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HOUSING APPEALS COMMITTEE

28th November 2005 - 10.00 am

PRESENT:

Councillors Ames (Chairman); Councillors Blyth, Cook, Cunniffe, Giles and Robinson.

Councillor Howard substituted for Councillor Cosaitis.

Mr G Devon (Area Housing Manager) and Ms J Gulliver (Member Services Assistant).

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th September 2005 were confirmed.

2. APPEAL AGAINST REFUSAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR A MUTUAL EXCHANGE

The Committee received the Area Housing Manager's report and other relevant documentation. Members were informed that the application had been refused in accordance with Council procedures for dealing with cases such as these and agreed that on this occasion, a 3 bed property was substantially more extensive than reasonably required by the family concerned and finally the decision that had been taken, was consistent with Homeselect policy.

Members considered the application but agreed that on this occasion to uphold the Area Housing Manager decision.

RESOLVED:

That the Area Housing Manager's decision to refuse the application for a mutual exchange be upheld.

3. APPEAL AGAINST REFUSAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR A MUTUAL EXCHANGE

The Committee received the Area Housing Manager's report and other relevant documentation. Councillor Weymouth made representation on behalf of one of the tenants and made the point that she had concerns over the decision that the Area Housing Manager had taken based on the health grounds of the applicant.

Councillor Weymouth left the room during deliberation.

Members of the Committee considered all of the evidence provided in the report and the submission by Councillor Weymouth but agreed that the decision that had been taken had been the correct one. The Chairman asked that the Area Housing Manager contact the

Homeselect Team with a view to placing the applicant on the housing register, thus enabling her to receive the necessary assistance.

Members subsequently decided to uphold the Area Housing Manager's decision, as it was in line with Council policy for dealing with cases such as these and agreed that on this occasion, the lady concerned would under occupy the two bedroom property.

RESOLVED:

(i). That the Area Housing Manager's decision to refuse the application for a mutual exchange be upheld.

(ii). That the Area Housing Manager contact the Homeselect Team to look into the possibility of the applicant going on to the housing register.

4. APPEAL AGAINST REFUSAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR A MUTUAL EXCHANGE

The Committee received the Area Housing Manager's report and other relevant documentation. The Area Housing Manager informed Members that he had received a letter of support for the exchange from the Children's Community Nursing Team based at Northgate Hospital.

Members were informed that the application had been refused on this occasion as the two bed property would be under-occupied by the applicant and also the decision was in accordance with Council procedures for dealing with cases such as these and was consistent with Homeselect policy.

Members considered the application but agreed that on this occasion to uphold the Area Housing Manager decision.

RESOLVED:

That the Area Housing Manager's decision to refuse the application for a mutual exchange be upheld.

5. APPEAL AGAINST REFUSAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR A MUTUAL EXCHANGE

The Committee received the Area Housing Manager's report and other relevant documentation. Members were informed that the application had been refused on this occasion as the both parties under-occupied the properties they intended to move to. The decision was in accordance with Council procedures for dealing with cases such as these and was also consistent with Homeselect policy.

Members considered the application but agreed that on this occasion to uphold the Area Housing Manager decision.

RESOLVED:

That the Area Housing Manager's decision to refuse the application for a mutual exchange be upheld.

6. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting ended at 10.30 am.