

Report to the Housing Scrutiny Panel

Report reference:

Date of meeting: 15 September 2005



**Epping Forest
District Council**

Portfolio: Housing – Cllr M. Heavens

Subject: Housing Scrutiny Panel Work Programme 2005/6 – Progress Report

Officer contact for further information: Alan Hall, Head of Housing Services

Committee Secretary: Zoe Folley

Recommendations:

That the Progress Report on the Panel's Work Programme 2005/6, attached as an Appendix, be noted.

Report

1. At its first meeting in July 2005, the Panel noted its Work Programme set by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel.
2. Attached as an Appendix is the current position with regard to each of the tasks assigned to the Panel, together with some additional tasks agreed by the Panel or that come under the Panel's Terms of Reference.

**Housing Scrutiny Panel
Work Programme 2005/6**

PROGRESS REPORT
(As at 1 September 2005)

Item	Priority	Original Report Deadline	Current Position
ORIGINAL WORK PROGRAMME			
(1) Annual Ethnic Monitoring Review of Housing Applicants	High	July 2005	Completed - At the 21 July 2005 meeting
(2) Updated draft Housing Service Strategies on Older People and Housing Management	Medium	July 2005	Completed – At the 21 July 2005 meeting
(3) Updated draft Housing Strategy	High	Sept 2005	Now to be presented to the Panel's next meeting, due to the wide-scale consultation being undertaken.
(4) Implementation of Choice Based Lettings	Medium	First Report – Sept 2005	On Target - First report provided separately to this meeting of the Panel
(5) Annual Review of the Housing Allocations Scheme	Medium	Sept 2005	On Target - Reported separately to this meeting of the Panel
(6) Six-monthly Progress Report on Local Supporting People Strategy Action Plan	Medium	Sept 2005	Since the Strategy was considered by Overview and Scrutiny in March 2005 and approved by Cabinet in April 2005, progress as at 1 October 2005 (i.e. six months after adoption) will be considered at the Panel's next meeting
(7) Six-monthly Progress Report on Housing Services Development Plan Action Plan	Medium	Sept 2005 and March 2006	On Target - Reported separately to this meeting of the Panel

(8) Annual Review of Housing-Related Fees and Charges	High	Nov 2005	Not due yet – To be presented to the Panel's next meeting.
(9) Report on Findings of Private Sector House Condition Survey	Medium	Dec 2005	Not due yet.
(10) Updated draft HRA Business Plan	Medium	March 2006	Not due yet.
(11) Updated draft Local Supporting People Strategy	High	March 2006	Not due yet.
(12) Six-monthly Progress Report on Housing Strategy Action Plan	Medium	March 2006	Provided Early - Due to the new Housing Strategy not yet being ready, a Six-month Progress Report on the current Housing Strategy has been provided separately to this meeting.
(13) Draft Private Sector Housing Assistance Policy	High	March 2006	Not due yet.
(14) Initiatives for Reducing the Number of Empty Properties in the Private Sector	High	March 2006	On Target - Agreed at the 21 July meeting that an interim report be presented to the Panel around Nov/Dec 2005, with a draft Empty Property Strategy considered in March 2006. Scoping report on the proposed scrutiny reported separately to this meeting of the Panel
ISSUES ADDED TO WORK PROGRAMME DURING THE YEAR			
(15) Discretionary rights to be provided to introductory tenants	High	Sept 2005	On Target - Reported separately to this meeting of the Panel
(16) Review of Housing Service Strategy on Tenant Participation	Medium	Sept 2005	On Target - Reported separately to this meeting of the Panel