COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2	COLUMN 3	COLUMN 4
 (1) Topic (one sentence description of the decision being sought) (2) Who will take Decision (3) Give Date or Period within which Decision is to be taken (4) Directorate Contact	 (5) Principal Groups/Organisations to be Consulted before Decision is made (6) Method of Consultation 	 (7) Name of person(s) to whom representations can be made	(9) List background documents submitted to Cabinet/Cabinet Member(s) in respect of the Decision. Is this information unrestricted or exempt (10) Date first entered in Notice
KEY 11/18/19 (1) Development of a Social Lettings Agency	(5) Homelessness Project Advisory Group(6) Meetings	(7) Paul Whitfield, Head of Strategic Housing - Ext 2258 & Elly Toye, Housing Options Manager - Ext 2259	(9) Report to Cabinet (10) 11 December 2017
(2) Cabinet		(8) 15 February 2018	
(3) October-December 2018			
(4) Paul Whitfield, Head of Strategic Housing - Ext 2258 & Elly Toye, Housing Options Manager - Ext 2259			

Brief Details of Item:

(Please provide information about the contents of this item and the reason for decision.)

It is becoming increasingly difficult for households approaching the Council for housing options advice to access suitable housing in the private rented sector. In response, many other Councils have set up Social Lettings Agencies (SLA) which undertake the leasing of private sector properties so that they can be used to house households referred to them by the Council. Property owners are offered incentives such as guaranteed rent payments to make the scheme an attractive alternative to more traditional lettings services. Ashford Borough Council has been operating a successful SLA for a number of years and a couple of years ago the service was extended to cover Folkestone & Hythe district. As part of a package of measures to try and reduce the use of temporary accommodation for homeless households, it is to be recommended that Dover District Council should consider introducing a similar scheme in the district.

Deadline for Item:

(Please indicate the date and whether this is statutory, operational or to meet the requirements of another agency.)

There is no specific deadline but the number of households being placed in temporary accommodation has increased significantly in recent years. It is therefore important that measures are explored which will help households access more suitable accommodation while also reducing the financial cost for the Council.