

## **Scrutiny Review of Choice Based Lettings (CBL)**

### **Summary**

Members are requested to consider an overview of the current choice based lettings scheme, and the scope for the review.

### **Detail**

1. The Committee's first review for 2015-16 is to examine Choice Based Lettings.
2. Choice Based Lettings has been in operation since 2009 on a Tees Valley basis (the 'Compass' scheme). CBL is designed to give greater choice and transparency in the process of accessing social housing.
3. There has been considerable change to the housing market and policy situation since CBL's introduction and the Tees Valley partnership is reviewing the scheme. The Committee's views in relation to the current CBL scheme will be fed into the Tees Valley review.
4. Registered Housing Providers are experiencing varying demand for their housing stock at the same time as demand for private rented options is rising significantly. Varying demand is affecting the number of times a void property is offered to new tenants and the void-to-re-let timescales.
5. The Committee will be provided with the background and overview of the current scheme at the meeting. The following documents are attached:

**Appendix 1** - Draft Scope and Project Plan

**Appendix 2** - Tees Valley Choice Based Lettings Scheme - Cabinet Report (June 2008)

**Appendix 3** - Extract from Scrutiny Review of Choice Based Lettings – Final Report (2007)

**Appendix 4** - Extract from Safer Stockton Partnership report – Private Sector Rented Sector (June 2015)

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