

**Bolsover District Council**

**Executive**

**2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015**

**Scrutiny Review on Hard to Let Properties**

**Report of Councillor Hilary Gilmour, Chair of the Improvement Scrutiny Committee**

This report is public

**Purpose of the Report**

- To consider the outcome of the scrutiny review on Hard to Let Properties (excluding New Bolsover)

**1 Report Details**

- 1.1 The Improvement Scrutiny Committee has completed its review on Hard to Let Properties.
- 1.2 The aim of the review was to identify issues around the hard to let properties at the Sheltered accommodation including,
- why the properties are hard to let
  - the historical demand for the properties

Members carried out the review with key issues in mind. These included loss of revenue for the authority, marketing and advertising of properties through the Choice Based Lettings system and the potential implications of the review of Adult Services being carried out by Derbyshire County Council

**2 Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation**

- 2.1 The Improvement Scrutiny Committee has made six recommendations based on evidence gathered during the review. The comments of the relevant Portfolio Holder, Assistant Director of Community Safety and Head of Housing, Housing Needs Manager and the Environmental Health Manager were sought prior to the final report being approved by the Scrutiny Management Board.

**3 Consultation and Equality Impact**

- 3.1 None

**4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

4.1 None

**5 Implications**

**5.1 Finance and Risk Implications**

If accepted by the Executive, Recommendation 2.2 requires an investment from the Housing Revenue Account.

**5.2 Legal Implications including Data Protection**

None

**5.3 Human Resources Implications**

None

**6 Recommendations**

6.1 That the Executive consider the Improvement Scrutiny Committee recommendations set out in the report following the review of Hard to Let Properties.

6.2 That the Executive provide a response on the review recommendations within six weeks in accordance with the Scrutiny Procedure Rules in order that recommendations can be inputted on the Perform system to allow implementation of the recommendations to be monitored.

**7 Decision Information**

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| <b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b><br>(A Key Decision is one which results in income or expenditure to the Council of £50,000 or more or which has a significant impact on two or more District wards) | *****  |
| <b>District Wards Affected</b>   | None.  |
| <b>Links to Corporate Plan priorities or Policy Framework</b>  | CUSTOMER FOCUSED SERVICES –<br>Reduce average relet times of Council properties from 25 days to 22 days by March 2015. |

8 **Document Information**

| <b>Appendix No</b>   | <b>Title</b>                   |
|--|--------------------------------|
| A  | Copy of Scrutiny Review Report |
| <b>Background Papers</b> (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers) |                                |
| None.  |                                |
| <b>Report Author</b>   | <b>Contact Number</b>          |
| C Millington   | 242385                         |

Report Reference –