

Public Document Pack



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8 October 2014

Dear Councillor

ARRANGEMENTS MADE BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE DISCHARGE OF EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

Please find attached details of an amendment to the Scheme of Officer Delegations made by the Leader of the Council relating to the exercise of powers and functions in relation to redress schemes for lettings agency and property management work.

Members of the public who require further information are asked to contact Kate Batty-Smith on 01304 872303 or by e-mail at kate.batty-smith@dover.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kate Batty-Smith". Below the signature is a short horizontal line.

Democratic Support Officer

ENCL

1 **AMENDMENT TO SCHEME OF OFFICER DELEGATIONS - REDRESS SCHEMES FOR LETTINGS AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT** (Pages 2 - 3)



COMMITTEE SECTION ONLY

Arrangement No: 02/14
 Date: 8/10/14

Arrangements Made by the Leader of the Council for the Discharge of Executive Functions under Section 14 (2) Local Government Act 2000 (as amended)

Schemes of Delegation of Executive Functions to Executive Members/Executive Committees/Officers

I hereby make arrangements for the discharge of the executive functions specified at Box A below and give notice to the Monitoring Officer that I have done so.

A. Specify the Arrangements being made:

That the arrangements for the discharge of executive functions set out in Section 6 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution be amended by the insertion of the following delegation to the Director of Finance, Housing and Community, the Head of Strategic Housing and the Private Sector Housing Manager:

Column 1 Legislation	Column 2 Brief Description	Column 3 Conditions/Exclusions/Limitations/Notes
Part 6 of Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 (sections 83-88) and the Redress Schemes for Lettings Agency Work and Property Management Work (Requirement to Belong to a Scheme etc) (England) Order 2014	To exercise the powers and functions of the Council in relation to Redress Schemes for Lettings Agency Work and Property Management Work	

B. Specify the date from which the arrangements/amendment(s) are to have effect:

From the date upon which the Leader signs this document.

C. State whether the arrangements/amendment(s) made affect executive members or officers:

The proposed amendment will affect the Head of Regeneration and Development.

D. State reasons for, and effect of, the arrangements/amendment(s):

The Letting Agents Right of Redress Scheme comes into effect on 1 October 2014, by which time letting agents will have had to register with one of three redress schemes to ensure tenants and leaseholders have a straightforward option to hold their agents to account. Anyone who feels they get a poor deal from their letting agent will then be able to take their complaint to the redress scheme, and could receive compensation. The schemes are run by the Property Ombudsman, Ombudsman Services Property and the Property Redress Scheme.

Local authorities will have responsibility for enforcing the legislation. It is a matter for each local authority to determine who among its organisation should carry out this responsibility, but it is expected that many will charge this responsibility to housing teams. Accordingly, it is considered that at Dover District Council these functions should sit with the Private Sector Housing Team.

E. State whether, in the view of the Leader of the Council, the effect of the arrangements/amendment(s) is to withdraw delegations from the executive as a whole, a committee of the executive or an individual executive member (in any such case) to any significant extent:

No.

F. State anticipated date of report to Council:

To be confirmed.

Signed: _____

Leader of the Council

Dated: _____

1/10/2014