

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: REFERRAL FROM HOUSING AND SOCIAL CARE COMMITTEE
Meeting: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Date: 4 September 2012
Author: DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES AND
DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The following reports were submitted to the Housing and Social Care Committee at its meeting on 28 August 2012. The purpose of this report is to refer recommendations made by the Housing and Social Care Committee to Policy and Resources Committee for approval.

2. HOUSING ALLOCATIONS OUTCOMES FOR 2011

- 2.1 Committee considered the report by the Director of Corporate and Neighbourhood Services which (a) provided an update on housing allocations outcomes for 2011; (b) summarised feedback from the Allocations Consultation Panel; (c) detailed proposed legislative and regulatory changes which are likely to impact on the Allocation Policy, (d) circulated as an appendix the draft Tenants' Incentive Scheme for Under Occupation.

- 2.2 Committee were invited to:-

- (1) note the Housing Allocations Outcome Report;
- (2) note the proposed legislative and regulatory changes which are likely to impact upon the Allocation Policy and that further updates be provided to Committee, as required;
- (3) note the feedback from the Allocations Consultation Panel;
- (4) agree the proposed Tenant Incentive Scheme for Under Occupation as detailed in Appendix 3 to the Report, for a 12 month pilot period, effective from April 2013 with an initial budget of £250,000 and that an evaluation of the Scheme be reported back to Members;
- (5) agree the proposals detailed in paragraphs 4.12 and 4.13 of the Report, to reduce the time homeless applicants are waiting to be re-housed, then further reviewing the outcomes, and
- (6) refer the Report to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval.

- 2.3 Councillor G Goldie, seconded by Councillor Black moved the recommendations as contained within the Report.

- 2.4 By way of an amendment Councillor Alexander, seconded by Councillor Turner moved that recommendations 6.3 and 6.5 be deleted and substituted with the following:-
- 6.3 note the feedback from the Allocations Panel and agrees that the policy needs a full review which will take the form of a half day workshop for members then a special meeting of the Committee to consider the findings and any proposed changes that flow from the process, and
- 6.5 do not agree the content of paragraphs 4.12 and 4.13 but instead consider any changes as part of the review referred to in 6.3 above.
- 2.5 On a division, 6 Members voted for the Motion and 5 for the Amendment. Accordingly, **AGREED** the recommendations as contained in paragraph 2.2 above.

3. COMMUNITY CARE ASSESSMENT SERVICES

- 3.1 Committee considered the report by the Director of Social Work Services informing on the Community Care Assessment process and setting out proposals on how services can be improved, in particular to recruit 5 further Occupational Therapists, as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the Report.
- 3.2 Committee were invited and **agreed** to:-
- (1) endorse the proposals contained in paragraph 5.1 of the Report, and
 - (2) refer this to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are invited to:

- 4.1 **agree the proposed Tenant Incentive Scheme for Under Occupation as detailed in Appendix 3 to the Report, for a 12 month pilot period, effective from April 2013 with an initial budget of £250,000 and that an evaluation of the Scheme be reported back to Members;**
- 4.2 **agree the proposals detailed in paragraphs 4.12 and 4.13 of the Report, to reduce the time homeless applicants are waiting to be re-housed, then further reviewing the outcomes, and**
- 4.3 **endorse the proposals detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the Community Care Assessment Services Report.**

Director of Corporate & Neighbourhood Services
28 August 2012
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Director of Social Work Services