

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

30 March 2011

Report of the Chief Executive

Part 1- Public

Executive Non Key Decisions

1 RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM THE SCRUTINY REVIEW OF THE MEDICAL AND WELFARE ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR HOUSING APPLICANTS

To endorse the recommendation from the above review.

1.1 The Review

1.1.1 The Scrutiny Committee undertook a review of the medical and welfare assessment process for housing applicants at its meeting held on 8th March 2011. The following recommendations were agreed and were commended to the Cabinet for endorsement:

- 1) the conclusions of the review be accepted and the following actions be endorsed:
 - (i) that the Chief Housing Officer attend Medical and Welfare Panel meetings intermittently to better inform the review process in respect of welfare cases in accordance with stages two and three of the procedure as attached at Annex 1 to the Scrutiny Committee report;
 - (ii) that the medical and welfare assessment form be subject to a review using the Fog Index;
- (2) it be noted that refresher training for panel members had been scheduled to take place on 18 May 2011; and
- (3) a future report be submitted following an assessment of the Council's connectivity with other services in the housing and health fields.

1.2 Legal Implications

1.2.1 None

1.3 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

1.3.1 As set out in the review.

1.4 Risk Assessment

1.4.1 As set out in the review

1.5 Equality Impact Assessment

1.5.1 See 'Screening for equality impacts' table at end of report

1.6 Recommendations

1.6.1 That the above recommendations **BE ENDORSED**.

Background papers:

contact: Mark Raymond

Nil

David Hughes
Chief Executive

Screening for equality impacts:		
Question	Answer	Explanation of impacts
a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to cause adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the community?	No	Equalities issues have been addressed as part of this review.
b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper make a positive contribution to promoting equality?	Yes	Recommendations arising from the review seek to ensure that fair and equal decisions are made on all such medical and welfare cases
c. What steps are you taking to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above?		N/A

In submitting this report, the Chief Officer doing so is confirming that they have given due regard to the equality impacts of the decision being considered, as noted in the table above.