

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET MEETING
24TH AUGUST 2006

Arrangements for the Award of Financial Support for Affordable Housing through the Capital Strategy

OPEN	
COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME	Improved Health and Wellbeing
CORPORATE PLAN THEME:	Enabling Community Wellbeing
KEY PRIORITY:	Housing and Independent Living
CABINET MEMBER:	Councillor Anne Hingley
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Head of Planning, Health and Environment
CONTACT OFFICER:	Gordon Wilkes, Principal Housing Officer Ext 2561 Gordon.Wilkes@wyreforestdc.gov.uk
APPENDICES	Appendix 1 - Bid for funding for Affordable Housing through the Capital Strategy summary sheet

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To propose new arrangements for the Council to evaluate bids for financial support through the Capital Strategy following the introduction of the Service Policy Panel and abolition of the Housing, Health and Rural Affairs Policy and Scrutiny Panel.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is asked to DECIDE:

- 2.1 **Authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Planning, Health and Environment to determine applications for the award of financial support for affordable housing through the Council's capital strategy following consideration and recommendation by the Service Policy Panel.**
- 2.2 **Should the Cabinet Member for Planning, Health and Environment disagree with a recommendation of the Service Policy Panel, the matter be referred to Cabinet for a final decision.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 New arrangements need to be put in place to enable the Service Policy Panel to evaluate schemes which are submitted by Partner Registered Social Landlords (RSL's). This function was previously carried out by the Housing, Health and Rural Affairs Policy and Scrutiny Panel and it is proposed that the existing procedure is transposed from this former Panel to the Service Policy Panel without any further changes.

4. PROCEDURE FOR THE ALLOCATION OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- 4.1 Bid details with a recommendation by the Head of Planning, Health and Environment are forwarded to the Cabinet Member for Planning Health and Environment on a summary sheet (see Appendix 1 entitled Bid for funding for Affordable Housing through the Capital Strategy) for consideration by the Service Policy Panel (formerly for consideration by the Housing, Health and Rural Affairs Policy and Scrutiny Panel). The Recommendation of the Service Policy Panel will inform the decision of the Cabinet Member for Planning, Health and Environment.
- 4.2 The Cabinet Member already has delegated authority to make decisions on the allocation of financial support for affordable housing through the Council's capital strategy, following consideration of the Panel's recommendation. Should the Cabinet Member disagree with the Panel's recommendation, the matter would be referred to the Cabinet for a decision.
- 4.3 No other changes to the existing policy or criteria for the evaluation and assessment of bids are proposed at this time.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The funding of bids is made from the existing single housing capital pot.

6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report. The only Policy implication follows the introduction of the Service Policy Panel and abolition of the previous panel authorised to make recommendations in the assessment of the bids.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 There are no risk management issues arising from this report.

8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1 The proposed new arrangements will enable decisions to be reached following the introduction of the Service Policy Panel in order to support and enable affordable housing to be developed in the District.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 Housing Strategy 2004 – 2007

27.07.06

Wyre Forest District Council

Bid for funding for Affordable Housing through the Capital Strategy
Planning, Health & Environment Division

Date			
Partner RSL			
Scheme address			
Details of units	No of units	No of beds	m ²
Tenure			
Rent levels	£ per week for a bed house/flat/bungalow		
Council's nomination arrangements for the scheme			
Scheme within TCI			
Details of bids to the Housing Corporation of other funders and the outcome			
Is this bid for joint funding? If so please provide details.			
Grant Required	£		
What is the Planning status of the scheme – is it			

deliverable?	
Proposed development timetable. Purchase, start on site, completion	
Information to support the bid (eg sustainability, community safety, supported housing)	
Recommendation of the Service Policy Panel	Accept / Reject
<i>Cabinet Member, Planning Health and Environment decision</i>	
<i>Accept / Reject</i> <i>Delete as appropriate</i>	
<i>Decision :</i>	
<i>Reason for Decision :</i>	
<i>Signed</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>Councillor Mrs A.T.Hingley</i>	