

# Taunton Deane Borough Council

## Executive – 9 February 2010

### Approval for Capital Spend - Digital Compliance: Deane Helpline

#### Report of the Chief Housing Officer

(This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor Hazel Prior-Sankey)

#### 1. Purpose of the Report

Members are asked to approve a capital spend of £35,000 on this project from existing revenue resources.

#### Executive Summary

The Report seeks to allocate sufficient capital investment, using existing revenue resources, to the purchase and installation of new equipment in order to ensure that all Lifeline equipment is digitally compliant, and that the Deane Helpline service to customers will not be disrupted when telephones services convert to digital.

#### 2. Background

The Council has been taking advice from our IT suppliers Tunstall and the Telecare Services Association (TSA) for some time on this issue, so that managers have a good idea of the current position.

All sheltered housing schemes were upgraded from analogue to digital approximately 10 years ago, but we estimate that approximately 173 properties (hard-wire schemes or dispersed alarms) require upgrading.

The cost will include the installation of new helplines and the removal of obsolete equipment from hardwire schemes.

#### 3. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Executive:-

- approves a capital allocation of £35,000 to this project from existing revenue resources; and
- recommends Full Council to approve this change to the capital programme.

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