

# AGENDA

## RECORD OF OFFICER DECISION MEETING

Date: Friday, 13 March 2015

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Council Chamber, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT

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1.	Minor amendment to Housing Assistance Policy	Pages 1 - 2
	Record of Decision made by the Head of Housing.	

**Issued on Friday 13 March 2015**

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Corporate Services Director, Swale Borough Council,  
Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT

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## RECORD OF OFFICER DECISION

<p>This form must be completed by or on behalf of the relevant Officer immediately after any decision has been made. Please send to the Proper Officer for publication in accordance with the Council's Constitution.</p>	
<p><b>NAME OF OFFICER MAKING DECISION (INCLUDING JOB TITLE) AND THE DECISION BEING MADE</b></p>	<p>Cllr John Wright Cabinet Member for Housing and Amber Christou Head of Housing</p> <p>To agree to minor amendment to Housing Assistance Policy Namely: <b>Under the existing conditions attached to the Housing Assistance Policy in relation to Home Repair Grants, for those cases eligible through the KCC Winter Warmth Program, the maximum grant of £1000 at any one time be relaxed but the maximum grant of £2000 within any three year period to remain. All other conditions remain unchanged.</b></p>
<p><b>TITLE OF REPORT</b></p>	<p>Minor amendment to Housing Assistance Policy</p>
<p><b>DATE THE DECISION WAS TAKEN</b></p>	<p>6 March 2015</p>
<p><b>SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR DECISION</b></p>	<p>Energy Company Obligation (ECO) funding from the Energy Utilities is available for heating and boiler replacements to certain qualifying households, However it does not always cover the full cost. The amendment will allow vulnerable households to receive top-up funding to supplement the ECO funding available. The cost of the top-up grant is to be funded by Kent County Council through their Winter Warmth Program.</p> <p>i.e. No budget implications for Swale BC – KCC do not have power to award the funding direct to the applicant whereas Swale BC can do so through its Housing Assistance Policy made under the Regulatory Reform (Housing Assistance) (England and Wales ) Order 2002.</p>
<p><b>BACKGROUND</b></p>	<p>DELEGATED DECISION from Cabinet 5 October 2011 Amendments to Housing Assistance Policy</p> <p>The Head of Housing , in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing , be authorised to make minor changes or revisions to eligibility criteria arising from demand or changes to benefits without need for formal policy re-adoption.</p>
<p><b>DETAILS OF ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b></p>	<p>Take no action – This would mean the applicants could not take advantage of the ECO funding and top up funding available through KCC.</p>

<b>DETAILS OF ANY CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN</b>	This forms part of the KCC Winter Warmth Program. Consultation on the program was carried out by KCC and the funding is being targeted at the group found most at risk to hospital admissions or death over the winter period.
<b>DETAILS OF ANY CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS</b>	None
<b>CONTACT FOR ENQUIRIES/FURTHER INFORMATION</b>	Philip Garland Senior Environmental Health Officer
A copy of this Notice will be published on the Council's website ( <a href="http://www.swale.gov.uk">http://www.swale.gov.uk</a> )	

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