

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

PROGRESS REPORT
(As at 23 November 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	Delayed - Now to be presented to the Panel's next, or following, meeting, due to the wide-scale consultation that will need to be undertaken.
(4) Implementation of Choice Based Lettings	Medium	First Report – Sept 2005	On Target - First report considered at the meeting on 15 th September 2005. Agreement given to work in partnership with neighbouring authorities, and to submit a joint bid for funding to the ODPM. This was subsequently agreed by the Housing Portfolio Holder. The outcome of the bid, if known, will be reported orally at the December meeting of the Panel.
(5) Annual Review of the Housing Allocations Scheme	Medium	Sept 2005	Completed – At the 15 September meeting. Officers' proposals were supported by the Panel, and subsequently agreed by the Cabinet.
(6) Six-monthly Progress Report on Local Supporting People Strategy Action Plan	Medium	Sept 2005	Report made to this meeting of the Panel - 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) is being considered at this meeting.

(7) Six-monthly Progress Report on Housing Services Development Plan Action Plan	Medium	Sept 2005 and March 2006	On Target - First six monthly report considered at the 15 September meeting.
(8) Annual Review of Housing-Related Fees and Charges	High	Nov 2005	No longer required – The report was presented to the Finance & Performance Management Scrutiny Panel instead.
(9) Report on Findings of Private Sector House Condition Survey	Medium	Dec 2005	Not yet due.
(10) Updated draft HRA Business Plan	Medium	March 2006	Not yet due. The Draft HRA Business Plan will be reported to the next meeting.
(11) Updated draft Local Supporting People Strategy	High	March 2006	Not yet due. The draft Local Supporting People Strategy will be reported to the next meeting.
(12) Six-monthly Progress Report on Housing Strategy Action Plan	Medium	March 2006	Completed & Provided Early - Due to the new Housing Strategy not yet being ready, a Six-month Progress Report on the current Housing Strategy was considered at the 15 September meeting.
(13) Draft Private Sector Housing Assistance Policy	High	March 2006	Not yet due.
(14) Initiatives for Reducing the Number of Empty Properties in the Private Sector	High	March 2006	<p>Slightly delayed - Agreed at the 21 July meeting that the Panel should consider a few reports on the issues, leading up to a draft Empty Property Strategy to be considered in March 2006.</p> <p>A scoping report on the proposed scrutiny was reported the 15 September meeting of the Panel.</p> <p>A report on the possible use of collaborative initiatives and enforcement for inclusion within the Empty Property Strategy will be presented to the Panel's next meeting in January 2006.</p>

ISSUES ADDED TO WORK PROGRAMME DURING THE YEAR

(15) Discretionary rights to be provided to introductory tenants	High	Sept 2005	Completed - At the 15 September meeting
(16) Review of Housing Service Strategy on Tenant Participation	Medium	Sept 2005	Completed - At the 15 September meeting
(17) Homelessness Strategy	Medium	March 2006	On Target – The Consultation Draft has nearly been produced. Following the consultation exercise, the draft Homelessness Strategy will be considered by the Panel, before adoption by the Cabinet.
(18) Member Briefings	Medium	October 2005	Completed – A Members Information Evening was held in September 2005, and two Briefings on Basic Housing Law were held in October 2005
(19) Increasing the amount of affordable housing	High	March 2006	New Task: Report made to this meeting of the Panel – A report on the proposed scope of the report is being considered at this meeting.
(20) Requests from Witness Mobility Scheme	Medium	December 2005	New Task: Report made to this meeting of the Panel – A report on this issue is being considered at this meeting
(21) Housing Service Strategy on Rent Administration and Collection	Low	January 2006	New Task: The revised draft Housing Service Strategy will be reported to the Panel's next meeting in January 2006
(22) Housing Service Strategy on House Sales, Land Sales and Leasehold Services	Low	January 2006	New Task: The revised draft Housing Service Strategy will be reported to the Panel's next meeting in January 2006