

Ref:

Called in

Yes/No

**THE THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**RECORD OF DECISION OF CABINET**

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cllr David Green

Relevant Portfolio:

Housing

Date of Decision:

Thursday, 14 November 2013

Subject:

Notices of Motion 1 & 2:-Housing Benefit Social Rented Size Criteria

Key Decision

In Forward Plan

Brief summary of matter:

To consider options with regard to the SRSC and the Councils approach to dealing with the issue.

Decision made:

Cabinet agreed the following:

1. To remove 25% of all allocations within the Council's own housing stock and make them direct lets to tenants who wish to move and are affected by the SRSC;
2. To not take any legal action against any tenant for non-payment of their rent if they are affected by the SRSC until two direct offers of appropriate accommodation have been offered to them;
3. That the client officer continues to monitor legal action taken by EKH against people affected by the SRSC to ensure fairness and all appropriate assistance has been offered.

Reasons for decision:

To ensure that Thanet District Council works with and supports people affected by the bedroom tax to ensure that vulnerable people are protected by the effects of Single Room Size Criteria.

Alternatives considered and why rejected:

To not make any provision for people affected by the Single Room Size Criteria and to take legal action against anyone who fails to pay their rent.

This will cause hardship for residents and no support will have been offered to mitigate the problem.

Details of any conflict of interest declared by any executive Member who has been consulted and of any dispensation granted by the Standards Committee:

None

Author of Officer report:

Craig George, Housing Services Manager

Background papers

Notices of Motion 1 & 2:-Housing Benefit Social Rented Size Criteria

Statement if decision is an urgent one and therefore not subject to call-in:

None

Last date for call in: 22 November 2013