

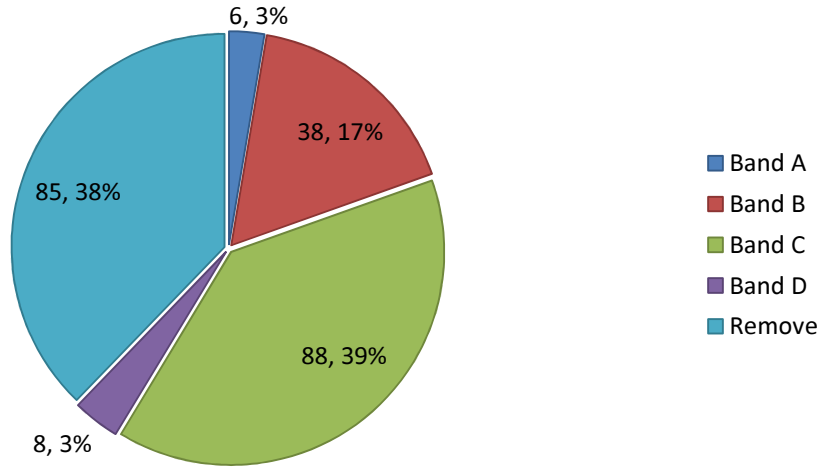
SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE
04 April 2013 at 7.00 pm

At the above stated meeting the attached documents were tabled for the following items:

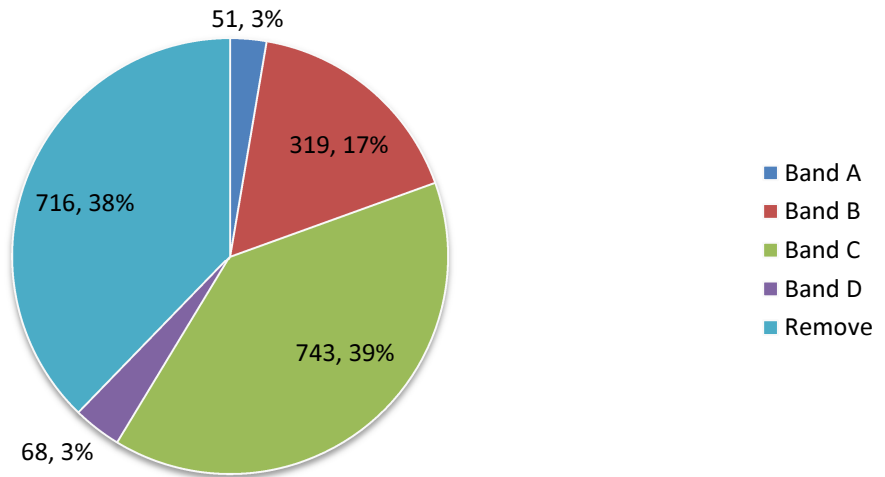
6. SDHR amended Allocation Policy and Sevenoaks District Tenancy Strategy - Update (Pages 1 - 2)
Pat Smith

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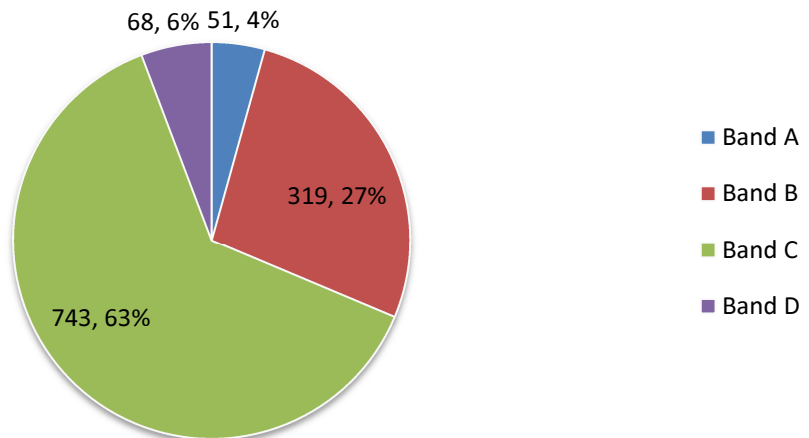
Testing Sample Outcomes (225 applicants)



Projected Impact on Housing Register (1900 applicants)



Remaining Number on Housing Register Before Data Cleanse (1184 applicants)



Agenda Item 6

- The sampling indicates that the Housing Register should reduce by approx. 38% (716 applicants).
- The applicants that will be withdrawn are established as having low points or no housing need and have no prospects of ever bidding successfully.
- Applicants withdrawn will be written to explaining:
 - Why they are being removed
 - Where to go for advice
 - That they have a right of review.
- The data of applicants who are removed will be monitored to ensure that any unforeseen negative impacts are avoided.
- Communication strategy is in place:
 - Information on SDC & WKHA website, press release, twitter, facebook.
 - All applicants will be written to advise them how the changes will affect them.
- It is anticipated that the re-evaluation of bedroom size eligibility and re-registration process will reduce register numbers slightly further.
- We have consulted with other Kent Housing Authorities and the sizes of the priority bands in our policy are comparable to other Authorities.
- Currently applicants broadly fall into three groups – low points, medium points and high points. The impact of the new policy is anticipated to be as follows:
 - Lowly pointed applicants will be removed as have no housing need and no prospect of bidding successfully;
 - Medium pointed applicants will have a slightly increased chance of getting accommodation;
 - Highly pointed applicants still be rehoused quickly but may wait slightly longer than they do at present.
- Applicants who remain eligible to be on the housing register continue to have a high degree of choice in line with Kent Homechoice principles.