

EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2 FEBRUARY 2012

**80. SELECTIVE HMO LICENSING - ITEM REFERRED BY CABINET**

Consideration was given to the report of the Borough Solicitor advising of a decision by Cabinet at its meeting on 17 January 2011 to refer the above item to this Committee for consideration and that any agreed comments be referred to Cabinet for consideration on 13 March 2012.

The Homelessness and Private Sector Housing Manager was in attendance and at the invitation of the Chairman explained the purpose of the accreditation scheme which aimed to raise standards in the private rented sector. She stated that a launch event with landlords is planned for 28 February 2012.

In discussion comments questions were raised in respect of the following:

- The application of the proposed selective licensing scheme.
- The optional rather than mandatory registration into the scheme.
- The mechanisms currently available to tenants where accommodation is sub-standard.
- The availability of information packs for private sector tenants.
- Publicity for and promotion of the scheme and accredited landlords.
- Operation of an accreditation scheme.

RESOLVED: That the report of Assistant Director Community Service on Selective HMO Licensing be noted.

(Note:

1. Councillor Griffiths, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest, left the Chamber during discussion of this item.
2. Councillor Westley (Portfolio Holder – Resources and Transformation) left the Chamber during consideration of this item.
3. Councillor Baldock left the meeting at the end of this item.)