

Part A

Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting: Thursday, 21 March 2019

Report author: Committee and Scrutiny Officer

Title: Watford Community Housing Task Group - Final report

1.0 Summary

1.1 This report provides Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the final report and recommendations of the Watford Community Housing Task Group. The report is attached as Appendix 1.

1.2 The scrutiny committee is asked to review the report prior to its presentation to Watford Community Housing.

2.0 Risks

2.1 No direct risks to the council have been identified as a result of the task group's recommendations.

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 that the final report and recommendations of the Watford Community Housing Task Group be agreed and forwarded to Watford Community Housing.

Further information:

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Report approved by: Head of Democracy and Governance

4.0 Detailed proposal

4.1 In March 2018 Overview and Scrutiny Committee was presented with a scrutiny proposal to review Watford Community Housing. The proposal had been submitted by Councillors Asif Khan and Kareen Hastrick following communication with a Watford resident.

4.2 The scrutiny proposal was agreed and the task group's membership was approved at Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 28 June 2018. The membership included

- Councillor Asif Khan (elected as Chair at the task group's first meeting)
- Councillor Stephen Cavinder
- Councillor Aga Dychton
- Councillor Amanda Grimston
- Councillor Kareen Hastrick

4.3 The task group held three formal meetings. Watford Community Housing's Chief Executive and Director of Operations attended the second and third meeting, providing presentations and responding to councillors' questions. There were also five drop-in sessions for residents to meet the councillors and to discuss their experiences and complete a survey. The survey was also run through Survey Monkey, advertised on posters and social media.

4.4 Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to review the final report and the task group's recommendations. Following the meeting the report will be sent to Watford Community Housing's Chief Executive, who will be invited to a future Overview and Scrutiny Committee to advise on their response to the recommendations. The scrutiny committee may wish to identify an estimated date for the response.

5.0 **Implications**

5.1 **Financial**

5.1.1 The Shared Director of Finance comments that should there be any budget implications arising from the recommendations, these will be considered as part of the implementation of recommendations.

5.2 **Legal Issues** (Monitoring Officer)

5.2.1 The Head of Democracy and Governance comments that there are no legal implications in this report.

5.3 **Equalities, Human Rights and Data Protection**

5.3.1 The task group's recommendations have no direct impact on the council. If there is any impact as a result of a recommendation, Watford Community Housing will need to consider if there are any mitigation steps that need to be implemented.

5.4 **Staffing**

5.4.1 None

5.5 Accommodation

5.5.1 None

5.6 Community Safety/Crime and Disorder

5.6.1 None

5.7 Sustainability

5.7.1 None

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Watford Community Housing Task Group's final report

Background papers

No papers were used in the preparation of this report.