

Select Committee on the Environment – 12th November 2007

Report of Director Adult, Community & Housing Services

Choice Based Lettings Plan

Purpose of Report

1. To advise members of the revised Choice Based Lettings (CBLs) Plan.

Background

2. The Select Committee on Environment was tasked by Cabinet to oversee the CBLs pilot, evaluate and make recommendations back to Cabinet. An all party Working Group was established with the intention being that final report is presented to Select Committee in January 2008.
3. When the original timetable was devised officers underestimated the time that would be needed in updating files and processes. This work has added around 6-8 weeks delay to implementation of the pilot.
4. Members will note that the Working Group will now meet in February 2008 to evaluate and make its recommendation for consideration by this Committee. Accordingly the report will now be presented to Committee on 6th March 2008. Although timescales will be tight it is still intended that the recommendations agreed on 6th March 2008 are reported to Cabinet on 19th March 2008.

Finance

5. The project evaluation will be undertaken using existing resources.

Law

6. The concept of Choice Based Lettings was introduced in the 2001 Green Paper "Quality & Choice. A Decent Home for All".

Equality Impact

7. This report in itself has no impact on the Council's policies on Equal Opportunities. The introduction of CBLs, however, will impact potentially on vulnerable people and due regard will be given to this in the evaluation process.

Recommendation

8. Members are asked to note the revised timetable for CBLs.



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Choice Based Lettings Project Plan

Task	Purpose	Original Timetable	Revised Timetable
Configure system	To enable acceptance testing	August – September 2007	October – November 2007
Test system	To confirm fit for purpose	September 2007	November 2007
Train staff	To prepare for pilot	September 2007	November 2007
Commence pilot scheme	Test proposals	October 2007	December 2007
Report to Working Group	To report on progress of pilot	October 2007	4 th December 2007
Report to Working Group	To evaluate pilot and recommendations for roll out	4 th December 2007	February 2008
Report to Select Committee	To confirm recommendations for roll out	28 th January 2008	6 th March 2008
Report to Cabinet	To approve roll out	19 th March 2008	19 th March 2008

Updated 17/10/07