

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Council</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Wednesday 28 November 2001</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Best Value Review of Housing Management (Part One: Housing Stock Options)</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Councillor Mrs Murray on behalf of the Cabinet.</b>
<p>The Council is asked to consider the Cabinet minute and resolutions from the meeting held on 31 October 2001. These are set out below.</p> <p>A copy of the report was circulated to all Members with the Cabinet agenda (item 7) to which reference should be made. Further copies are available on request – please see end of this report.</p> <p>The Council's Scrutiny Committee considered this matter at their meeting on 23 October 2001 (minute 15, page 232 refers).</p> <p>The proposal by Councillor Potter submitted to Council on 10 October 2001 was referred to Cabinet for consideration in conjunction with this matter. Please see the Cabinet's recommendation (3) below.</p>	
<p><b><u>The Council is recommended to:-</u></b></p> <p><b>(1) Approve the Cabinet's recommendations in respect of the future steps and further work to be undertaken for a Large Scale Voluntary Transfer (LSVT) of the Council's Housing Stock.</b></p> <p><b>(2) Agree the revised wording proposed by the Cabinet in respect of Councillor Potter's proposal as set out below.</b></p>	
<p><b>Minute Extract</b></p> <p><b>CABINET – 31 OCTOBER 2001</b></p>	
<p><b>*74</b></p>	<p><b>BEST VALUE REVIEW OF HOUSING MANAGEMENT (PART ONE: HOUSING STOCK OPTIONS).</b> Councillor Mrs Murray presented the report of the Acting Director of Housing, Health and Community Finance reporting upon the outcome of this Best Value Review. Councillor Elkin, who had chaired the Review Team, together with Mr Neil Fuller, Acting Director of Housing, Health and Community Finance, who had acted as Lead Officer to the Team, were invited to comment upon the review. Councillor Elkin expressed his thanks to tenant representatives and particularly James Riddington, to Councillor Parsons and to Neil Fuller and his team for the work undertaken in the review.</p> <p>The team had carefully looked at a wide range of options for the future of the housing stock and were unanimous in their recommendation that a large scale voluntary transfer (LSVT) of the stock to either a newly formed Eastbourne based housing association or an existing housing association offered the best approach. It would be necessary as a first</p>

understood the motive behind the request and would look further at this matter once the financial appraisal had been received..

(3) That in relation to the proposal referred by Council the wording be amended and that the Council be recommended to adopt the following:-

“This Council acknowledges the vital role that democratically accountable local authority housing plays in providing secure and stable accommodation for millions of people across Britain and specifically several thousand in Eastbourne.

“That having regard to the recent changes and proposals as outlined in paragraph 4.2. of the Acting Director’s report to Cabinet that an approach be made to the Secretary of State for Transport, Local Government and the Regions welcoming the proposed abolition of the current capital control system and seeking implementation at the earliest opportunity and seeking confirmation that the new capital regime will apply to the Housing Revenue Account that local authorities were able to borrow within affordable limits to fund capital repairs and improvements to their stock as well as to invest in much needed affordable homes.”

For a copy of the report please contact Democratic Services at the Town Hall, Eastbourne, BN21 4UG. Tel. (01323) 415022.		
E.Mail <a href="mailto:councillors@eastbourne.gov.uk">councillors@eastbourne.gov.uk</a>		
For further information please contact Neil Fuller, Acting Director of Housing, Health and Community Finance, Parker, at 68 Grove Road, Eastbourne. Tel. (01323) 415301 (or internally on extension 5301).		

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