

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:

1. 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:

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