

7th June 2017

REPORT OF GENTOO

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The following report provides an update from Gentoo for the West Area of Sunderland from April 2017 to June 2017.

2 Background

- 2.1 Area Committee agreed that regular updates from Gentoo would be presented to each Committee meeting to enable members to be up-to-date on current Gentoo developments, projects and priorities.

3. Neighbourhood Services Update

- 3.1 Gentoo's new Allocations system is about to be launched and the first stage is the re-registration of customers from the current Choice Based Lettings System (CBL) to Home Hunt. The first cohort of around 6,000 customers are those who are actively expressing interest in properties via CBL; the existing CBL system will run until this cohort are registered and then Home Hunt will go live.
- 3.2 The main focus of the new Allocations system is in response to Gentoo now being a charitable benefit society since April 2017, and the need to ensure we prioritise applicants who have a housing need. This will mean applicants will be placed into one of four bands depending upon their level of priority, ranging from those who have a statutory or urgent need to a general needs category open to all applicants.

4. Investment & Renewal

- 4.1 New build activity is ongoing in High Ford where the Hillcrag development will provide 132 new homes, all for affordable rent. On Doxford Park the Thurcroft development is providing 155 new homes, all for sale.
- 4.2 The stock condition survey of all of our homes is now 85% completed and the results of this will inform future Investment Plan activity from 2017/18.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 Note the content of this report.

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