

## **CABINET**

**16 APRIL 2013**

### **HOUSING ALLOCATIONS POLICY – ADDENDUM REPORT**

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Doe, Housing and Community Services

Report from: Robin Cooper, Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture

Author: Matthew Gough, Head of Strategic Housing Services  
Daniel Kalley, Democratic Services Officer

#### **Summary**

To inform Cabinet of the discussions which took place at the Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 11 April 2013 in respect of the Housing Allocations Policy.

#### **1. Background**

- 1.1 The Head of Strategic Housing Services introduced the report to Members explaining that the Council is required to have an allocations policy to set out how it will allocate social housing. He advised Members that there had been a wide public consultation. The policy being proposed would be implemented in phases reflects the priorities as set out in national guidance.
- 1.2 A Member commented on the eligibility criteria and in particular the income that is taken into account when deciding if a person or household is likely to exceed £50,000 and what that criteria was? The Head of Strategic Housing Services explained that the wording used for income is general and could include assets, personal income etc.
- 1.3 The Head of Strategic Housing Services also informed Members that, when individuals apply to go on the housing list, they are asked what connection they have with Medway.
- 1.4 One Member raised the supply and demand balance of the housing waiting list and how this related to the proposed policy, but acknowledged that this would be considered within the in-depth review into the Housing in Medway – demand, supply and affordability, which has been scheduled to begin in August 2014.
- 1.5 The Committee agreed to:

- 1.5.1 Recommend the Cabinet to adopt the revised Housing Allocations Policy, attached at appendix 1 to this report, to come into effect on the 1 August 2013.
- 1.5.2 Recommend the Cabinet to delegate authority to the Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Services, to agree any wording changes where these are of a minor nature.

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