

## COMMUNITY & SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

21 SEPTEMBER 2011

### HEAD OF COMMUNITIES & NEIGHBOURHOODS

#### A NEW MANDATORY POWER OF POSSESSION FOR ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR CONSULTATION PAPER

##### 1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek members views on the 'A new mandatory power of possession for anti-social behaviour' consultation paper.

##### 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1.1 Members comment and delegate to the Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods in consultation with the Chair of Community & Social Affairs Committee to respond to the consultation paper.

##### 3.0 KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 On 3 August the Department for Communities & Local Government issued the consultation document 'A new mandatory power of possession for anti-social behaviour'. The consultation document is attached as appendix A
- 3.2 The consultation seeks views on the detail and practicalities of a new mandatory power of possession to enable landlords to take swifter action to evict their most anti-social tenants.
- 3.3 On 15 August 2011, the Minister for Housing and Local Government, Grant Shapps MP, wrote to all stock holding local authorities that due to the recent looting and rioting across England, the government were extending the Social Landlords' power to seek possession for criminality and anti-social behaviour. The letter and the extension is attached in Appendix B
- 3.4 The key change is that the proposal seeks to extend criminal behaviour beyond the immediate neighbourhood of the property, so that criminal behaviour in someone else's community will allow social landlords the same scope to take action..

##### 4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The consultation specifically covers the following priorities within the council's corporate plan:
- Improving the well-being of vulnerable people
  - Improve quality of life for people living in the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods
  - Help provide a stock of housing accommodation that meets the needs of the community
  - Reduce re-offending and the impact of offending on the community
  - Increasing public confidence & pride in neighbourhoods

**5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 No direct financial implications have been identified in this report.

**6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS**

6.1 No legal direct legal implications have been identified in this report.

**7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY**

7.1 No direct implications have been identified in their report, although clearly the consultation document seeks to tackle criminality and anti-social behaviour.

**8.0 EQUALITIES**

8.1 The consultation document will be subject to its normal impact assessment.

**9.0 RISKS**

9.1 The risks are considered in the table below:

**Probability**



Very High A				
High B				
Significant C				
Low D	1			
Very Low E				
Almost Impossible F				
	IV Neg- ligible	III Marg- inal	II Critical	I Catast- rophic

**Impact**



Risk No.	Description
1	We do not provide a response to the consultation
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	

**10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE**

10.1 There are no climate change issues directly arising from this report.

**11.0 CONSULTATIONS**

11.1 The document is subject to consultation and the Housing Landlord Services Task group has also been consulted on this document. The closing date for consultation is Monday 7 November 2011.

**12.0 WARDS AFFECTED**

12.1 All wards are affected.

Contact Officer: H Rai

Date: 5 September 2011

Appendices: A A new mandatory power of possession for anti-social behaviour.

B Letter from Minister for Housing and Local Government. (15<sup>th</sup> August 2011)

Background Papers: None

Reference: X: C'tees, Council & Sub-C'tees/CSA/210911/HR –A new mandatory power of possession for anti-social behaviour