



RHONDDA CYNON TAF

**RECORD OF DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION**

**SUBJECT: Policy for Private Sector Housing Renewal 2014**

**PURPOSE OF ATTACHED REPORT: To agree the extension of and amendments to the Policy for Private Sector Housing Renewal 2014, operational 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014**

**DELEGATED DECISION (Date):**

**That the extension to, and proposed amendments to the 'Policy for Private Sector Renewal' is approved, becoming operational from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014**

 <i>Chief Officer Signature</i>	Neil Elliott <i>Print Name</i>	6 Feb 2014 <i>Date</i>
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**The decision is taken in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government Act, 2000 (Executive Functions) and in the terms set out in Section 5 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution**

*lg Middle*

*22-Jan-2014*

CONSULTEE CABINET MEMBER SIGNATURE

DATE

*Phillip Howells*

*6. February 2014*

OFFICER CONSULTEE SIGNATURE

DATE

Directorate:	Community & Children's Services
Contact Name:	Phillip Howells
Designation:	Head of Community Housing
Tel.No.	01443 424100

# RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## MUNICIPAL YEAR 2013 – 2014: REPORT TO ACCOMPANY DECISION OF GROUP DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES

<b>Part 1 (Non-Confidential)</b>
<b>Extend and update existing Policy for Private Sector Housing Renewal, operational from 1st January 2014</b>

### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to extend and update the existing 'Policy for Private Sector Housing Renewal' from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014 onwards to allow the Council to continue to deliver it's Housing grant programme.


In accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this report has been prepared to accompany the intended Officer decision of the Group Director, Community and Children's Services as described below.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended the extension to the Policy , with the proposed amendments ( attached as Appendix A ) is agreed , and will become effective from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014

### 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 To comply with the legal requirements of the *Regulatory Reform (Housing Assistance) (England and Wales) Order 2002* the Council first published the Private Sector Housing Renewal policy in 2003, which following review and amendment was extended until 2009 .
- 3.2 The current Policy for Private Sector Renewal has been in operation from 2009 until it's expiry in 2013.
- 3.3 The Policy has been reviewed and changes proposed to reflect the Council's strategic priorities, with assistance predominantly being targeted to help as many disabled , elderly and vulnerable residents as possible, whilst also creating opportunities to attract and maximise external funding to compliment any Council investment .

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- 3.4 In order to fulfil the Council's strategic aims for private sector renewal, a three-year capital programme of investment was agreed by Council on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The costs of the proposed changes in the policy will be contained within the current capital programme for Housing.
- 3.5 A detailed list of all the proposed changes, and the potential impact of those changes are listed in Appendix A attached to this report.

#### 4.0 **Conclusion**

It is essential that the Private Sector Housing Renewal Policy underpins the aims of the "Delivering Change" Single Integrated Plan and the authority's own Housing Delivery Plan 'Building on Firm Foundations' .

The proposed Policy extension and amendments supports these plans by ensuring the continued provision of a high level of service to the elderly, the vulnerable and disabled residents.

Policy changes also contribute to achieving a private sector housing stock which provides a safe and more energy efficient living environment for an increasing number of the residents of the borough, while maximising opportunities to attract external funding .

The Policy also aims to strategically tackle the problem of empty properties and promotes continued partnership working with the private rented sector to mitigate the impact of Welfare Reform and homelessness in the County Borough .