

**Policy and Resources  
Committee  
18th March, 2009**

Agenda Item No **7**

Public Report

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**Private Sector Housing Policy 2008-2009**

<b>Item for Decision:</b>	To seek Member's agreement to extend the period covered by the existing Policy into 2009-2010
<b>Contributors</b>	Chief Executive
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Steve Duckett, Head of Public Health Services
<b>Financial Implications:</b>	2009/10 total budget £741,000, made up of Government grant £544,000, Capital Budget £171,000, Revenue Budget £26,000.
<b>Council Priorities:</b>	<a href="#">COM2</a> <a href="#">H&amp;H1</a> <a href="#">H&amp;H2</a> <a href="#">RES1</a>
<b>Recommendations:</b>	<b>It is RECOMMENDED that the period covered by the existing Private Sector Housing Policy 2008-2009 be extended into 2009-2010 until such time as a new Policy is approved by Members</b>

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**1. Applicable Lead Member Area(s)**

1.1 Health and Housing; Resources

**2. Crime and Disorder – Section 17 Implications**

2.1 The work carried out by Council's Home Improvement Agency, the Help and Care Handiperson scheme and the Safe and Secure Grant has a direct bearing on reducing fear of crime and ensuring the improved security of elderly, vulnerable people.

**3. Equalities Implications**

3.1 An EIA was carried out on the Private Sector Housing Policy for 2007/2008. This assessment has been reviewed for 2008/2009 and it is considered that there are no changes that need to be made to that assessment.

**4. Risk Implications**

4.1 No implications.

**5. Introduction**

5.1 In March 2008 members agreed the Council's Private Sector Housing Policy for 2008/09. The Policy included details of the grants that the Council would be offering during the year. Each year the Policy is reviewed taking into account changing legislation, updates in our understanding of the needs of the community and the resources that are available to us to help meet those needs.

5.2 It is proposed that the Policy for 2009/10 will include a new range of loans including interest repayment. This is still being developed in partnership with other Councils in Dorset and it will be placed before Members as early as is possible during the year.

5.3 To ensure that the Council maintains a level of assistance to householders it is proposed that the existing Policy be extended to cover the period 2009/10 until such time as the new Policy is agreed by Members.

**6. Appendices**

6.1 None

**7. Background Papers**

7.1 Held on file