

**MINUTE OF LANDLORD SERVICES COMMITTEE (CABINET WORKING GROUP)
– 5 JANUARY 2017**

30 GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON FUNDING FOR SUPPORTED HOUSING

Consideration was given to the draft report of the Director of Housing and Inclusion that gave details of a proposed response (Appendix B) to the Government Consultation paper on Funding for Supported Housing, attached at Appendix A.

In discussion comments and questions were raised in relation to:

- Universal Credit (UC) and Social Housing – long term impact.
- Welfare payments and the LHA rate / cap.
- Protection of vulnerable groups – an assurance that no-one will be homeless or placed in unsuitable accommodation.
- Protecting existing tenants and accommodation provision.
- Timescale proposed for implementation of the changes / introduction of new scheme.
- Cost of the “service” – seeking guarantees in respect of on-going funding levels to administer/ impact for LA budgets.
- Division of “housing” responsibilities – higher-tier (LCC) and Borough Council.

The Director of Housing and Inclusion responded to questions and provided clarification on issues raised relating to the proposed reform to the funding of supported housing, referring to detail as set down in her proposed response and consultation paper.

Members asked that the tone of the response be direct, with the request that the proposals be trialled on a “voluntary” or be implemented on a staged basis.

It was requested that, when finalised, a copy of the Council’s response, be circulated to all Members of the Council.

RESOLVED: As a consequence of the discussion on this item, it was agreed the comment to Cabinet be:

“that the response at Appendix B, when finalised, be sent by the Director of Housing and Inclusion as the Council’s response and a copy be circulated to all Members of the Council.”