REPORT TO: HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AGENDA ITEM: 9

**SERVICES COMMITTEE** 

DATE OF APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup> 2009 CATEGORY:

MEETING: RECOMMENDED

REPORT FROM: MARK ALFLAT – DIRECTOR OF OPEN

COMMUNITY SERVICES

MEMBERS' KAREN TALBOT X 5797 DOC:

**CONTACT POINT:** 

SUBJECT: SUPPORTING PEOPLE CHARGES - REF:

SHELTERED HOUSING

WARD(S) ALL TERMS OF HCS01

AFFECTED: REFERENCE:

## 1.0 Recommendations

1.1 That the proposed increase to the Supporting People charge for the provision of housing related support to our sheltered housing tenants is considered and referred to the Finance and Management Committee for approval.

## 2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 To advise Members of an increase in funding proposed by Derbyshire County Council as the Administering Authority for Derbyshire Supporting People services.

## 3.0 Detail

- 3.1 Members will be aware that since 2002 the support provided to the Council's sheltered housing tenants is commissioned and part funded by the countywide Supporting People program.
- 3.2 For our tenants this means that currently a weekly support charge of £9.42 is charged to them in addition to their weekly rent, to cover costs associated with provision of sheltered housing support. For those in receipt of benefits or on a low income, a financial assessment is carried out and Supporting People cover the charge for these tenants.
- 3.3 On April 14<sup>th</sup> 2009 the Council was advised that it has been granted an inflationary increase of 2.5% increasing the weekly charge to £9.66 per week. This will be applicable from June 1<sup>st</sup> 2009, allowing time for Members to consider this increase, for approval at Finance and Management Committee and for sheltered housing tenants to be given 4 weeks notice of variation as is required under section 103 (4) of the Housing Act 1985.
- 3.4 The actual cost to the Housing Revenue Account to provide this service is £12.78 per property, per week. Therefore Members approval that this report be referred to

Finance and Management Committee will help to bridge the gap between cost and income for sheltered housing support service provision.

## 4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 The increase of 2.5% from June  $1^{\rm st}$  2009 will give additional income of £10,805 during 2009/10.