

## PART A

**Report to:** Cabinet  
**Date of meeting:** 2 December 2013  
**Report of:** Head of Democracy and Governance  
**Title:** Watford Community Housing Trust

### 1.0 SUMMARY

1.1 This report provides Cabinet with the final report of the Watford Community Housing Trust Task Group and the Trust's initial response to the recommendations.

### 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 that Cabinet considers the Watford Community Housing Trust Task Group's final report and forwards any comments to Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

#### **Contact Officer:**

For further information on this report please contact: Sandra Hancock,  
Committee and Scrutiny Officer  
telephone extension: 8377 email: [legalanddemocratic@watford.gov.uk](mailto:legalanddemocratic@watford.gov.uk)

**Report approved by:** Carol Chen, Head of Democracy and Governance

### 3.0 DETAILED PROPOSAL

3.1 At its meeting on 21 November 2012, Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to establish a Task Group to investigate Councillor Khan's scrutiny proposal regarding 'Watford Community Housing Trust.

3.2 The final report incorporating the Task Group's recommendations was presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 26 September 2013. The Scrutiny Committee reviewed the recommendations and agreed the report.

3.3 Following the approval of the Task Group's report it was emailed to the Chief Executive of Watford Community Housing Trust on 9 October 2013. A hard copy was sent once the printed version was available.

3.4 At the request of Overview and Scrutiny Committee the report has been circulated widely either by post or by signposting individuals to the Council's website. Those contacted include –

- The Chair of the Housing Trust's Board;
- The tenants who attended the drop-in session with the Task Group;
- All Watford Borough Councillors;
- The Three Rivers District Councillors for Leavesden and Abbots Langley wards;
- Residents' and Tenants' Associations, whose information has been supplied by Ward Councillors;
- The Head of Community and Customer Services and the Housing Section Head at Watford Borough Council

3.5 Watford Community Housing Trust has provided an initial response to the Task Group's recommendations and this information will be presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 28 November 2013. The Housing Trust's Chief Executive will be attending Overview and Scrutiny Committee in January to formally respond to Members.

3.6 Cabinet is asked to note the recommendations to Watford Community Housing Trust and to forward any comments to Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

#### 4.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

##### 4.1 **Financial**

4.1.1 *There are no financial implications arising from this report.*

##### 4.2 **Legal Issues** (Monitoring Officer)

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

#### Appendices

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

Appendix 2 – Watford Community Housing Trust's initial response to the recommendations

#### Background Papers

Overview and Scrutiny Committee minutes 21 November 2012 and 26 September 2013

#### File Reference

None