

CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION - DELEGATION TO THE HEAD OF HOUSING AND PROPERTY SERVICES

Cabinet Member Cllr P H D Hare Scott
Responsible Officer Monitoring Officer

Reason for Report: To consider a recommendation from the Constitution Working Group with regard to the Constitution being amended to delegate additional authority to the Head of Housing and Property Services

RECOMMENDATION(S): That the Constitution be amended to include that: “authority in consultation with appropriate Cabinet Member to acquire sites and affordable housing units for the continued provision of affordable housing in the District within available budgets” be approved by Council.

Relationship to Corporate Plan: This relates to the corporate governance of the Council and therefore is supporting all priorities of the Corporate Plan.

Financial Implications: None

Legal Implications: None

Risk Assessment: None

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Cabinet at its meeting on 28 November made a recommendation to Full Council requesting that the Head of Housing and Property Services be given delegated authority in consultation with the Cabinet Member to acquire sites and affordable housing units for the continued provision of affordable housing in the District.
- 1.2 Full Council at its meeting on 18 December 2013 approved this recommendation; however Members raised concerns regarding the financial implications. The additional delegation to the Head of Housing and Property Services requires an amendment to the Constitution and therefore the Constitution Working Group were asked to consider the approved recommendation at its meeting on 13 January 2014 and put forward some additional wording to be added to the Constitution for approval to allay concerns.
- 1.3 Appendix 1 to this report outlines the additional delegation within the Constitution.

Contact for more Information: Amy Tregellas (Monitoring Officer) 01884 234246

Circulation of the Report: Standards Committee

List of Background Papers: Cabinet Report 28 November 2013 - Minute 82
<http://www.middevon.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=10088>

Council Minutes 18 December 2013:
<http://www.middevon.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=10124>

HOUSING	
Authority to manage the housing stock including the replacement of existing Woolaway and Airey type houses and the updating of Cornish Unit properties	Head of Housing and Property
Authority to maintain and improve the housing stock	Head of Housing and Property
‘Enabling role’ – to act as a catalyst between landowners, private sector builders, housing associations and other agencies to ensure the continued provision of affordable housing in the District	Head of Housing and Property
The letting of properties and all matters incidental thereto including the collection of rents and recovery of possession	Head of Housing and Property
Authority in consultation with appropriate Cabinet Member to acquire sites and affordable housing units for the continued provision of affordable housing in the District within available budgets	Head of Housing and Property
To provide a warden service	Head of Housing and Property
To deal with issues relating to the Central Alarm System (Piper Life Line)	Head of Housing and Property
To liaise with tenants including tenant participation	Head of Housing and Property
Authority to act in respect of unlawful eviction/harassment	Head of Housing and Property
Housing Advances	Head of Finance
Rent Rebates (Housing Benefit)	Head of Housing and Property

Sale of Council Houses	Head of Housing and Property
Authority to Repurchase former Council Houses	Head of Housing and Property
Council Shops	Head of Housing and Property