

Appendix to Older Persons Services review report for Executive Board 20th February 2006.

The following is the list of recommendations from Housing Scrutiny Committee, which met on the 25th January 2006 with comments from the report author.

- (a) That tenants are consulted and engaged with as soon as possible to alleviate any fears/concerns that they might have; *A letter has been prepared to go out to all residents. This will be followed up by meetings on each site to discuss the results of the review on particular schemes. (FB)*
- (b) That an Option Appraisal Team be established similar to the Stock Options Appraisal Team, to engage with all interested/affected parties; *The idea to involve residents from the start of the options appraisal process is welcomed by officers and will be implemented. (FB)*
- (c) That the sensitive nature of any possible decants and rehousing should be taken into account; *The elderly services team is very experienced in decanting and rehousing sheltered housing residents following the refurbishment projects already undertaken. Care will be taken to meet resident's requirements. (FB)*
- (d) That it should be recognised that tenants of a similar age range in many cases wished to be housed together as this provided them with support and security; *The report recognises the importance of designated elderly housing and makes recommendations to increase the minimum age limit to 55 in order to ensure this housing caters for older people who make the choice to live with other older people. (FB)*
- (e) That Estate Management is also an issue that needs to be addressed as part of the review; *The council recognises that older peoples housing can be affected by anti social behaviour issues. The report also recognises the potential risk of creating unbalanced communities where schemes are de-designated. Both areas will be addressed through the support planning process, through the use of local lettings plans should this be thought necessary and through the usual anti social behaviour procedures (FB)*
- (f) That it agrees that an appraisal and pilot de-designation of the units listed in Section 7 and appendix 4 of the report goes ahead in line with the suggested procedure and taking into account the recommendations above;
- (g) That the minimum age limit for housing remaining as designated to older people is raised to 55 years;
- (h) That the City Councils policy on housing owner-occupiers be better publicised and staff given clearer guidelines on implementing this.

