# \* Housing Services priorities for 2012-13

Wednesday 23 May 2012 Housing Management Sub-Committee



### **Outline of key priority areas:**

**1.** Responding to national reforms

**2.** Technical Services

**3.** Estate Services



#### **1.** Implementing self-financing

#### Transitory year where we need to implement:

- 'behind the scenes' financial modelling systems and budgetary processes
- strategic priorities for asset management
- strategic priorities for reinvestment of monies saved and generated
- robust 'self-assessment' systems

\* September Committee: refreshed business plan



2. Reviewing our Allocations Policy

As a result of Localism Act.

#### Timeline:

- Staff and tenant consultations Feb-May
- Draft revised policy to Committee July
- Statutory consultation period Aug-Sept
- Final policy to Committee for approval Oct



#### 3. Welfare Reform Act

#### Risks to our business:

- Increasing levels of rent arrears
- Increasing levels of evictions
- Vulnerable tenants

#### Risks to our tenants:

- Debt legal and illegal lenders
- Eviction
- Increasing support needs



#### 3. Welfare Reform Act, continued

- 44% (836) of our tenants on housing benefit
- Changes commence April 2013
- Project plan to be agreed to proactively manage the wide-ranging impacts across the business:
  - Preventing rent arrears
  - Strengthening our advice services
  - Reviewing rent arrears procedures
  - Supporting vulnerable tenants
  - Encouraging employment/skills programmes



#### 4. Regulatory changes

- TSA now abolished replaced by a statutory committee within the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA)
- National housing standards remain
- Tenant Involvement standard strengthened
- Tenancy standard significantly changed, in-line with Localism Act.

#### 5. Right to Buy

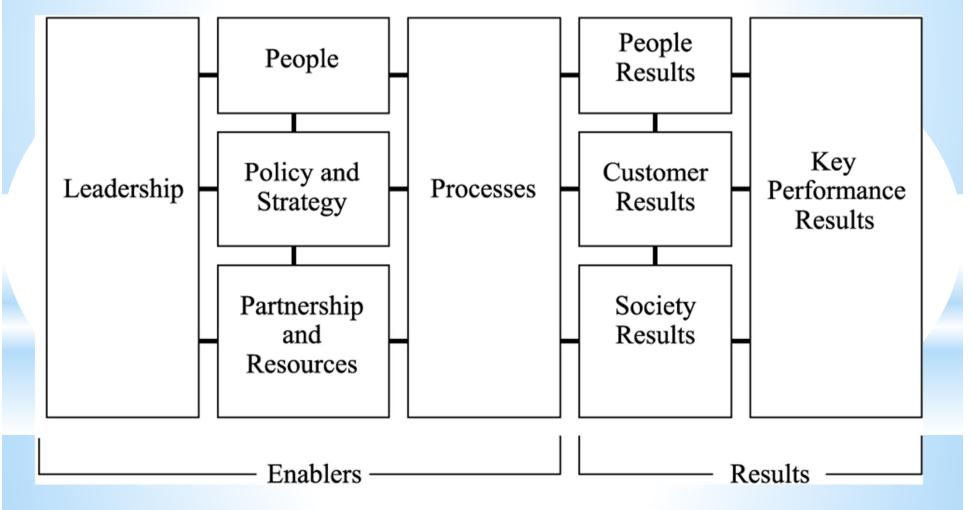
- Increased discount in London from £16,000 to £75,000
- Currently 2 live applications
- Business plan and asset management strategy need to plan for replacing each sold property, as is required.



## \*Asset Management Strategy & Plans

- \* Define Strategy
- Define Purpose
- Agree content
- Consult
- Approval
- \*Implement Plans
- Time / Resources
- Cost
- Quality & Value





## \*Areas of Improvement

- \* People & Performance Management Change Management
- \* QMS Quality management system
- \* Process Management Business process improvement
- \* Technology Call centre, Orchard
- \* New Project Management system and approach
- \* EDRM electronic document records management
- \* Use of Financial Data to inform service delivery
- \* H & S and Compliance monitoring
- \* Workforce Planning / Resource Management
- \* Improved Information & Knowledge Management
- \* Improved Access to Services

## Estate Services

Estate Standards Estate Plans Major Projects Volunteering opportunities

#### **Estate Standards**

- Common standards of gardening and cleaning for all estates

- Local variations agreed with residents



#### Estate Plans - Everything happening on estate in the year

- Priorities based on resident feedback



#### Major Projects - Middlesex Street housing and community centre

- Great Arthur House Cladding
- Avondale Square
- Avondale Square development



#### Volunteering opportunities

- -Love Your Estate
- Good Neighbour Scheme
- Summer events



