

NOTICE OF MEETING

CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING – DECISION MEETING

TUESDAY 9 APRIL 2013 AT 4.00 PM

EXECUTIVE MEETING ROOM, FLOOR 3, THE GUILDHALL, PORTSMOUTH

Telephone enquiries to Joanne Wildsmith, Customer, Community & Democratic Services on 023 9283 4057.

Email: joanne.wildsmith@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Membership

Cabinet Member - Councillor Steven Wylie

Opposition Spokespersons – Councillors David Horne & Steve Wemyss

(NB This Agenda should be retained for future reference with the Minutes of this meeting.)

Please note that the agenda, minutes and non-exempt reports are available to view online on the Portsmouth City Council website: www.portsmouth.gov.uk

Deputations by members of the public may be made on any item where a decision is going to be taken. The request needs to be made in writing to the contact officer (above) by 12 noon of the working day before the meeting, and must include the purpose of the deputation (for example, for or against the recommendations). Email requests are accepted.

AGENDA

1 Declarations of Members' Interests

2 Housing Allocation Policy

... The attached report by the Head of Housing Management seeks approval for changes to the Council's Allocations policy in the light of new DCLG guidance and the Localism Act 2011.

RECOMMENDED (1) that the Cabinet Member for Housing approves the revised allocations policy that includes the amendments detailed below:

- a) That the policy is amended to ensure members of the **Armed Forces** and the **Reserve Forces** will **not** be disqualified as applicants for accommodation because they do not have a local connection with PCC's districts.
- b) That the policy is amended to give **additional** preference to members of the **Armed and Reserve Forces** who fall within one or more of the reasonable preference categories and who have urgent housing needs.
- c) That the policy is amended to introduce a **Local connection criteria**, defined below.
- Anyone resident in Portsmouth (PO1 – PO6 postcodes)
 - Ex-Portsmouth residents, who have previously lived in the city for five continuous years or more of their adult life.
 - Close family members of Portsmouth residents who have lived in the city for five years or more, who wish to move to the area to give or receive support.
 - Anyone with permanent full time employment in Portsmouth.
 - Anyone resident in the Havant Borough Council areas (PO7 - PO9 postcodes). Havant residents will only be eligible to be considered for council owned properties in the Havant area i.e. the Leigh Park, Crookhorn, or Wecock Farm estates.
- (d) That the policy is amended to give **additional preference to Portsmouth residents** who have been living in the city for 2 successive years or more.
- (e) That the policy is amended to include the following **changes to the banding scheme**.
- Additional priority for all social housing tenants who are under occupying a property.
 - No additional priority is awarded for living in shared accommodation.
 - No additional priority is awarded to applicants who fall within more than one reasonable preference category.
- (f) That **quiet blocks** are removed from the list of properties designated for specific categories of applicants and replaced by **over 50** blocks.
- (2)** That the Cabinet member for Housing approves the implementation of the revised allocation policy **for both new applicants and current applicants** registered on the waiting list.