

## **Consultation on Barnet Council's revised housing allocations policy**

### **Appendix 4**

#### **Housing Allocations Scheme and Placements Policy Consultation Plan**

##### **Overview**

The Housing Allocations Scheme has been reviewed and it is proposed that the following amendments are made:

- Replacement of two reasonable offers of accommodation with one reasonable offer of accommodation
- The introduction of a placements policy which clarifies the issues that the Council will consider when making offers of suitable accommodation that households are able to afford
- Other minor changes as summarised in Appendix 1

##### **How we intend to consult**

We are keen to receive views from both tenants and stakeholders and housing association partners on our proposals and our consultation will include the following:

- Information on the council's and the Barnet Homes website giving details of the changes and how to respond to the consultation
- Emails to stakeholder organisations, including Housing Associations operating in the borough, advising them of the consultation, where to get information, and how to respond
- Online survey
- Presentations to Barnet Housing Association Liaison Group
- Presentations to the Barnet Homes Hub and Performance and Advisory Group
- Presentation to Barnet Housing Forum where a wide range of support agencies and other housing stakeholders are invited
- Focus group of residents and housing applicants.

##### **How will we ensure a wide range of people are consulted, including hard to reach group**

We are consulting widely using a list of nearly 1,000 people and organisations. We will engage early with Community Barnet and its various forums, Disability Action in Barnet and the various partnership forums and provider panels run by Adult Social Services and Children Service.

We will be undertaking a comprehensive Equalities Impacts Assessment of the changes to the Housing Allocations Scheme.

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### **How will we take into account responses to the consultation?**

Responses to the consultation will be reviewed and the draft allocations scheme and placements policy will be amended as necessary. A summary of the responses received and how these have been addressed will be included in a report to the Council's Cabinet Committee along with recommendations for a final scheme.

### **Timetable**

The consultation will take place during June and July 2013.

The final policy will be recommended to Cabinet in September 2013.