

# **Report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee**



**Epping Forest  
District Council**

**Date of meeting: 8<sup>th</sup> October 2009**

**Lead: Chairman of the Housing Scrutiny Standing Panel – Cllr S. Murray**

**Subject: Formation of an Affordable Housing Sub-Group**

**Officer contact for further information: Alan Hall, Director of Housing**

**Committee Secretary: Simon Hill**

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## **Recommendations:**

**That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the Housing Scrutiny Standing Panel's proposal to establish an Affordable Housing Sub-Group, reporting to the Scrutiny Panel, comprising the following members: Councillors Mrs R Brookes, K Chana, Mrs A Grigg, Mrs J Lea, S Murray.**

## **Report**

1. At the meeting of the Housing Scrutiny Standing Panel on the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2009, following a discussion about the high need for affordable housing and the current lack of supply within the District, it was agreed that a sub-group should be established to consider this issue. It is envisaged that the Sub Group would only need to meet once or twice, and report to the Scrutiny Panel.

2. Subject to the agreement of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, it was agreed that the membership of the Sub Group should comprise the following members:

Cllr Mrs R Brookes  
Cllr K Chana  
Cllr Mrs A Grigg  
Cllr Mrs J Lea  
Cllr S Murray

3. It is also the intention of the Housing Portfolio Holder to attend the meetings and take part in the discussions. It is hoped that the first meeting can be held in October 2009, before the next meeting of the Housing Scrutiny Panel.

4. The Director of Housing also intends to submit a report to the Sub-Group on the issues relating to whether or not the Council should take advantage of the relaxation of financial rules and the funding being made available by the Government for councils to re-commence the building of affordable Council properties again.

5. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the formation of the Sub-Group, and the proposed membership.