

## **Appendix 1**

At its meeting in September 2008, the Cabinet agreed to form the Repairs Advisory Group, made up of the following Members:

- (a) Housing Portfolio Holder (Chairman)**
- (b) Finance & Performance Management Portfolio Holder**
- (c) Chairman of the Housing Scrutiny Panel**
- (d) Vice-Chairman of the Housing Scrutiny Panel**
- (e) Director of Housing**
- (f) Asst. Director of Housing (Property)**
- (g) 2 representatives of the Tenants & Leaseholders Federation**

In May 2012, the membership was amended to omit the finance & Performance Management Portfolio Holder from the RAG. This effectively means that the members of RAG are all (with the exception of Mears and the second tenant representative) attendees at the Housing Scrutiny Panel.

The main purpose of the RAG meeting was to oversee the appointment of the new Repairs Management Contractor (Mears) to take our Repairs Service through a Repairs Refresh Programme. The terms of reference for the Advisory Group was to provide advice on the proposed specification, interview short-listed companies and recommend to the Portfolio Holder an appointment. It would also monitor the performance of the repairs management contractor and the repairs service generally. The RAG is a Consultation Group, with any decisions ultimately taken by the Cabinet (or delegated to the Housing Portfolio Holder).

Clearly, most of this work has been done. However, the ongoing contract monitoring will continue for the remainder of the contract (up to 9-years).

It is right to question the purpose of an additional meeting in the Council's calendar. The main items that now go to the RAG meeting often also go to the Housing Scrutiny Panel, such as Performance Indicators, new Key Deliverables and Service Enhancements. The Housing Scrutiny Panel have also received presentations on the progress made with the Repairs Refresh Programme; therefore, one could argue that there is a duplication in the role of RAG and the Housing Scrutiny Panel.

Since the RAG was introduced as a result of a Cabinet Decision, I suggest it would be a Cabinet Decision to change its terms of reference, or even end it; perhaps amending the terms of reference of Housing Scrutiny to incorporate the role of RAG.

This email is primarily to seek the views of both the Housing Portfolio Holder and the Chairman of the Housing Scrutiny Panel on the possibility of amending the Scrutiny Panel Terms of Reference to incorporate the on-going roles of RAG, thereby ending RAG as an external body; a question raised by the Constitution Sub-Group on Monday evening.