Appendix 4
Amendments to Housing Allocations Scheme – Consultation Survey 2014-15

1.0 An online survey was conducted between 24.11.14 and 11.1.15 to gather public views on proposed changes to Waltham Forest’s Housing Allocations Scheme.

2.0 The survey was publicised via:

- Council website
- Ascham Homes website
- WFN
- Plasma screen presentations in Council Offices and libraries
- Ascham Homes tenants’ newsletter
- Voluntary Action Waltham Forest newsletter
- Waltham Forest Advice Providers’ Forum
- Councillors’ newsletter
- Housing providers

3.0 158 responses were received in total, and the responses to individual questions are as follows:

3.1 Do you think that the Council should continue to allow people who have lived in the borough for only two years to be on the Housing Register, or should we change it to 4 years?

   4 years – 64%.  2 years – 36%.

3.2 Do you think that the Council should recognise a Community Contribution in the way described above? [details of proposal provided within survey]

   Yes – 78%   No – 22%

3.3 Do you agree that simplifying the allocations scheme as described above is a good idea? [details of proposal provided within survey]

   Yes – 75%   No – 25%

3.4 Do you agree that the Council should amend its property size rules so that children of the same gender up to the age of 21 (instead of 16 in the current scheme) should be expected to share a bedroom before the family is considered to be overcrowded?

   Yes – 53%   No – 47%

3.5 Do you agree that the Council should remove priority from applicants whose only housing problem is sharing facilities with people outside their own household?

   Yes – 66%   No – 34%

3.6 Do you agree that a transfer-led lettings policy is a good idea?

   Yes – 84%   No – 16%
4.0 Respondents were broken down as follows in terms of tenure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tenure</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Council tenant in Waltham Forest</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HA tenant in Waltham Forest</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private tenant in Waltham Forest</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living with friends/family in Waltham Forest</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner-occupier in Waltham Forest</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not currently living in Waltham Forest</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.0 The data shows that there was majority support for all proposals, although the margin was quite narrow in relation to the proposal relating to increasing the age limit for sharing rooms to 21.

6.0 We also consulted directly with local social housing providers at meetings and workshops, and all were supportive of the changes.