



## CAERPHILLY HOMES TASK GROUP – 2ND APRIL 2015

**SUBJECT: PONTLLANFRAITH HOUSE**

**REPORT BY: INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

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- 1.1 The attached reports were considered by the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee on the 8th December 2014 and 20th January 2015.
- 1.2 The reports provide information on the closure of Ty Pontllanfraith, the associated financial implications, impact on Council services, employment issues and equality implications.
- 1.3 In relation to Housing Services, staff who are currently based at Ty Pontllanfraith, with the exception of the Eastern Valley Housing Office, are not classed as front facing. These include Private Sector Housing incorporating Grants, Area Renewal Team, Disabled Adaptations, Enforcement, Housing Strategy and Care & Repair. Also, Public Sector Housing including Tenancy Enforcement, Tenant & Community Involvement Team, Older Persons Housing, Complaints and Rents.
- 1.4 It is proposed that Housing Services, with the exception of the Eastern Valley Housing Office, be re-located to Tredomen Business Park, subject to confirmation of availability of sufficient office space. The accommodation being considered is fit for purposes, accessible for the public with good transport links, is DDA compliant and will provide an improved working environment for staff.
- 1.5 Alternative premises are currently being considered to accommodate the Eastern Valley Housing Office, with the intention to retain this service within the Blackwood town centre. This again would improve access and maintain a presence in the area for which the service is responsible.
- 1.6 Whilst the financial implications are highlighted within the reports, there is likely to be an additional cost for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), but this is affordable within the Business Plan. The HRA would have also been liable for a proportion of the costs for rectifying the defects at Ty Pontllanfraith House if approval had not been given for its closure.
- 1.7 Having fully considered the reports and the recommendations contained therein, the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee supported the proposals and these were subsequently approved by full Council on the 25th February 2015.
- 1.8 The Caerphilly Homes Task Group are asked to consider the reports and the above which are submitted for information.

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Appendices:

Appendix 1 of 2 Special Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee Report – 8th December 2014  
Appendix 2 of 2 Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee Report – 20th January 2015