

Subject: Report of the Disabled Facilities
Task and Finish Group

Status: For Publication

Report to: The Cabinet

Date: 17th February 2011

Report of: Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Portfolio Holder: Regeneration

Key Decision No

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To recommend to Cabinet the decision of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee in respect of the Disabled Facilities Task and Finish Group.

2. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

2.1 The matters discussed in this report impact directly on the following corporate priorities:-

- Delivering quality Services to our customers
- Providing value for money services

3. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no specific risk issues for members to consider arising from this report.

4. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

4.1 In June 2010, as part of its Work Programme the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee agreed to establish a Task and Finish Group to look at the process for Disabled Facilities Grants.

4.2 The Task and Finish Group at its first meeting received an overview of the grants process and it was agreed to undertake a visit to St Vincent's Home Improvement Agency and to invite representatives from Burnley Borough Council, Lancashire County Council, East Lancashire Primary Care Trust and the Occupational Therapy Service to seek further information on their involvement in the grants process.

- 4.3 A report attached as **Appendix A** was produced and its findings were presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on 7 December 2010, when it was agreed that the report and its recommendations would be sent to the Cabinet and Lancashire County Council for consideration. A response from Lancashire County Council had been received and is attached as **Appendix B**.

COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:

5. SECTION 151 OFFICER

- 5.1 Financial implications are noted in the attached appendix.

6. MONITORING OFFICER

- 6.1 If recommendation 2 was acted upon then on completion of the works [or approval of the grant] a memo of notification should be sent to our Land Charges so they can put a Part 4 Charge on the Local Land Charges Register. On sale of the property the Part 4 Charge will show up on the Local Land Charges Search and the solicitor acting for the sellers should then arrange to pay the charge off. If the seller did not pay off the charge on completion of the sale the council could then issue debt proceedings.

7. HEAD OF PEOPLE AND POLICY (ON BEHALF OF THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE)

- 7.1 No HR Implications

8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1 That the Cabinet considers the report of the Task and Finish Group and the recommendations detailed within the report, taking into account the required timescales of recommendation 8.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 That Cabinet consider the recommendations within the report and respond to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, indicating what action is proposed, within two months.

10. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

N/A

11. COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- Is a Community Impact Assessment required No
- Is a Community Impact Assessment attached No

12. BIODIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Is a Biodiversity Impact Assessment required No

Is a Biodiversity Impact Assessment attached No

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