

TOWER HAMLETS COMMUNITY HOUSING

CASH INCENTIVES TO MOVE – Policy

1.0 Statement of Intent

- 1.1 THCH recognises that demand for family-sized accommodation, and in particular for large family-sized units, from amongst both its own tenants and from all applicants for housing is high.
- 1.2 THCH aims to tackle this issue through a series of overcrowding strategies designed at matching overcrowded tenants to properties of the correct bed size, these properties are however, in short supply.
- 1.3 To assist in this process, THCH is keen to encourage households who are under-occupying their accommodation to move to smaller accommodation. THCH therefore proposes to offer tenants in these circumstances payments to move to smaller accommodation.

2.0 Detail

- 2.1 THCH will make payments to tenants in accordance with the size of the accommodation they are leaving, and that to which they are moving.
- 2.2 Payments will be made at the same rate as that offered by LB Tower Hamlets, current rates as set out below.
- 2.3 Tenants moving from a 2-bed property into smaller are awarded £500 per room. Tenants moving from a 3-bed property or larger are awarded £1,500 per room.
- 2.4 Examples of the levels of payment which will be made are set out below:

2 Bedroom to a bedsit	£1,000
2 Bedroom to a 1 bedroom	£500
3 Bedroom to a 1 bedroom	£3,000
3 Bedroom to a 2 bedroom	£1,500
4 Bedroom to a 1 bedroom	£4,500
4 Bedroom to a 2 bedroom	£3,000
4 bedroom to a 3 bedroom	£1,500
5 Bedroom to a 1 bedroom	£6,000
5 Bedroom to a 2 bedroom	£4,500
5 bedroom to a 3 bedroom	£3,000
5 bedroom to a 4-bedroom	£1,500

- 2.5 The Director of Housing has the discretion to reduce these amounts to reflect any changes made to the Council scheme.

- 2.6 THCH will publicise this scheme to encourage tenants who are under occupying to move to smaller accommodation.
- 2.7 Payments will only be made to THCH tenants who do not qualify for the LBTH scheme because of the THCH Overcrowding Strategy.
- 2.8 This policy will be reviewed every three years