

 WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM NO.
Report Cover Sheet	
Name of Meeting:	Employment Committee
Date of Meeting:	18 September 2007
Report Title:	Housing Standards and Decent Homes Officer – Full Time, Temporary Post for 12 months.
Summary of report:	To seek agreement to employ a Technical Officer to ensure that government monies are spent in bringing homes in the private sector to a Decent Standard.
For further information please contact (report author);	Paul Leeman Private Sector Housing 01926 456727 paul.leeman@warwickdc.gov.uk
Business Unit:	Housing Strategy
Would the recommended decision be contrary to the policy framework:	No
Would the recommended decision be contrary to the budgetary framework:	No
Wards of the District directly affected by this decision:	All
Key Decision?	Yes
Included within the Forward Plan?	No
Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006?	No
Date and name of meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number:	Agreed by Executive 26 March 2007. Minute No 1002
Background Papers:	PSA 7 targets Report to Executive 26 March 2007 Definition of Decent Homes

Consultation Undertaken		
Below is a table of the Council's regular consultees. However not all have to be consulted on every matter and if there was no obligation to consult with a specific consultee they will be marked as n/a.		
Consultees	Yes/ No	Who
Other Committees	Yes	Executive
Ward Councillors	n/a	
Portfolio Holders	Yes	Cllr M Doody
Other Councillors	n/a	
Warwick District Council recognised Trades Unions	n/a	
Other Warwick District Council Service Areas	n/a	
Project partners	n/a	
Parish/Town Council	n/a	
Highways Authority	n/a	
Residents	n/a	
Citizens Panel	n/a	
Other consultees	n/a	
Officer Approval		
With regard to officer approval all reports must be approved by the report authors relevant director, Finance Services and Legal Services.		
Officer Approval	Date	Name
Relevant Director(s)	Sent to Director 5/9/07	Mary Hawkins
Chief Executive		
CMT		
Section 151 Officer		
Legal	5/9/07	Simon Best
Finance	5/9/07	Mike Snow
Final Decision?	Yes/ No	
Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)		
The Government grant has not been spent and the target set to make up to 150 homes Decent in the Private Sector has not been met. Therefore resources will need to be allocated to spend the Government grant and to meet the Decent Homes targets.		

1. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 1.1 The grant allocation from the Regional Housing Pot for 2007 – 2008 to be used, in part, to fund the employment of a Technical Officer for a period of twelve months to ensure that vulnerable people are helped to bring their homes up to the decent homes standard.

2. **REASON(S) FOR THE RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 The Executive, at its meeting on 26 March 2007, considered a report from Housing Strategy entitled **Regional Housing Pot – Grant Allocation 2007 - 2008** and resolved that additional personnel resources be obtained for a temporary period.

3. **ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S) CONSIDERED**

- 3.1 No alternatives have been considered.

4. **BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK**

- 4.1 The monies for this post - Salary Band E1 plus Casual User car allowance and on-costs (approximately £31,000) to be taken from the Supported Capital Expenditure allocation of the Regional Housing Pot and will be restricted to work in respect of **Decent Homes in the Private Sector Stock occupied by Vulnerable People**.
- 4.2 Finance have advised that provided the post is not a purely administrative or promotional role, the salary costs could be treated as capital salaries and funded from the government grant.

5. **POLICY FRAMEWORK**

- 5.1 The Corporate Strategy 2003 – 2007 has the policy **To improve the quality of Housing**. Work to ensure that vulnerable people live in a Decent Home is part and parcel of this policy.