. As an example, a variety of re-housing requests are made on an ad hoc basis over the year by agencies dealing with vulnerable clients in crisis. Identifying a number of vacancies in advance and publishing this information would enable the council to deal with such requests in a more open and predictable way.
  - This process would be used to identify a set number of properties each year which will be made available to achieve wider City objectives. This will include accommodation for foster carers who need larger properties. It would also enable officers to manage the stock more effectively when dealing with regeneration schemes and would provide a vehicle for highlighting particular priorities within the policy. A yearly lettings plan would make similar changes more easy and transparent.
- 19. A lettings plan would also enable the authority to address the issue of priority for transferring applicants. At present, transferring tenants are given additional points to make sure that a sufficient number of transfers take place each year to create vacancies within the council stock for other applicants. Although this benefits everybody by helping to create chains of empty properties, the method

by which it is achieved is seen as unfair by waiting-list applicants and does provide transfer applicants with an advantage when bidding. Following a lettings plan would enable the council to identify at the outset of the year how many lettings would be made available for different types of applicants and properties would be advertised on that basis. This information would be freely available and applicants could then be awarded points on an equal basis.

- 20. It is proposed and clearly supported by consultation results, that the authority no longer routinely allows owner occupiers or applicants under 18 to join the waiting-list (this was a requirement under the previous legislative regime). This will help to prioritise housing for those most in need and remove unnecessary applications from the process. It will also help to avoid difficulties in respect of tenancy management and payment of housing benefit in respect of younger applicants. As always, exceptional cases can be considered through the established channels.
- 21. Officers have considered whether it would be appropriate to apply preserved rights to some existing applicants who might otherwise be affected by the proposals in this report. However, applying protection for all existing applicants affected by the changes has been rejected because it would create a huge administrative burden and further increase the complexity of the policy and process without having any effect on the overall numbers of applicants who are re-housed. It is proposed that 'transitional protection' be restricted to a relatively small number of applicants who would temporarily lose eligiblity only to become eligible again but without their previously accrued waiting time points when their children reach the age of 10. This would cause considerable extra administration, be difficult to explain to applicants and is likely to lead to large numbers of complaints and requests for extra priority.
- 22. It should be noted that none of the policy changes recommended in this report affect the most vulnerable applicants (people applying for older persons housing) so there is no need for any transitional protection in those cases.

## **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

#### Capital/Revenue

There are no capital implications arising from these proposals. Implementing the policy changes will require staff resources but this will be dealt with from existing budgets. Once the changes are introduced, less resource will be needed for processing unsuccessful applications which will enable additional assistance to be given to vulnerable applicants and to help people who do not qualify for waiting-list to access alternative housing tenures.

## **Property/Other**

24. None.

#### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

## Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

25. The power to allocate housing and develop a scheme for allocation is contained in the Housing Act 1996.

#### Other Legal Implications:

26. None.

1. 2.

## POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

Southampton City Council Plan 2013-2016 Housing strategy 2011-2015 Homelessness Strategy 2013-2018

KEY DE	CISION?	Yes				
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED: All						
		<u>SUPPORTING</u>	DO	CUMENTATION		
Append	lices					
1.	Summary of c	onsultation respo	nses			
Documents In Members' Rooms						
1.	. None.					
Equality Impact Assessment						
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out.					Yes	
Other Background Documents						
Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:						
Title of Background Paper(s)  Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedu 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)			es / Schedule be			

Version Number: 4

## Agenda Item 8b

Appendix 2

## **Allocations Master Combined Survey Analysis:**

The analysis is for the complete (Master) Allocations Policy Review Survey that ran in two formats; online SNAP survey and hard copies sent to a random sample of Southampton City Council tenants and applicants on the waiting list.

There were 258 online responses for the SNAP survey; and 149 responses received by mail.

## **Online SNAP Survey:**

The full master survey ran from the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2013 – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February and was hosted on the Southampton City Council Internet.

During this time the survey was promoted on the Housing, Tenant Participation Unit and Communities Facebook pages and on the Tenant Participation Twitter feed.

It was also promoted internally to staff via the Weekly Bulletin, Staff Noticeboard and as an email link that all Housing staff were encouraged to add on their signature link to get the widest possible audience including staff and external agencies and partners.

Promotion of this (and other related surveys) via social media proved particularly successful, with around 150 responses of the Master survey and the five other quick surveys directly attributable to linking this survey, during a 24 hour period. The Twitter feed was also re-tweeted by John Denham and the BBC during this timeframe.

### **Mail Format:**

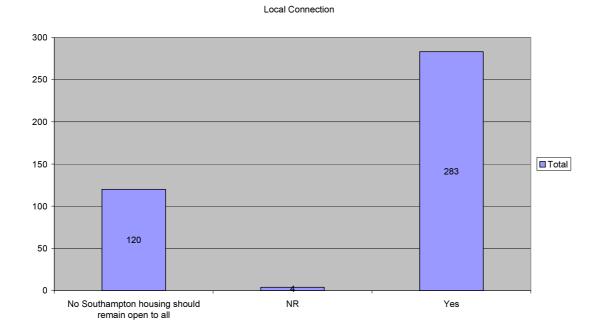
A random sample of 375 tenants and 372 applicants were selected from the databases of 11,300 applicants and 16,400 tenants, giving a total of 747 selected people.

An explanatory letter was sent to this sample of people with a hard copy of the SNAP survey and a stamped addressed envelope, asking them to reply within a two week period from the 29<sup>th</sup> January to Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February.

Additionally, 13 hard copies of the survey were filled in by tenants attending Tenant Participation meetings during this period.

If the 13 responses above are disregarded; the returned surveys came to 136; giving a response rate of 18%.

Question 1: Local Connection: Do you think ONLY Southampton residents living within the city boundary should be able to join the housing list?



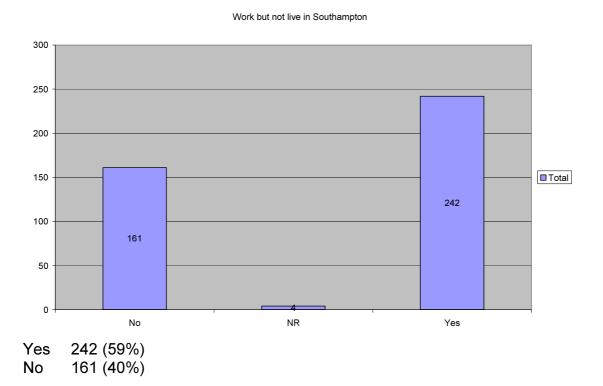
Yes 283 (70%)

No Southampton housing should remain open to all (120) 30%

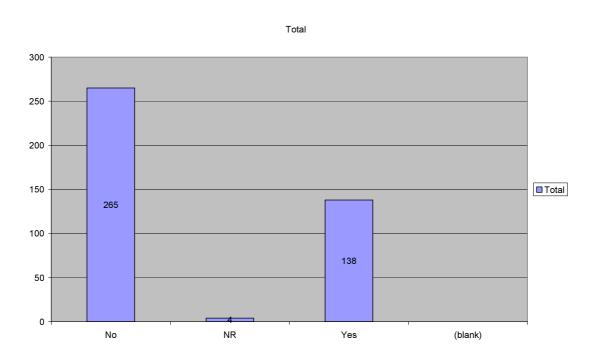
## Q2: If there was a residency test, how long should they have lived in the city before they can join?

0	6
1	60
1.5	1
2	76
3	51
4	4
5	91
6	3
7	1
10	20
12	2
15	1
20	1
25	1
Born	
Soton	6
Don't	
know	5
NR	57
Other	21

## Q3: In your opinion, should someone who works in Southampton but does not live in Southampton be able to join?

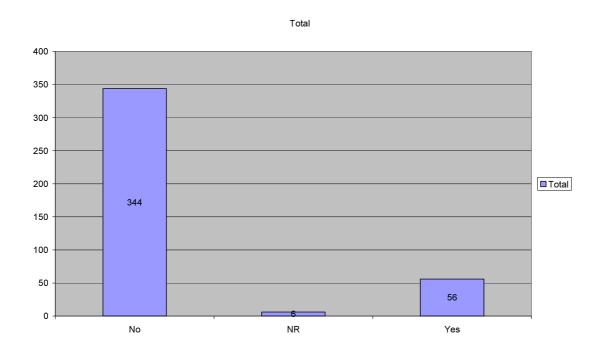


## Q4: Do you think that people without a housing need should be able to join the list?



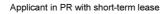
Yes 138 (34%) No 265 (65%)

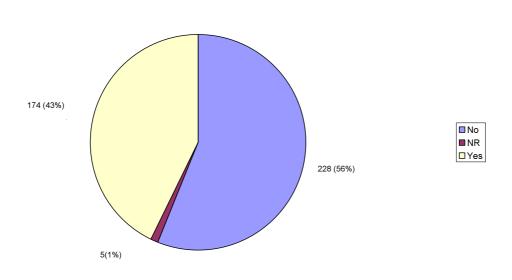
## Q5: Do you think that people who already own a home should be able to join the list?



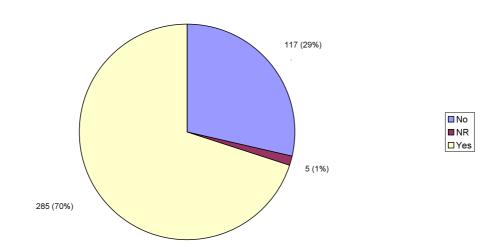
Yes 56 (14%) No 344 (85%)

## Q6a: Do you consider the following to be a housing need?

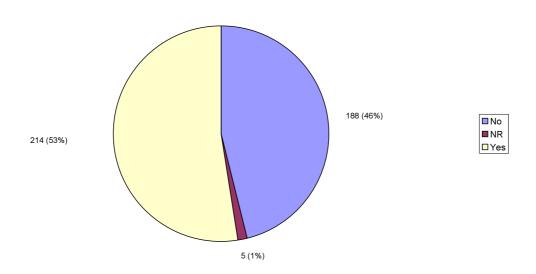




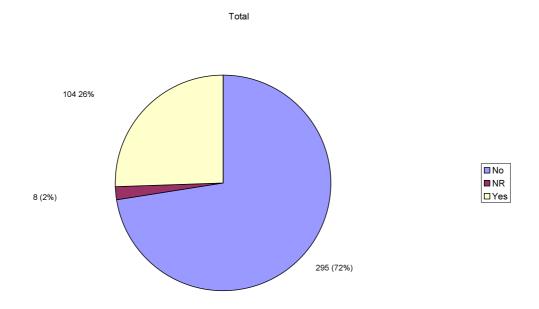
Applicant in PR who has high rents they find unaffordable



Family in flat wanting to move to low rise

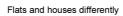


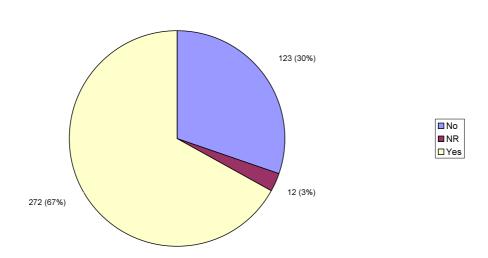
## Q7: Should 16 and 17 year olds be allowed to join the list even though they cannot hold a tenancy until 18 years?



Yes 104 (26%) No 295 (72%)

## Q8: Should we continue to treat the allocation of flats and houses differently?

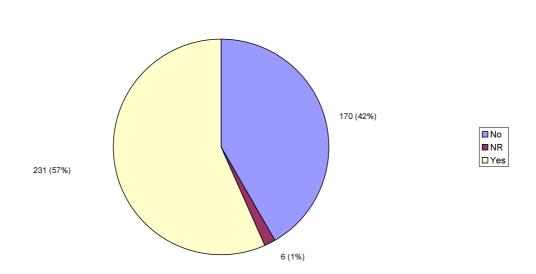




Yes 272 (67%) No 123 (30%)

## Q9: Should families with children who live in flats, with no other housing need, be eligible to move to a house?





Yes 231 (57%) No 170 (42%)

## Q10: Should we restrict the allocation of houses to families with dependent children?

Restrict houses to families with children

141 (35%)

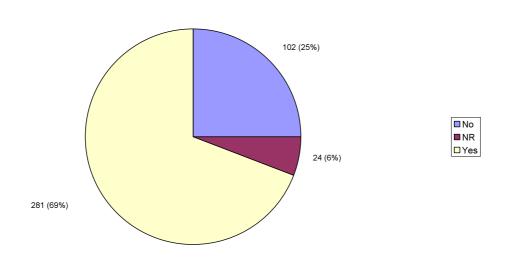
□ No
□ NR
□ Yes

Yes 259 (63%) No 141 (35%)

## Q11: What ages of children should be used to make a family eligible for a house? (Please tick all that apply)

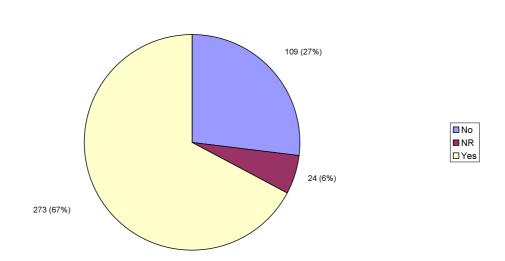
## Families with Pre-school age children

Families with Pre-school children



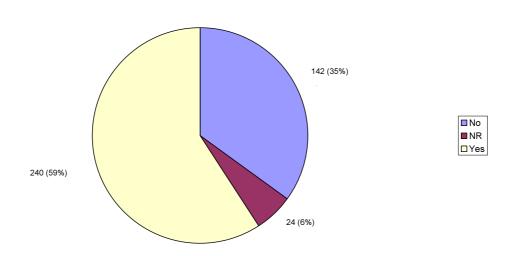
## Families with Junior school age children

Families with Junior School children



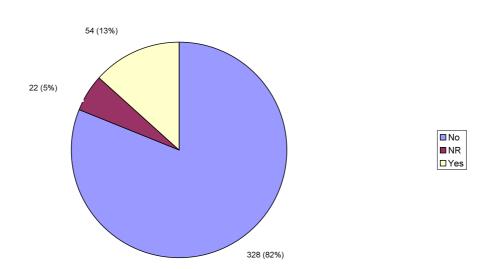
## Families with Secondary school age children

Families with Secondary age children



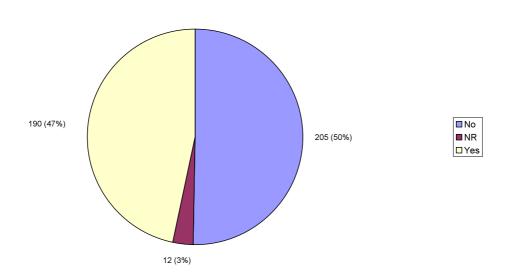
## Over 16 - 21 years

Over 16 - 21 years



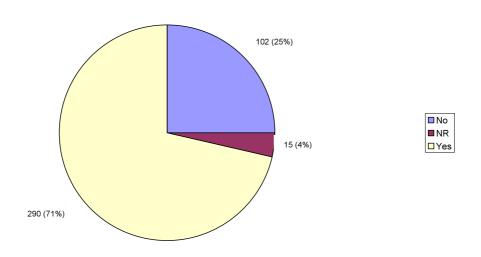
Q12: Should a brother and sister under 10 years of age be expected to share a bedroom?



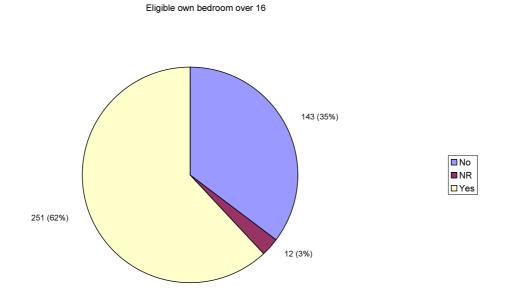


## Q13: Should siblings under 16 years of the same gender be expected to share a bedroom?

Siblings same gender under 16 share bedroom

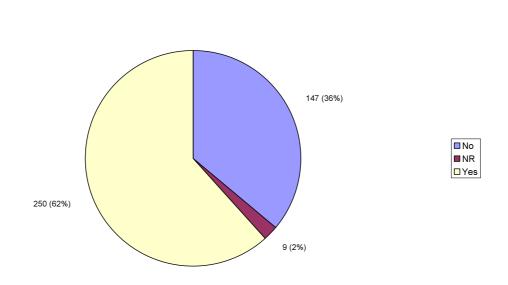


Q14: Should children be eligible for their own bedroom when they reach the age of 16 years?



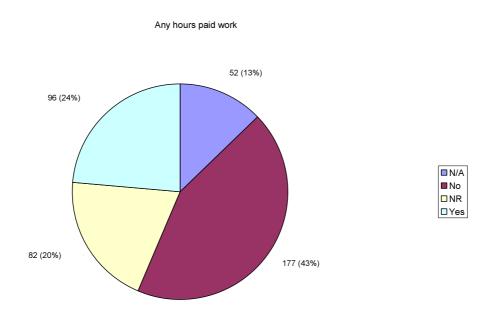
## Q15: Should we give a higher priority for social housing to households in work?

Extra priority working households

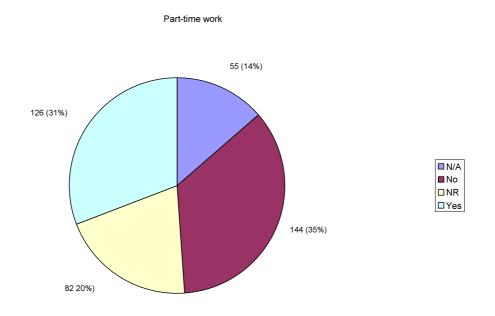


If yes, when should we treat someone as being in work for this purpose?

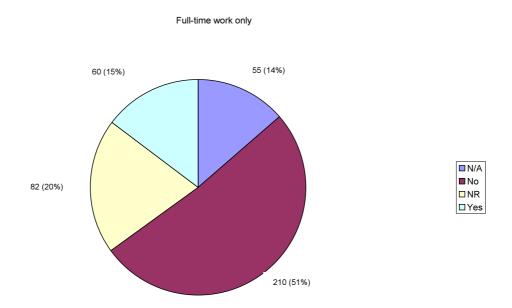
## Q16a: Any hours of paid work:



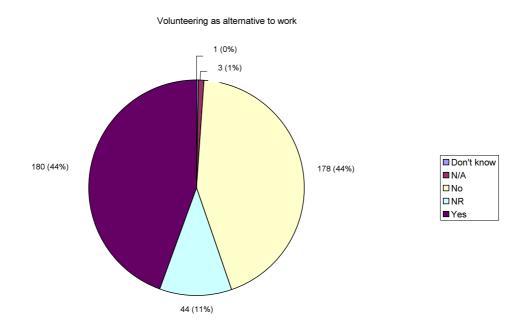
Q16b: Part-time workers, single parents working 16 hours per week, couples working 24 hours a week <u>or</u>



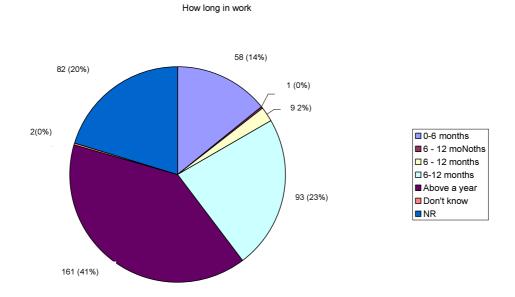
## Q16c: Full-time workers only



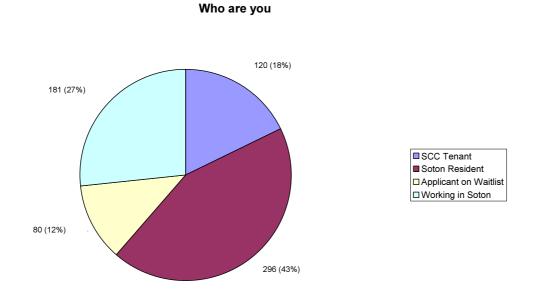
## Q17: Should we consider volunteering as an alternative to work for this purpose?



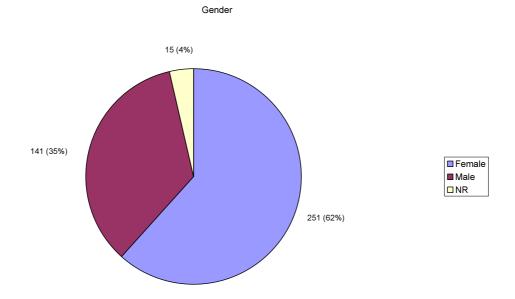
## Q18: How long should someone have been in work for us to take this into account?



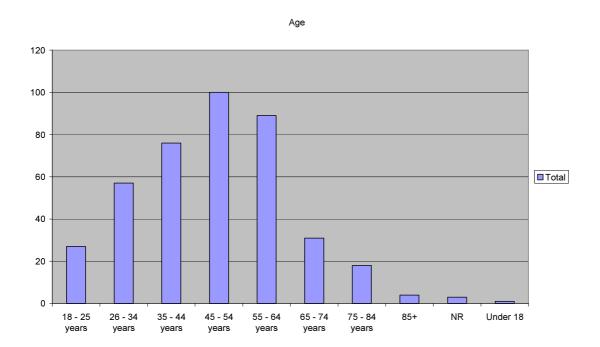
## Q19: Which statement(s) best describe you? (Please tick all that apply)



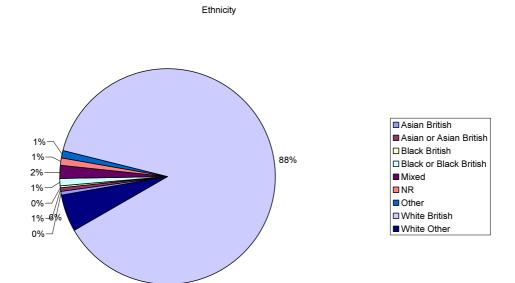
## Q20: Gender



## Q21: What is your age?



## Q22: What is your ethnicity (please tick)





DECISION-MAKER:		OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE			
SUBJECT:		FAMILIES MATTER UPDATE			
DATE OF DECISION:		13 MARCH 2014			
REPORT OF:		CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES			
		CONTACT DETAILS			
AUTHOR:	: Name: Linda Haitana Tel: 023 8083 398				
E-mail:		linda.haitana@southampton.gov.uk			
Director	Name:	Alison Elliott	Tel:	023 8083 2602	
	E-mail:	alison.elliott@southampton.gov.uk			

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY	
None	

### **BRIEF SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the progress made in relation to the Families Matter programme. Families Matter is a multi-agency programme that works with families that have multiple and complex needs. It is a 3 year initiative ending in April 2015 (with potential extension to 2016), funded by government (DCLG) and is a Payment-by-Results scheme. This report focuses on performance data for Families Matter, with a brief summary of the transformational changes in the People Directorate, Children & Families Service, that positively impact on Families Matter.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

(i) The Committee is requested to consider and note this report.

### REASON FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

At the OSMC Meeting in January 2014, the Chair requested that OSMC receives an update on Families Matter.

### **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED:**

None.

### **DETAIL:**

1. Families Matter is the local delivery of the national Troubled Families programme. The national vision is to establish whole-family, intensive support to targeted families that have multiple and complex needs which lead to high demand on public services and associated costs. The aim is to establish new ways of working with families to break the often inter-

generational patterns of behaviour that lead to poor outcomes for children and young people. The core elements of Troubled Families prevail across all local schemes; pro-active identification of eligible families, clear programme entry criteria and outcomes requirements; multi-agency working, and whole family focus. However, each local programme has developed its own working models.

- 2. Based on national criteria, Families Matter may provide support to a family that has experience of at least 2 of 3 criteria:
  - Persistent school absence (below 85%) or school exclusion
  - Youth offending or anti-social behaviour
  - At least one adult out of work

The FM profile shows 87% of FM families meet the education criteria; 90% meet DWP workless criteria (are unemployed and on out-of-work benefits); 27% meet the crime criteria (youth offending and/or ASB); 50% are council tenants; one third have domestic violence as a feature (past or present); about 54% are known to social care (past or present). 90% of the FM cohort is White-British and locality mapping shows clear overlaps with locations of FM families and priority neighbourhoods.

3. The FM delivery model centres on a multi-agency and multi-disciplinary team of lead practitioners located in a range of key services, who provide intensive support to families for up to 12 months. The team began operating in March 2013; there are 35 FTE workers (three times more than before FM began), located in 11 services from 6 agencies in the city (see Appendix 1). These workers provide a pivotal role in supporting, challenging and motivating families to change. A unique feature of FM is that lead practitioners are seconded or reshaped roles from key partner services to form a multi-agency team, but those workers currently remain in their 'home' service.

### Performance Targets and Requirements:

4. FM has 3 years government funding (with likely extension for at least another year). The current funding scheme is broadly £1.3m attachment (up-front) funding to April 2015, plus a payment-by-results element. The funding profile is such that the attachment fees reduce each year and PBR payments per case increases.

The local area target and all outcome measures are set by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). FM must work with and turn around 685 families by April 2015. We have annual targets for the number of families to be 'worked with' – peaking in Year 2 of the programme at 595. Outcomes (for payment-by-results) are effectively the inverse of the entry criteria, for example reducing offending or improving attendance, but the levels of improvements are prescribed, e.g. attendance must be over 85% and all outcomes must reach a level and be sustained for at least 6 months, or in the case of attendance, for 3 consecutive terms.

5. It should be noted that performance measures and outcomes include not just the core FM team but other key workers who support an FM family, for example social workers or education welfare officers. Locally we measure both the outcomes of the core team that work intensively with the most challenging families and the wider network of support for FM families.

### Performance to Date:

- 6. There are 3 national targets and measured outcomes for Troubled Families;
  - i. The number of families identified:

Southampton has pro-actively identified 1,123 families that meet FM criteria. This puts us in equal first place amongst all local authorities in England (for identification).

ii. The number of families 'worked with':

Across the city 703 FM families are being 'worked with'; 338 families are currently supported intensively by the FM core team. Based on the most recently published comparative data of all Troubled Families programmes (Q1 2013) Southampton was in the top 20 local authorities for the number of families worked with in proportion to our programme target. It is likely this position places the city in top quartile but the comparative data is not currently available.

iii. The number of families 'turned around':

At the end of Q1 2013/14 we claimed for 45 families 'turned around' (thus meeting Troubled Families outcomes); in Q2, we claimed for 246 families and at the very recent claim for Q3 we claimed a further 130 families. In total, to date, we have identified 421 families. The payment linked to this result is £329,000. The result places the programme at 61% of the 3-year target, at just over mid-programme timescale.

The comparative position for the FM outcomes against other Troubled Families programmes is not yet available, but the results are likely to be positive and continue to reflect a solid programme performance.

- 7. In addition to the national performance requirements, we measure:
  - Engagement rates: proportion of families refusing consent to take part in the programme - to date this is approximately 82% (18% refuse to engage). We then monitor and respond to 'refusals'.
  - Levels of intensity of cases held by the core team: currently this is
     41.5% high (defined as large or very complex families); 36% medium;
     22% standard.

- Step-up cases: numbers from the core team escalating to higher tier services, particularly Social Care (8%); step down cases numbers completing/closing (20%).
- Family progress against actions identified in Family Plans: here we use both Safetynet (see para. 8) to assess 'movement' of change in families and also in most cases the 'Star Assessment' which assess with families themselves how they have progressed against key areas such as parenting and family functioning.
- We also collate feedback from families supported by the core team to be tabled at the OSMC Meeting.
- 8. SafetyNet is a system used by FM that was developed by Hampshire County Council and Hampshire Constabulary, originally to share and assess antisocial behaviour activities. This system has been adapted for Troubled Families programmes in Hampshire. The system is used by family workers who provide family case details and "headline" activities. SafetyNet is then used by the Education Analyst to up-load in bulk both baseline data for families in key areas such as attendance, employment and offending, as well as quarterly reviews. This capability enables us to assess "movement" across key indicators as well as FM cohort profiles.

### Strengths of the FM Programme:

- 9. Based on feedback from FM Workers, partners and families, the following features are identified as the programme strengths:
  - Strong partnership working
  - Whole family approach
  - Pro-active identification of families
  - Focus on prevention e.g. working with siblings to prevent offending
  - Common goals and "hard" measurable outcomes e.g. offending as a family work outcome
  - Shared knowledge & expertise
  - Using statutory tools & powers to achieve outcomes
  - Emerging innovative & shared interventions

### 10. **Challenges:**

Some of the key challenges in programme outcomes are:

- Improving outcomes regarding workless families: We have poor PBR in this area – only 9 adults have gained work since FM started. This is not unusual compared to other Troubled Families programmes, however a significant prioritisation of this area is underway
- The top 3 key challenges in terms of working with families are adult mental health, very persistent school absence and aggressive and violent

behaviour including familial violence. Again, a range of initiatives and actions are underway in light of this. For example, we are now providing the LINX programme for young people in FM which is an evidence-based behaviour programme that tackles aggressive behaviour.

 Step-down from Social Care is still low and so the transformation programme will be improving case transfers between tiers/services.

### 11. Transformation of Children & Families Services

The significant change programme currently underway within the People Directorate will "mainstream" the FM programme into the new Early Help Team. Alongside a raft of other structural and service changes, including establishing a MASH (multi-agency safeguarding hub), specialist teams (of Social Workers) and improved Quality Assurance, the new Early Help Team will radically shift the focus and culture towards earlier interventions and a co-ordinated family service.

Specifically, the Early Help Team will expand even further the multi-agency working underpinning FM, to also include Social Workers, Education Welfare Officers, School Nurses and Health Visitors (for under 4's) The new team will retain the outcomes and focus of FM and build on the core planks and learning from FM, including:

- Multi-disciplinary working
- Case holding
- Dedicated lead professional
- Whole family focus
- Enhanced interventions

However, the new integrated model will also address challenges of the FM model, including strengthening safeguarding, increasing health and social work expertise directly in the team and enabling closer working between tiers of support.

The transformation of Children & Families has enabled FM to become an integral part of multi-agency family work, which ensures continuity of the programme, while shifting towards earlier interventions. This new model of working has a strong evidence-base that shows better outcomes for children and young people are achieved when interventions are earlier (in both years and emerging problems).

### **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

### Capital/Revenue:

12. Grant funding is approximately £1.3m, plus Payment-by-Results (£329k).

### Property/Other:

13. No implications at this stage

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

### <u>Statutory Power to Undertake Proposals in the Report:</u>

14. The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000

### **Other Legal Implications:**

15. None

### POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

16. These will be defined as the work progresses.

KEY DECISION?	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	All

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

1.	Current Families Matter Structure
2.	Transformation Programme Structure

### **Documents In Members' Rooms:**

1.	None

## **Equality Impact Assessment:**

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality Impact	Yes, separately
Assessment (EIA) to be carried out?	for different
	projects

## Other Background Documents

## Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)

Relevant Paragraph of the Access to

Information Procedure Rules / Schedule

12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)

1. None	
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## **APPENDIX 1: FAMILIES MATTER STRUCTURE**



## FM is .....

FM is a multi-agency programme that provides co-ordinated and intense support to families with multiple and complex needs

### FM Criteria:

At least 2 of 3 of:

- Adult out of work
- Child excluded or persistently absent
- Youth Offending or ASB

### FM Aims:

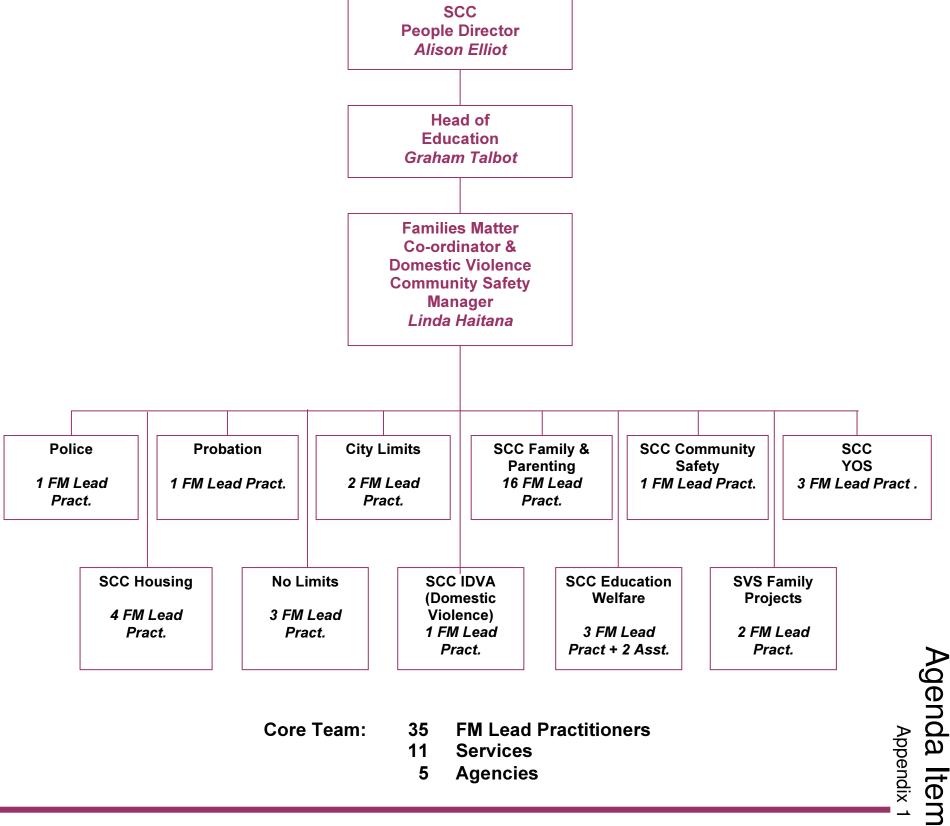
To provide extra help to turn around the lives of 685 families by April 2015 (593 families in 2013/14.

To work differently with agencies and families, taking a "whole family" approach.

### FM Outcomes:

To improve the lives and outcomes of families and reduce costs to the public purse.

### **CORE TEAM**

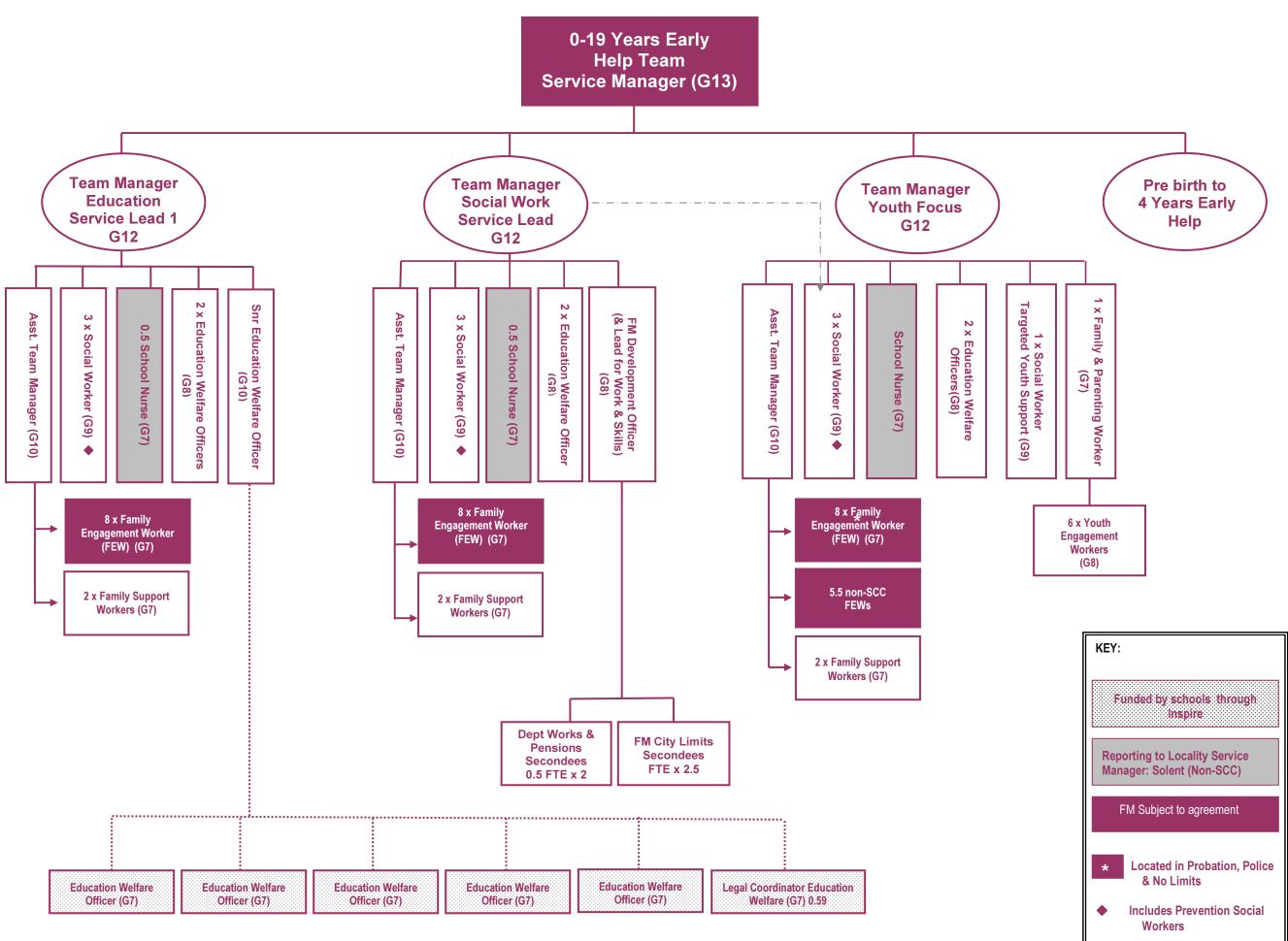


**Core Team: FM Lead Practitioners** 

> 11 **Services Agencies**

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Agenda Item

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Appendix 2

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DECISION-MAKER:		OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE			
SUBJECT:		MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE			
DATE OF DECISION:		13 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2014			
REPORT OF:		ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE			
		<b>CONTACT DETAILS</b>			
AUTHOR:	AUTHOR: Name: Mark Pirnie Tel: 023 8083 388				
	E-mail: mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk				
Director	Name:	Suki Sitaram	Tel:	023 8083 2060	
	E-mail:	Suki.sitaram@southampton.gov.uk			

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY	
None	

#### **BRIEF SUMMARY**

This item enables the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to monitor and track progress on recommendations made to the Executive at previous meetings.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

(i) That the Committee considers the responses from Cabinet Members to recommendations from previous meetings and provides feedback.

### REASON FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To assist the Committee in assessing the impact and consequence of recommendations made at previous meetings.

### ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

None.

### **DETAIL** (Including consultation carried out)

- 3. Appendix 1 of the report sets out the recommendations made to Cabinet Members at previous meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee. It also contains summaries of any action taken by Cabinet Members in response to the recommendations.
- The progress status for each recommendation is indicated and if the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee confirms acceptance of the items marked as completed they will be removed from the list. In cases where action on the recommendation is outstanding or the Committee does not accept the matter has been adequately completed, it will be kept on the list and reported back to the next meeting. It will remain on the list until such time as the Committee accepts the recommendation as completed. Rejected recommendations will only be removed from the list after being reported to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

### RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

### **Capital/Revenue**

5. None.

### **Property/Other**

6. None.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

### Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

7. The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.

### Other Legal Implications:

8. None

### POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

9. None.

**KEY DECISION?** 

No

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED: None directly as a result of this report

### SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

### **Appendices**

1. Monitoring Scrutiny Recommendations – 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014

### **Documents In Members' Rooms**

1. None

### **Equality Impact Assessment**

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality Impact	No
Assessment (EIA) to be carried out.	

### **Other Background Documents**

## Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)

Relevant Paragraph of the Access to

Information Procedure Rules / Schedule

12A allowing document to be

Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)

1.	None	

# Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee: Holding the Executive to Account Scrutiny Monitoring – 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014

Date	Portfolio	Title	Action proposed	Action Taken	Progress Status
16/01/14	Change	Transformation Update	1) That the next quarterly report to the Committee on transformation includes a high level summary of savings targets set against the Council's budget gap and a list of transformation projects with timescales, milestones and projected savings against them.		
			<ol> <li>That the Committee receives a breakdown of all transformation expenditure across the council since April 2013.</li> </ol>	Information circulated 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2013.	Completed
			<ol> <li>That the performance of the Families Matter programme is discussed at a future meeting of the OSMC.</li> </ol>	A report will be developed for 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2014 meeting of the OSMC.	Completed
16/01/14	Environment & Transport	Street Cleansing	<ol> <li>That information is circulated to the Committee on complaints to the street cleansing service, broken down by street/neighbourhood.</li> </ol>	Information circulated 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2014	Completed
			<ol> <li>That information on street cleansing frequencies for residential streets is circulated to the Committee.</li> </ol>	Information circulated 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2014	Completed
			<ol> <li>That, by January 2015, the Council publishes on its' website backdated information on how often streets have been cleansed.</li> </ol>	Information circulated 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2014. Online reporting of service performance is anticipated to be in place by January 2015.	Completed
16/01/14	Leader	City Status – 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	<ol> <li>That the Leader considers procuring a range of commemorative memorabilia to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the city status award.</li> </ol>	The Connect Sub Group leading on the 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary is considering this and in addition, the Leader has requested officers to explore souvenirs for the city's primary schools children.	) C

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