

SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND ENVIRONMENT CAPITAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 6
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Report of the Corporate Director of Growth and Regeneration		
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ESTABLISHMENT OF A SCRUTINY TASK AND FINISH GROUP FOR A REVIEW OF THE PETERBOROUGH HOUSING STRATEGY

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for the Committee to consider and agree the Terms of Reference and membership of a Task and Finish Group

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Committee approves the Terms of Reference for the Task and Finish Group.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The following motion was approved by Full Council on 15 April;

“That this Council notes that social housing was transferred to partners in 2003 and the strategy of the Council has not been reviewed since.

I respectfully ask that this Council creates a cross party review of the present strategy and to consult and create a new fit for purpose strategy recommendation that reflects our changing city to enable a future proof and resilient strategy going forward.

The provision of social housing has changed significantly since 2003 and update of what social housing could and should be achieving, and delivering, is long overdue”.

A recommendation was agreed to establish a task and finish group to oversee the development of a refreshed strategy. The current Housing Strategy was adopted in February 2012 with a stated term from 2011-15 and therefore the timing for this review fits well with the timetable for updating the strategy.

3.2 DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

3.2.1 Purpose of the Task and Finish Group

The purpose of the Task and Finish Group is to influence the formation of the Peterborough Housing Strategy 2016-19 to ensure it is a cross-tenure, over-arching document that will establish a broad range of housing-related priorities for the city.

3.2.2 Role of the Task and Finish Group

The role of the Task and Finish Group is to discuss the significant local and national housing issues which affect Peterborough. To oversee establishment of a Delivery Group and to guide the Group to consider solutions to address the most pressing housing matters and to endorse the recommendations of the Delivery Group.

3.2.3 Responsibilities of the Task and Finish Group

Members of the Task and Finish Group will shape the production of the Housing Strategy document which will set the housing-related agenda for the city over the next four years. Ownership of the production of the Peterborough Housing Strategy 2016-19 will rest with the Delivery Steering Group.

A Delivery Steering Group will be established to ensure effective engagement with key partners. The Delivery Steering Group will be made up of representatives with a specific stake in housing-focused services within Peterborough from homelessness through to growth.

The Task and Finish Group will oversee the development of the priorities for the Peterborough Housing Strategy 2016-19. Once priorities have been finalised, a draft strategy will be produced based around these themes. The Task and Finish Group will then continue to meet for the purposes of:

- Shaping the Peterborough Housing Strategy 2016-19 and associated action plan, at each stage in the process
- Discussing progress on the production of the document
- Providing a steer on any issues that arise throughout the strategy production and consultation process
- Signing off an agreed draft document ready for wider consultation
- Supporting the Housing Strategy to be adopted through the democratic processes.

3.2.4 Membership of the Task and Finish Group

Membership of the group will consist of elected Members from across the political groups to ensure cross party representation and officer representation from Anne Keogh, Housing and Strategic Planning Manager as Lead Officer, Caroline Hannon, Senior Housing Strategy and Enabling Officer as the officer with day-to-day responsibility for the coordination and production of the Peterborough Housing Strategy and Chair of the Delivery Group and Belinda Child, Head of Housing and Health Improvement as a key internal stakeholder.

The Task and Finish Group will be disbanded once a draft version of the refreshed Housing Strategy has been agreed for wider consultation.

3.3 MEMBERSHIP AND MEETINGS

Nominations from all Groups are currently being sought for membership to the Task and Finish Group. An update on this will be provided at the meeting.

The group will be supported by Anne Keogh (Housing and Strategic Planning Manager) and Caroline Hannon (Senior Housing Strategy and Enabling Officer). The group will also involve Belinda Child (Head of Housing and Health Improvement) as a key stakeholder to ensure a balance of views and expertise are available for meeting the terms of reference.

4. NEXT STEPS

- 4.1 If the Terms of Reference and membership of the Task and Finish Group are agreed by the Committee then the first meeting of the Task and Finish Group will be arranged.

5. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 5.1 None

6. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Draft Terms of Reference

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