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10/047

## DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT REVIEW

The joint report of the Director of Health and Housing and the Cabinet Member for Housing provided an update on the waiting times for children's Occupational Therapist assessments and gave details of ongoing financial commitment to adaptation works from Russet Homes.

Members expressed concern at the continuing delays in children's cases receiving an Occupational Therapist assessment and the Director of Health and Housing offered to update Members following a planned further meeting with Kent County Council. The Board commended Russet Homes for their ongoing commitment to partnership working and expressed the hope that the draft Asset Management Delivery Plan (AMDP) would receive the support of the Russet Board. Details were given of an agreement reached by Kent Housing Group on adaptations in the social rented sector covering financial arrangements and levels of service. The report also provided an update on ongoing work with 'in touch' to improve the Disabled Facilities Grant process and gave details of the level of Disabled Facilities Grant spend in 2010/11. The Advisory Board requested that the Director of Health and Housing and the officers within the Housing Team be thanked for their considerable achievements within the Disabled Facilities Grant process.

### **RECOMMENDED:** That

- (1) the approach to monitoring of progress of children's Occupational Therapist assessments, as detailed in paragraph 1.1.5 of the report, be endorsed and the offer from Liz Totman, Head of Specialist Children's Services, Kent County Council, to attend a further meeting of the Advisory Board be accepted;
- (2) Russet Homes be commended for their proposed ongoing financial commitment to funding major adaptations for their tenants should this be approved by the Russet Homes' Board;
- (3) the proposal from the Kent Housing Group of a minimum funding commitment by Registered Social Landlords to funding of disabled adaptations be noted;
- (4) the ongoing discussions with 'in touch' with the aim of streamlining and speeding up the Disabled Facilities Grant process be noted; and
- (5) the possible overspend on the 2010/11 Disabled Facilities Grant budget be noted and the approach outlined in paragraph 1.5.3 of the report to help in controlling further spend be endorsed.

**\*Referred to Cabinet**