

**Wiltshire Council**

**Cabinet Shareholder Group**

**3 December 2024**

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**Subject: Stone Circle Governance Task Group recommendations**

**Cabinet Member: Cllr Phil Alford  
Cabinet Member for Housing**

**Key Decision: Non key**

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**Executive Summary**

This report sets out a proposed responses to the recommendations of to the recent Stone Circle Governance Task Group for approval.

**Proposals**

Shareholder Group is asked to

- 1) Consider the attached appendix of draft responses
- 2) Approve the response subject to any suggested amendments

**Reason for Proposals**

To complete the response to the Task Group and its recommendations which were accepted in full by Cabinet

**Lead Corporate Director Name**

Lizzie Watkin (Interim Corporate Director Resources)

## **Wiltshire Council**

### **Cabinet Shareholder Group**

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#### **Purpose of Report**

1. A recent Scrutiny Task Group on the Stone Circle companies suggested four recommendations, three of which were for Cabinet and were agreed.
2. This report sets out some proposed wording to give effect to those recommendations.

#### **Relevance to the Council's Business Plan**

3. The Council's relationship with Stone Circle reflects the themes in Business Plan of "Improving social mobility and tackling inequality" and also "Working Together." It has its greatest relevance in our aim to "We have the right housing."

#### **Background**

4. The recent Scrutiny Task Group that looked at the work of the Stone Circle companies made three recommendations.

#### **Recommendation**

- 1 That the council defines the purpose of both Stone Circle Housing and Stone Circle Development. The statement of purpose should include precise objectives and intended outcomes to enable ongoing scrutiny and to reference when reviewing performance and decision-making of Stone Circle Housing and Stone Circle Development. The statement of purpose, objectives and targets should be accessible to members and the public.
- 2 That Cabinet Shareholder Group minutes be made available to all members together with a simplified version of the shareholder group terms of reference to clarify the group's role and responsibilities in relation to Stone Circle Group.
- 3 That the terms of reference for the Cabinet Shareholder Group includes clarification on the extent to which Stone Circle companies operate independently or follow Council standards in their operations.

These are agreed by Cabinet, with a response being reported to Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee on 27 November 2024.

Appendix 1 sets out draft wording to give effect to the recommendations.

## **Main Considerations for the Council**

5. Officers can now take action to implement the recommendations with approval from the Shareholder Group.

## **Safeguarding Implications**

6. None identified

## **Public Health Implications**

7. None identified

## **Procurement Implications**

8. None identified

## **Equalities Impact of the Proposal**

9. None identified

## **Environmental and Climate Change Considerations**

10. None identified

## **Workforce Implications**

11. None identified

## **Risks that may arise if the proposed decision and related work is not taken**

12. None identified

## **Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risks**

13. None identified

## **Financial Implications**

14. None identified

## **Legal Implications**

15. None identified

## **Overview and Scrutiny Engagement**

16. This report is in response to a recent Scrutiny Task Group

## **Options Considered**

17. As Cabinet has agreed the recommendations of the Scrutiny Task Group, the option to do nothing was discounted.

### **Conclusions**

18. The report provides draft wording for approval to give effect to the Scrutiny Task Group recommendations about the Stone Circle companies

### **Lead Director Perry Holmes, Director of Legal & Governance**

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### **Appendices**

Appendix 1 Stone Circle Scrutiny Task Group Recommendations and draft responses

### **Background Papers**

**Final report of the Stone Circle Governance Scrutiny Task Group report**

**<https://cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/documents/s230166/Final%20Report%20of%20the%20Stone%20Circle%20Governance%20Task%20Group.pdf>**