

JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY TRANSITION – HOUSING TASK GROUP

Implementation Executive's Response to the Task Group's Interim Report

Purpose of Report

1. To update the task group on the response received from the Implementation Executive as agreed on the 23rd September 2008, in respect of the task group's interim report.

Action Required of the Task Group

2. To discuss the implications of this response for the task group's future work programme (see [Appendix A](#)).

Implementation Executive's Response

3. Please see below a copy of the response from the IE as recorded in the minutes of its meeting on the 23rd September:

"The Implementation Executive considered the interim report of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Transition Board (JOSTB) Housing Task Group.

Mrs J Giles, Chairman of the JOSTB Housing Task Group, attended the meeting and introduced the report. She emphasised that the main focus should be on maintaining the service at the current high level provided by the district councils and that the service would also need to continue to improve.

John Thomson, one of the lead IE members on Housing, welcomed the report and responded to the individual recommendations. He identified further work that he would welcome being included within the final Task Group report, namely:-

- (a) investigation of the individual Affordable Housing Strategies of the district councils and identification of any differences in policy or service delivery;*
- (b) the inclusion of extra care housing;*
- (c) clarification of the budget savings identified and the capital commitments referred to;*
- (d) the understanding that the IE could not commit the new unitary authority for future budgets beyond 2009-10;*
- (e) the identification of which specific housing associations the new council should be represented on and then this would be reflected in a further report to the IE on the generic issue of appointments to all outside bodies.*

The Chairman of the IE asked members to note the issues contained within the report, and requested that housing for young people should also be covered within the final Task Group report, and emphasised that the budget issues raised within the report would be considered through the overall budget process.

Resolved:

To thank the Housing Task Group for its interim report and to request that the final report should include and respond to the issues identified above.”

Conclusion

4. Seeking advice from the Housing Service Director, the task group is requested to consider the response at paragraph 3, and agree any necessary changes to its work programme.

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