

DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES - CLLR JOHN THOMSON

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

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REFERENCE: **ACCH-002-11**

ACCH-002-11 - HOME LOAN SCHEME

Purpose of Report

To propose that Wiltshire Council adopts the Home Loans Scheme Policy (**Appendix A**) and new appendix (**Appendix B**) as part of the Private Sector Housing Renewal Strategy and Policy (**Appendix 1**).

Consultation

Full consultation was undertaken before the Private Sector Housing Renewal Strategy and Policy was adopted in 2009. This document makes reference to Wiltshire Council moving towards offering loan assistance as well as grants. At that time delegated authority was given to the portfolio holder for housing and the Service Director for Housing to decide the eligible works, eligibility of applicants and conditions.

Options Considered

Loans will be considered to help finance essential repairs and improvement including removing category 1 hazards and improving energy efficiency. Applicants will be considered for discretionary grants assistance first and the **Home Loans Scheme** will not affect the Council's statutory duty to provide disabled facilities grants.

Reason for Decision

The adoption of a **Home Loans Scheme** will offer the residents of Wiltshire, particularly those not eligible for grant funding, the option of taking a loan through the Council. This is in line with the Council's objective to improve the well-being and housing conditions of those living in the private sector, both owner occupied and privately rented.

INTENTION TO MAKE DECISION

Following consultation with officers I give notice that I intend to make the decision set out in the attached report. If you would like to make any representations to me on this issue please do so by 8th July, 2011.

The following supporting documents are attached:

ACCH-002-11 - Home Loans Scheme - Report

ACCH-002-11 - Home Loans Scheme - Appendix 1

ACCH-002-11 - Home Loans Scheme - Appendix A

ACCH-002-11 - Home Loans Scheme - Appendix B

Date: 30th June, 2011.....

Cllr John Thomson
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for
Community Services