



COUNCIL MEETING

25 January 2018

PROPOSED SELECTIVE LICENSING OF PRIVATE LANDLORDS WITHIN AREAS OF CENTRAL GATESHEAD

Sheena Ramsey, Chief Executive

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval to the designation of two Selective Licensing areas of private rented accommodation within the Central Area of Gateshead.
2. In October 2016 Cabinet agreed to a phased approach, subject to formal designations and consultation, this is the final proposal for landlord licensing in respect of the two areas identified following consultation.
3. Selective Licensing Areas can be designated for two principle reasons, either an area is, or is likely to become, an area of low housing demand, and/or the area is experiencing significant and persistent problems caused by anti-social behaviour. The areas are required to have high concentrations of private rented homes and one or more of the following; high levels of crime, high levels of deprivation, high levels of migration and poor property conditions.
4. It is proposed that the approved designation would come into effect no earlier than three months from the date of approval by Full Council and the proposed duration of each Scheme would be five years.
5. The Cabinet has considered the facts and issues arising from the report including alternative options and took all relevant advice before formulating their recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

6. It is recommended that Council:
 - (i) Agrees to the designation of two areas of Gateshead, as identified in Appendix 1 of the attached report, for selective licensing, and that official notifications are published in accordance with Government guidance and legislation.
 - (ii) Agrees the proposed schemes detail, implementation programme, and proposed Enforcement Policy, as set out in Appendix 2 of the attached report.
 - (iii) Delegates authority to the Service Director, Development, Transport

and Public Protection, to take enforcement action in relation to Part 3 (Selective Licensing) of the Housing Act 2004, throughout the duration of the Schemes as appropriate.

- (iv) Agrees the proposed application fees and charges.