

**ALLOCATIONS CHALLENGE DAY  
FEEDBACK MEETING FRIDAY 17<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2010**

YOU SAID.....	WE DID.....	Result	Do you agree? Yes/No
Timescale for processing an application should be 15 working days.	It is proposed that the 10 day target remains but that it begins once all documentation is received. (Page 13 section 12.1)		
Where an applicant is renting in the private sector they should be considered for housing not just placed in C Band as “adequately housed” as they might not be able to afford to live there.	The proposed new policy includes additional statements on affordability relating to those applicants in the private sector at 13.5.2, 14.8.1 and 14.9.1 (Page 15 onwards)		
Look at an incentive scheme to encourage tenants to move out of properties which are too large for their needs.	There is priority already within the policy. Promotional work will be done through Housing news and other forums to encourage tenants in larger properties to consider down sizing. (Page 17 section 14.8.1)		
When major disabled adaptations have been done and the person needing those adaptations is no longer living in the property (i.e. they have gone into full time residential care or they have died), the spouse/partner is asked to move out to allow someone who needs those adaptations to have them.	The allocations policy allows priority to be given to those who wish to move because the adaptations are no longer needed. The legal option of possession is also already available. Therefore it was agreed that this should be dealt with on a case by case basis. Consideration will be given to the age of the tenant, their future needs and the scale of the adaptations. (Page 18 section 14.8.1)		
Priority for a move to a particular locality should apply to both B Band as well as the A Band.	The proposed new draft policy gives priority for the need to move to a particular locality to both A and B Bands. (Page 19 section 14.9.1)		
Review all applications in the Emergency Band regularly.	The proposed new policy states that all applications given Emergency Banding will be reviewed every 8 weeks to ensure that they still need that level of priority. (Page 20 section 14.12.2)		
More information about the advertised property is needed on the advert.	The proposed new draft policy states that the adverts for properties will contain all the information we hold on the property, including size, location, local facilities and a photo of the property concerned. (Page 24 section 18.5.1)		
Think about where adverts are placed; what is the cost, how many prospective applicants does it reach and how many use it as a way of bidding for properties?	The proposed new policy states that we will advertise properties on line and in the Civic Offices. Few prospective applicants receive the free paper in which the properties have		

	<p>been advertised (the cost of the advert is £194.51 per week); only 49 applicants have used the telephone to place a bid for a property or check their position on the register in the last 12 months (the cost of having this service is £5,800 per year). It was agreed to stop the telephone bidding process and to seek to renegotiate the price for the newspaper advert to ensure we are receiving value for money. (Page 24 sections 18.5.2 &amp;19.1)</p>		
<p>Each quarter publicise information on allocations, number of properties let, in which Band, type of property and number of applications received.</p>	<p>The proposed new policy has a section covering the publication of performance information on allocations, including the ratios of allocations across the Bands. The Tenants' Scrutiny panel will also review performance in this area.(Page 26 section 20.9)</p>		
<p>Allow those with a 1 bedroom need to bid on 2 bedroom properties.</p>	<p>This will require an upgrade to the allocations system, the cost is not known. If it is cost effective to do, the system will be amended to allow those with a 1 bedroom need to bid on 2 bedroom properties. However priority in allocation will be given to those who have a 2 bedroom need.</p>		

**KEY:**  **Included in the proposed new policy**