

**TO: ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL  
28 MARCH 2017**

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**WORKING GROUP UPDATE REPORT  
Assistant Chief Executive**

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report summarises the progress achieved to date by the Working Group of the Panel reviewing the Council's draft Housing Strategy and Housing Supply.

**2 RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 **That the Panel notes the progress achieved to date by its Working Group reviewing the Council's draft Housing Strategy and housing supply.**

**3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 3.1 To keep the Panel up to date regarding the activities of its Working Group reviewing the Council's draft Housing Strategy and Supply.

**4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 None.

**5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 5.1 A Working Group of the Panel, comprising Councillors Peacey (Lead Member), Mrs Angell, Finch, Mrs McCracken, Mrs McKenzie and Mrs Temperton, was established to respond to the consultation in respect of the Council's draft Housing Strategy 2016-2036 and to review a related theme, originally envisaged to be possibly the supply of accommodation for older people.
- 5.2 The Working Group commenced in November 2016 and has met on three occasions, to date. Issues covered have included:
- Receiving a briefing from senior housing officers on key aspects of the draft Housing Strategy, with particular reference to Affordable Housing.
  - A discussion on the scope of the review, leading to an agreed scoping document. The Executive Member, Director and the Chairman of the O&S Commission have since commented that the proposed scope is too wide.
  - Receiving a briefing from the Chief Officer: Planning, Transport and Countryside on the Council's role in relation to housing supply and specifically Affordable Housing.
  - A discussion with the Chairman of Downshire Homes on its role and performance in relation to housing supply, and the ideas which are being explored for the future.

A representative of the Working Group also attended to observe the meeting of the Downshire Homes Board on 24 January.

- 5.3 Owing to the shortage of O&S Officer resources, no further meetings of the Working Group have been arranged, which may put at risk the aim to complete the review by July 2017. The next meeting of the Working Group is likely to include a discussion with the Chairman of the O&S Commission to resolve the differing views over the scope of the review.

**6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS / EQUALITIES  
IMPACT ASSESSMENT / STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES /  
CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 Not applicable.

Background Papers

None.

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