

# Motion 7 - A FUTURE PATH FOR HOUSES IN WIRRAL

Proposed by: Councillor Phil Gilchrist

Seconded by: Councillor Dave Mitchell

Council considers it essential that, in preparation for effective work under the new Committee system, Members have an overview of the work that has been undertaken on:

- a. tackling the problem of empty properties in Wirral, along with the rate of bringing them into use;
- b. the composition of the waiting list for properties as known to Property Pool Plus in order that the needs of the population can be established;
- c. close working relationships with organisations assisting the homeless
- d. working with registered social landlords to ensure appropriate developments on sites;
- e. the currently known and planned construction programmes of registered social landlords;
- f. establishing a close working relationship with Homes England with a view to securing funding for appropriate developments;
- g. the results of discussions with Homes England to date.

Officers are requested to arrange for a briefing seminar, open to all Members, at an early date in the new municipal year, so that a clear overview is obtained to inform future policies.

As part of this, officers are requested to:

- outline the steps that might be required to open a housing revenue account, if and when required, and
- consider how prudential borrowing and other financial arrangements might be used or required to develop housing in Wirral to meet local needs;
- review the organisational and managerial issues that would face the Council;
- establish how a working relationship with registered social landlords could meet such objectives.

The information can then be properly considered by the Housing Committee in the first instance.