

Cabinet

16 July 2014

Housing Stock Transfer – Outcomes of Formal Consultation Stage 1



Key Decision R&ED/07/14

Report of Corporate Management Team

**Ian Thompson, Corporate Director Regeneration and Economic
Development**

Councillor Neil Foster, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Regeneration

Don McLure, Corporate Director of Resources

Councillor Alan Napier, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Resources

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To advise Cabinet that a detailed report on the outcomes of the first stage of formal consultation on the council's transfer proposal will be available on the 16 July 2014.

Background

- 2 In June 2014 the council started formal consultation with all of its secure and introductory tenants on its proposal to transfer ownership and management of its homes to Dale & Valley Homes, Durham City Homes and East Durham Homes via the County Durham Housing Group Limited.
- 3 The formal consultation was undertaken in line with Schedule 3A of the Housing Act 1985. In accordance with the guidance, the first stage of the formal consultation included the delivery of a package of information on its proposals to all council tenants. The package included a copy of the Offer Document (which sets out the council's transfer proposals and implications for tenants should the transfer go ahead); a DVD (one per household); an easy read guide to the Offer Document; and a covering letter.
- 4 Schedule 3A of the Housing Act 1985 requires the council to allow tenants 28 days (from the delivery of the Offer Document) to make their representations on the proposal. The council is then required use the representations made and the findings of the first stage of consultation to decide if any changes are required to the offers it has made to tenants as part of the transfer proposal; and whether or not to move to a ballot of all secure and introductory tenants.

- 5 The representation period ended at midday on 7 July 2014. As the date for making representations closed only the day before the publication of Cabinet reports it is not possible to file a detailed report for Cabinet's consideration at this stage. However a detailed report setting out the outcomes of the first stage of consultation will be available to Cabinet by 16 July 2014.

Recommendations and reasons

- 6 That Cabinet consider the proposals and recommendations made in detail on the 16 July 2014.

Background papers

Cabinet Report – 7 May 2014

Cabinet Report – 30 October 2013

Cabinet Report – 12 December 2012

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance -

To be addressed as appropriate in the detailed report

Staffing –

To be addressed as appropriate in the detailed report

Risk –

To be addressed as appropriate in the detailed report

Equality and Diversity -

To be addressed as appropriate in the detailed report

Accommodation –

To be addressed as appropriate in the detailed report

Crime and Disorder –

To be addressed as appropriate in the detailed report

Human Rights –

To be addressed as appropriate in the detailed report

Consultation –

To be addressed as appropriate in the detailed report

Procurement –

To be addressed as appropriate in the detailed report

Disability Issues –

To be addressed as appropriate in the detailed report

Legal Implications –

To be addressed as appropriate in the detailed report