

**Bolsover District Council**

**Executive**

**23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018**

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| <b>Review of Disability Adaptations to Council Properties</b> |
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**Report of the Customer Service & Transformation Scrutiny Committee**

This report is public

**Purpose of the Report**

- To present to Executive the completed report for the recent scrutiny review of the Customer Service & Transformation Scrutiny Committee

**1 Report Details**

- 1.1 The Customer Service & Transformation Scrutiny Committee wished to scrutinise Council performance in making disability adaptations to Council properties. Their purpose was to explore whether the Authority continues to receive value for money in procuring disability adaptations and ensure it is able to carry out as many adaptations as possible each year within the allocated budget. The perception of a waiting list for adaptations is a concern to Members.
- 1.2 The aim of the review was to assess whether the process of providing disabled adaptations to Council properties works efficiently to provide what disabled residents need and delivers value for money.
- 1.3 Within its Corporate Plan 2015-2019, Bolsover District Council has a target (Ref: C10) to carry out 300 disability adaptations to Council houses each year. Underpinning this target are planned activities which aim to improve the process when providing disabled adaptations. Key areas of the target scrutinised in this Review were:
  - Continue to develop working practices with Adult Social Care
  - Constantly review contractor pricing to ensure best value for money
  - Ensure we continue to procure quality products at best rates

**2 Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation**

- 2.1 As outlined within the report, the key issue arising from the review is that the process for disability adaptations is inherently protracted but the Council has taken positive steps with regard to collaborative working practices to ensure we are more effective in meeting individual need.

- 2.2 The Committee has concluded that the reasonable course of action is to continue to monitor the Council's performance on carrying out 300 disability adaptations to Council houses each year.

### **3 Consultation and Equality Impact**

- 3.1 All Scrutiny Committees are committed to equality and diversity in undertaking their statutory responsibilities and ensure equalities are considered as part of all Reviews. The selection criteria when submitting a topic, specifically asks members to identify where the topic suggested affects particular population groups or geographies.
- 3.2 The Council has a statutory duty under s.149 Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity and to eliminate discrimination. The efficient provision of disability adaptations supports this duty and delivers positive outcomes for disabled people of all ages and for carers.

### **4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

- 4.1 Executive could choose not to endorse the recommendation of the review, however as the recommendation is linked to the monitoring of an existing Corporate Plan target, this activity will take place as a matter of usual business of the Customer Service & Transformation Scrutiny Committee.

### **5 Implications**

#### **5.1 Finance and Risk Implications**

- 5.1.1 None from this report.

#### **5.2 Legal Implications including Data Protection**

- 5.2.1 In carrying out scrutiny reviews the Council is exercising its scrutiny powers as laid out in s.21 of the Local Government Act 2000 and subsequent legislation which added/amended these powers e.g. the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
- 5.2.2 The Council has a statutory duty under s.149 Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity and to eliminate discrimination. The efficient provision of disability adaptations supports this duty and delivers positive outcomes for disabled people of all ages and for carers.

#### **5.3 Human Resources Implications**

- 5.3.1 .None from this report.

### **6 Recommendations**

- 6.1 That the Executive endorses the recommendation of the review:

**That Scrutiny Members continue to monitor performance against Corporate Plan target C10: To carry out 300 disability adaptations to council houses each year.**

- 6.2 That monitoring of this recommendation by Committee will take place via the Quarterly Performance Reports.

## 7 Decision Information

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| <b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b><br>A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:<br>BDC:      Revenue - £75,000 <input type="checkbox"/><br>Capital - £150,000 <input type="checkbox"/><br>NEDDC:   Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/><br>Capital - £250,000 <input type="checkbox"/><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please indicate which threshold applies | No  |
| <b>Is the decision subject to Call-In?</b><br>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)  | No  |
| <b>District Wards Affected</b>   | All where there is provision of council housing   |
| <b>Links to Corporate Plan priorities or Policy Framework</b>  | Aim: Providing Our Customers with Excellent Service<br><br>Priority: Supporting vulnerable and disadvantaged people |

## 8 Document Information

| Appendix No   | Title  |                       |
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| 1.  | Review of Disability Adaptations to Council Properties |                       |
| <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)  |  |                       |
| See section 7 within Appendix 1. Documents stored in:<br>S:\Governance and Monitoring\Scrutiny BDC\RES\Customer Service and Transformation Scrutiny Committee\2017-18 Work\Disabled Adaptations<br><br>Please contact Scrutiny & Elections Officer where further information is required. |  |                       |
| <b>Report Author</b>  |  | <b>Contact Number</b> |
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