

Agenda Item No: 5

Report to: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 30 March 2015

Report Title: The Review of the Hastings Houses in Multiple Occupation
Additional Licensing Scheme

Report By: Andrew Palmer
Head of Housing and Development

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present the review of the Additional Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs). The report demonstrates the continued success of the scheme and recommends that a further exit review is carried out in the final year of the scheme.

Recommendation(s)

- 1. That the success of the scheme is acknowledged and that a further exit review is carried out in the final year of the scheme.**

Reasons for Recommendations

The review demonstrates that licensing is working and achieving against the original objectives. However it is clear that more work is needed and therefore the review sets objectives for the scheme going forward and recommends that a further exit review is carried out in the final year of the scheme.

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1. On the 11 September 2011, the Hastings Borough Council introduced an Additional Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) Scheme. The scheme covers the four town centre wards of Gensing, Castle, Braybrooke and Central St Leonards. It requires landlords and freeholders operating HMOs in these wards to license their properties with the Council. The scheme lasts for five years, unless revoked earlier.
 2. The Housing Act 2004 requires Council's to review the scheme. If following a review the Council considers that the scheme has met its objectives or believes will not do so they may revoke the scheme.
 3. This review report (Appendix One) sets out how we have achieved against the review objectives set out in the original evidential report taken before Cabinet prior to the introduction of the scheme. The report also provides a financial review of the scheme at the time of the review and sets out a way forward.

Wards Affected

Braybrooke, Castle, Central St. Leonards

Area(s) Affected

Central Hastings, South St. Leonards

Policy Implications

Please identify if this report contains any implications for the following:

Equalities and Community Cohesiveness	No
Crime and Fear of Crime (Section 17)	No
Risk Management	No
Environmental Issues	No
Economic/Financial Implications	Yes
Human Rights Act	Yes
Organisational Consequences	Yes
Local People's Views	No

Background Information

The background evidential report taken before Cabinet prior to the introduction of the scheme

Appendices

1. Report on the review of the Hastings Houses in Multiple Occupation Additional Licensing Scheme.

Officer to Contact

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