

# North Tyneside Council Report to Cabinet Date: 10 December 2012

## ITEM 5(ii)

Title: Report from Finance  
Sub Committee –  
Disposal of acquired  
dwellings

Portfolio(s): Housing

Cabinet Member(s): Cllr Paul Mason

Report from: Finance Sub-Committee

Wards affected: All

### PART 1

#### 1.1 Purpose:

The purpose of the report is to inform Cabinet of the Finance Sub-Committee's concern regarding the Council's policy on the disposal of acquired dwellings.

#### 1.2 Recommendation(s):

That Cabinet notes the report and the Finance Sub-Committee's concern regarding the disposal of acquired dwellings.

#### 1.3 Forward plan:

Twenty eight days notice of this item has been given on the Forward Plan under the matters arising from Overview and Scrutiny Committee and its sub committees heading.

#### 1.4 Council plan and policy framework

This report supports the Council's objectives in relation to the housing strategy and housing (tenant services).

#### 1.5 Information:

##### **Background information**

- 1.5.1 At its meeting on the 21 November 2012, the Finance Sub-Committee received a pink paper report relating to capital receipts. This report included reference to three property transactions within the Housing Revenue Account which had been completed with capital receipts totalling £158,925. One of these properties was a vacant acquired dwelling.
- 1.5.2 Members also received the pink paper report relating to building council homes, which was submitted to Cabinet on 13 August 2012. This report gave information relating to the high demand for council homes as well as the cost to build new council homes.

## **Issues raised by the Finance Sub-Committee**

- 1.5.3 The Sub-Committee raised concerns regarding the Council's policy to sell off acquired dwellings, especially in light of the high number of people currently on the waiting list for council homes and the costs associated with building new homes.
- 1.5.4 The Members felt that greater value for money may be provided if these acquired dwellings were to be re-furbished and then added to the council homes stock.
- 1.5.5 They also intend to raise these concerns with the Head of North Tyneside Homes.

### **1.6 Decision options:**

There is no decision required by Cabinet.

### **1.7 Reasons for recommended option:**

Not applicable.

### **1.8 Appendices:**

None

### **1.9 Contact officers:**

Sharon Ranadé, Democratic Services Tel: 643 5614

### **1.10 Background information:**

The following background papers have been used in the compilation of this report:

- Cabinet Report (pink paper) – Building Council Homes – 13 August 2012
- Finance Sub-Committee Report (pink paper) – Capital Receipts – 21 November 2012

## **PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING**

### **2.1 Finance and other resources**

There are no financial implications at this stage.

### **2.2 Legal**

There are no legal implications at this stage.

### **2.3 Consultation/community engagement**

Councillor Ray Glindon – Chair of Finance Sub-Committee

### **2.4 Human rights**

There are no direct issues relating to human rights arising from this report.

## **2.5 Equalities and diversity**

There are no direct issues relating to equalities and diversity arising from this report.

## **2.6 Risk management**

There are no direct issues relating to risk arising from this report.

## **2.7 Crime and disorder**

There are no direct issues relating to crime and disorder arising from this report.

## **2.8 Environment and sustainability**

There are no direct issues relating to environment and sustainability arising from this report.

## **PART 3**

The following officers and Members have been sent a copy of the report for their information:

- Chief Executive
- Mayor/Cabinet Member
- Chief Finance Officer
- Monitoring Officer