

Committee:	Executive	Agenda Item No.:	11.
Date:	8 th March 2010	Status	Open
Category	Decision within the functions of Executive		
Subject:	Choice Based Letting		
Report by:	Head of Housing		
Other Officers Involved	Housing Needs Officer Housing Innovation Officer		
Director	Director of Neighbourhoods		
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor K. Bowman, Portfolio Holder for Housing Management.		

RELEVANT CORPORATE AIMS

COMMUNITY SAFETY – The policy does exclude certain people who cause ASB or are involved in criminal activity.

CUSTOMER FOCUSED SERVICES – Feedback from other authorities suggests that customers understand Choice Based Letting systems to traditional services.

REGENERATION – Choice Based Lettings schemes means that people only ‘bid’ for areas where they want to live.

SOCIAL INCLUSION – A main aim of the scheme is to ensure that allocations are made in a fair and transparent way through advertising and feedback.

TARGETS

There is a specific target in the draft Corporate Plan to introduce a Choice Based Letting Policy by April 2010

VALUE FOR MONEY

The Council have procured the necessary software through a partnership with other local authorities which has shared the cost and attracted additional grant funding.

THE REPORT

The government have announced that all local authorities must offer Choice Based Letting schemes by 2010, and define such schemes as those where properties are advertised and applicants bid on properties.

Officers have been working with the PPMG4 group to develop such a scheme for Bolsover. The proposed scheme is developed from the existing points based scheme and follows good practice guidance.

The policy is provided in Draft form and seeks comments from members on the policy.

Following this process it is intended to have a period of wider consultation where we seek the views of tenants, applicants, local housing providers and support agencies.

Feedback from the consultation will be considered and may lead to the policy being amended. Members will have the opportunity to further consider the policy before it is adopted by the council

ISSUES/OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Whether to accept the principals of the revised policy. Members are asked to make comments that may strengthen or clarify the policy.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial : None directly.

Legal : It is a statutory requirement to ensure the Council's allocation scheme includes an element of choice.

Human Resources : None directly.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Members consider the enclosed draft policy and provide feedback

REASON FOR DECISION TO BE GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION

In order that the Council's approach to adopting an allocations system based on choice is clearly and publicly set out.

ATTACHMENTS: **Yes**

FILE REFERENCE:

SOURCE DOCUMENT: