

Housing and Community Safety Select Committee

Review of the Development of Choice Based Lettings [CBL]

Update to Executive Scrutiny Committee – 21 November 2006

Update on Progress (including issues/problems/successes)

On 8 November, Members of the Committee undertook a site visit to Your Choice Homes, the Choice Based Lettings scheme for Newcastle.

This followed on from the visit to Erimus Homechoice and allowed the Committee to gain further experience of the operation of a choice based lettings scheme. Members were able to speak to and receive evidence from Barbara Healey (CBL Co-ordinator) and John Urwin (Your Choice Homes Manager). Julie Allport and Caroline Wood (SBC Housing) also attended. Members and officers agreed that the site visit was very useful in providing further context to the review; this was especially so due to Newcastle operating with an ALMO similar to Stockton.

A special meeting has been organised for 8 December in order to gain further evidence from Julia Kett, (Tees Valley Choice Based Lettings Co-ordinator).

Timescale for Review

The review is on schedule with a view to the final report being presented to Cabinet in March 2007.