

*PART A

Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting: 21 November 2012
Report of: Committee and Scrutiny Officer
Title: Previous Review Update: Affordable Housing – recommendation 2

1.0 SUMMARY

1.1 This report provides an update on the second recommendation of the Affordable Housing Review, which was last reviewed by Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on 26 July 2011.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 that Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes the latest update and considers whether it requires a further update at a later date.

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Report approved by: Carol Chen, Head of Legal and Property Services

3.0 DETAILED PROPOSAL

3.1 During 2010/11 the Policy Development Scrutiny Committee carried out a review of affordable housing within Watford. The final report was agreed at its meeting held on 15 March 2011, which was then forwarded to Cabinet for its consideration on 22 March 2011.

3.2 Overview and Scrutiny Committee reviewed the Cabinet's response at its meeting on 26 July 2011 and agreed to follow up a number of recommendations over a period of time. The update reviews were built into the Scrutiny Committee's work programme. It was agreed that recommendation 2 would be reviewed in December 2012 to find out whether there had been any changes to the policy.

3.3 Recommendation 2 stated –

“That Planning officers investigate if there is any way the council can ensure that piecemeal developments where a developer deliberately sub-divides a development into segments below the threshold level can be made subject to the same Section 106 obligations as if it was a single development subject to such obligations.”

3.4 The recommendation, Cabinet’s response and the Scrutiny Committee’s comments were provided to the Head of Planning and the Planning Policy Section Head, who were asked to provide an update. The latest update and the original information are included in Appendix 1.

3.5 Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to review the latest update and consider whether it wishes to receive a further update at a later date or it considers the recommendation to have been completed.

4.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 **Financial**

4.1.1 The Head of Strategic Finance comments that there are no financial implications arising from this report.

4.2 **Legal Issues** (Monitoring Officer)

4.2.1 The Head of Legal and Property Services comments that there are no legal implications in this report.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Affordable Housing review update

Background Papers

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report. If you wish to inspect or take copies of the background papers, please contact the officer named on the front page of the report.

Affordable Housing Review final report
Overview and Scrutiny Committee minutes 26 July 2011

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<http://watford.moderngov.co.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?Categories=>

File Reference

None