

# CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

## Portfolio Holders Report May 2016

**REPORT AUTHOR:** County Councillor Rosemarie Harries, Portfolio Holder for Property, Buildings & Housing  
County Councillor Avril York, Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Planning

**SUBJECT:** Common Allocations Scheme - Policy Statement correction.

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**REPORT FOR:** Information

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### 1 Summary

- 1.1 On the 20<sup>th</sup> October 2015 Cabinet approved changes to the Council's Allocations Scheme – Policy Statement and in particular inclusion and clarification relating to unacceptable behaviour in accordance with the revised code of guidance from Welsh Government and latest legal advice received.
- 1.2 Attached to the Cabinet report was a copy of the draft revised policy statement which was subsequently published on the Council's internet pages. Unfortunately it was noted by the Common Housing Register Working Group that the wording relating to unacceptable behaviour in the draft policy published was incorrect and did not reflect the changes intended in the report. This is shown on page 2 of annexe 1
- 1.3 This report seeks approval for the revised and corrected policy, and recommends that this replaces the incorrect version on the council's internet pages.
- 1.4 A copy of the corrected "Common Allocations Scheme - Policy Statement" is attached (Annex 2). The corrected form of wording is on page 2.

### 2 Proposal

- 2.1 That the correct version of Common Allocations Scheme – Policy Statement is now published on the Council's internet site, which is compliant with the latest code of guidance and legal advice.

### 3 One Powys Plan

- 3.1 The allocations scheme promotes collective responsibility towards those in housing need in Powys. It promotes joint working and will deliver a better, more efficient service to Powys citizens and service users and challenges the traditional models of delivering services, particularly in relation to those who are homeless or threatened with homelessness and areas of pre-tenancy work.

#### **4 Preferred Choice and Reasons**

- 4.1 That the corrected version of the policy is published on the council's website, which ensures that the policy is compliant with the latest legal advice received and the revised Code of Guidance issued by Welsh Government in April 2015.

#### **5 Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder,/Welsh Language/Other Policies etc**

- 5.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment was undertaken with regard to the scheme introduced in November 2014 and the amended policy ensured compliance with the new code of guidance and legal advice received. The assessment undertaken previously is still valid.

#### **6 Local Member(s)**

- 6.1 The policy will have an equal impact across the County.

#### **7 Other Front Line Services**

- 7.1 The policy will have no impact on other services.

#### **8 Support Services (Legal, Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)**

- 8.1 Finance – The Finance Business Partner “notes the content of the report and supports the amendments to the policy to ensure compliance with the code of guidance issued by Welsh Government and the relevant legislation.”
- 8.2 Legal – The Professional Lead states “the approach to the change of policy and the recommendation suggested in the report is sound from a legal service point of view.”

#### **9 Local Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc**

- 9.1 No impact.

#### **10 Communications**

- 10.1 The correct policy statement has been inserted on the Councils website and the service received no comments from external organisations or housing applicants regarding the incorrectly worded policy.

#### **11 Statutory Officers**

- 11.1 The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) has commented as follows: “ I note the legal comment and have nothing to add to the report.
- 11.2 The Strategic Director Resources (S151 Officer) notes the contents of the report.

<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>Reason for Recommendation:</b>
<p>1. That a corrected version of the Common Allocations Scheme as set out in Annex 2 to the report is approved.</p> <p>2. That the revised and corrected version of the Policy Statement is to be made available on the Councils website.</p>	To ensure that the policy is compliant with the code of guidance issued by Welsh Government and the relevant legislation.

<b>Relevant Policy (ies):</b>	Common Allocations Scheme		
<b>Within Policy:</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Within Budget:</b>	<b>Y</b>

<b>Relevant Local Member(s):</b>	<b>All</b>
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<b>Person(s) To Implement Decision:</b>	<b>Dafydd Evans</b>
<b>Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:</b>	<b>February 2016</b>

<b>Contact Officer Name:</b>	<b>Tel:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>Email:</b>
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**Background Papers used to prepare Report:**  
**Cabinet report 20<sup>th</sup> October 2015 - Common Allocations Scheme - Policy Statement amendments and Powys Common Allocation Scheme and Homelessness Partnership Agreement.**



Annexe 1.pdf

**Annex 1 -**



Annexe 2.pdf

**Annexe 2 -**