



Comhairle Cathrach  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City Council

**Report to Housing SPC**

**Date: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

**Item No. 8**

## **Amendment to Scheme of Lettings 2013**

The **Housing Assistance Payment (Section 50) Regulations 2017 (S.I. No. 55 of 2017)** extends the statutory Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) pilot so that ALL qualified households can avail of the HAP scheme in the administrative area of Dublin City, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and Fingal from 1st March 2017. Previously only homeless households could avail of the HAP scheme in these administrative areas.

I recommend that Dublin City Council's Scheme of Letting Priorities be amended to include the attached information on the HAP Scheme.

## **The Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (HAP)**

The Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (HAP) is a form of social housing support which is available to households who have been deemed eligible for inclusion on Dublin City Council's Housing List, including many long-term Rent Supplement recipients. Under HAP, Dublin City Council will make the full rent payment, subject to rent limits, on behalf of the HAP recipient directly to the landlord. The HAP recipient will then pay a rent contribution to Dublin City Council.

### **Applications for Housing under the Housing Assistance Payment Scheme**

Any household that qualifies for social housing support will be eligible to apply for HAP.

Current Rent Supplement recipients who qualify for social housing support will be transferred from Rent Supplement to HAP on a phased basis.

### **Applicants housed under the Housing Assistance Payment Scheme seeking a Transfer**

HAP recipients who wish to do so will be able to access other social housing supports such as local authority housing or housing provided by approved housing bodies, not through the current waiting list system, but through the transfer system operated by Dublin City Council.

**Where a HAP recipient applies for a transfer within two weeks of entering HAP, the transfer list will reflect the time the recipient previously spent on the waiting list.**

The HAP recipient will therefore be placed on the transfer list on no less favourable terms than if they had remained on the waiting list.