

**DERBY HOMES BOARD**  
**28 MAY 2009**

# **ITEM B8**

## **BURGLARY REDUCTION SCHEME**

Report of the Chief Executive of Derby Homes

### **1. SUMMARY OF REPORT**

This report proposes that Derby Homes funds a scheme to target-harden council houses that have suffered burglary and to provide preventative and advice support to tenants to reduce the number of burglaries.

### **2. RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board agrees to fund the Burglary Reduction scheme for 2 years at £40,000 a year.

### **3. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1 One aspect of the economic depression is the increase in house burglaries. This concern has been identified by the Community Safety Partnership and discussions have been held with them to take action to minimise this risk.
- 3.2 Appendix A is a proposal from the Community Safety Partnership to address this issue. It shows that household burglary has increased by 30% in the past 12 months. The level of burglary in council housing is lower than the City wide figure, however it has increased. The Community Safety Partnership believes that the lower level is due to the success of previous similar schemes which ended in 2008. The scheme will fund a trained worker, equipment and a van to target harden 200 council houses a year. The scheme will be marketed to tenants and will contribute to a wider reduction in fear of burglaries. It will work with Derby Homes to improve the design of homes and estates that are vulnerable to burglary.

### **4. CONSULTATION IMPLICATIONS**

This proposal will be discussed at Local Housing Boards and at Housing Focus Groups.

### **5. FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

The funding of this scheme will be from Derby Homes' reserves.

### **6. LEGAL AND CONFIDENTIALITY IMPLICATIONS**

Referrals by Derby Homes and the Police to the Burglary Reduction project will be made with tenants' permission.

## **7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

Staff will be trained to make referrals of any burglaries that they are aware of.

## **8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

It is a strategic aim of Derby Homes to ensure the estates are safe and attractive places for people to live.

## **9. EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

It is likely that more vulnerable people will be targeted for crime and this scheme will help to reduce this.

## **10. RISK IMPLICATIONS**

An increase in burglaries could make some estates and parts of estates unpopular and difficult to let.

**The areas listed below have no implications directly arising from this report**

- Health & Safety

**If Board members or others would like to discuss this report ahead of the meeting please contact the author, or the Chief Executive, [phil.davies@derbyhomes.org](mailto:phil.davies@derbyhomes.org) - Tel 01332 711010**

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**Background Information:** None.

**Supporting Information:** None.