

## **Report to Housing Scrutiny Panel**

**Date of meeting: 29 July 2010**

**Subject: Review of the Housing Allocations Scheme**

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**Committee Secretary: Mark Jenkins (01992 56 4607)**

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### **Recommendations/Decisions Required:**

**That the Housing Scrutiny Panel considers the attached draft report on the Review of the Housing Allocations Scheme, (prior to seeking the views of consultees listed under the consultation section of the report), and passes on their comments to the Housing Portfolio Holder for his consideration prior to its submission to the Cabinet.**

### **Report:**

1. At its meeting on 25 March 2010, the Panel agreed the deferment of the Review of the Allocations Scheme (which is normally reviewed annually) until this meeting. The reason for the delay this year is due to the Government's new statutory guidance on Social Housing Allocations for Local Authorities in England ("Fair and Flexible") not being received until late in January 2010.
2. The Housing Scrutiny Panel is asked to consider the attached draft report on proposed changes to the Allocations Scheme to take effect from 1 October 2010. The Panel's comments will be considered by the Housing Portfolio Holder, prior to the report being submitted to the Cabinet.
3. Following the Housing Scrutiny Panel's meeting, all consultees listed under the consultation section of the attached draft Cabinet report will be consulted on the proposed changes, with their comments taken into account by the Housing Portfolio Holder prior to reporting to the Cabinet.

### **Options considered and rejected:**

4. That the Housing Scrutiny Panel does not consider the report prior to its submission to the Cabinet.

### **Consultation undertaken:**

5. The Tenants and Leaseholders Federation are being consulted on the proposed changes to the scheme at their meeting on 20 July 2010, and their views will be reported verbally at the meeting. The consultation section of the attached draft Cabinet report sets out all those who will be consulted prior to the Cabinet meeting. A copy of the current scheme has been circulated to Members of the Panel.

## **Resource Implications**

Budget provision: Within existing resources

Personnel: None

Land: None

Community Plan/BVPP reference: N/A

Relevant statutory powers: Housing Acts 1985 & 1996

Background papers: The current Housing Allocations Scheme, and the Government's statutory guidance on Social Housing Allocations for Local Authorities in England ("Fair and Flexible")

Environmental/Human Rights Act/Crime and Disorder Act Implications: None

Key decision reference (if required): Not a key decision.