

**Item CH 16/13 referred from Communities and Housing Advisory Board
minutes of 25 July 2016**

CH 16/13 REVIEW OF HOUSING ASSISTANCE POLICY

The report of the Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health outlined the results of the recent review of the Housing Assistance Policy to ensure that it met corporate priorities and reflected current budgetary pressures. The report set out details of proposed amendments to the eligibility criteria and the level of budget provided by the Borough Council and made particular reference to the implications this would have on the administration of Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) by allowing the introduction of additional discretionary grants from the increase in funding for the DFG element of the Better Care Fund.

RECOMMENDED: That the Council be asked to

- (1) approve the proposed amendments to the Housing Assistance Policy and associated budget adjustments;
- (2) approve the proposed amendments to the Disabled Facilities Grants Policy and associated budget adjustments; and
- (3) agree that a budgetary provision of up to £10,000 be set aside in each of the next three years, fully funded from the Housing Assistance Reserve, in order to modernise the Housing Service.

* **Referred to Cabinet**