

Report of the Chief Executive

REVIEW OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND PRIVATE SECTOR CO-ORDINATOR OFFICER POSITION1. Purpose of Report

To propose the relocation of the domestic abuse and private sector co-ordinator officer from Housing to the Communities team under a changed job description and grade.

2. Detail

Reducing domestic violence is a key objective for Broxtowe under the Community Safety priority. The post of Domestic Abuse and Private Sector Co-ordinator currently sits within the Housing section (appendix 1). The post, which recently became vacant, will spend half of their time on domestic violence work and half on sourcing private sector accommodation for people needing to relocate following abuse experiences in their current accommodation. The role has helped the Council make significant progress, maintaining its White Ribbon accreditation, developing partnership relationships and action planning and supporting people who come into contact with Housing who are needing accommodation having had to leave their homes.

Consideration has been given to the future of the role and its best fit within the organisation. It is proposed that the domestic violence element of the post be moved from Housing into the Communities team (appendix 2) and made full time, for the reasons set out in appendix 3. The job description for this new role is attached at appendix 4. Meanwhile the private sector housing element of the role best fits with the Housing team, where it would remain as a full-time position. A new job description for this role is also attached at appendix 4.

3. Financial Implications

The new post is at Grade 8 with an annual salary of £26,537 (SCP36) to £28,095 (SCP39) (pay awards pending). The full-year cost in 2022/23 including assumed pay award and on costs ranges from £35,300 up to £37,450 per annum at the top of the grade). This full cost would need to be recognised in the establishment budget in 2022/23 and be funded from the General Fund balances. However, the existing Domestic Violence Coordinator post (also funded by General Fund) can be deleted.

It is proposed that the existing position within the Housing team, which is currently included within the General Fund budget, would be retained as a full-time post and be subject to job evaluation (currently Grade 6). This post would be part-funded by the Housing Revenue Account with the homelessness grant received from Central Government accommodating the additional costs of the extended private sector accommodation role within the HRA.

4. Union Comments

Unions are supportive of the proposals.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that the creation of the role of Senior Communities Officer (Violence and Domestic Abuse) be approved and that the private sector accommodation co-ordination duties of the existing domestic violence officer be retained within the Housing Options team in a full time Housing Options Officer (private sector) position.

Background Papers: Nil