

Committee: Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny

Date: 12 January 2017

Wards:

Subject: Report to Cabinet on Merton Priory Homes Governance

Lead officer: Simon Williams, Director of Community and Housing

Lead member: Councillor Martin Whelton, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment & Housing

Contact officer: Steve Webb, Housing Business Support and Relationship Manager
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Recommendations:

- A. To note the content of the Cabinet Report on Merton Priory Homes Governance.
 - B. To identify any areas for the panel to assist Cabinet in making recommendations to full council.
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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. This report provides the panel with the report to Cabinet on Merton Priory Homes Governance dated 16 January 2017.
- 1.2. The Cabinet report is provided in order to brief the panel on Circle's plans to simplify the group structure and consolidate the nine housing associations in the group, including Merton Priory Homes (MPH), into one association.
- 1.3. The Cabinet report seeks members agreement on the Council's position on these plans.
- 1.4. Circle Housing are implementing a programme known to Circle as "Resurgence". Circle are not currently in a position to implement this in Merton without the council's approval, which they have requested with regards to variations to the Stock Transfer Agreement.
- 1.5. The council is a shareholder of MPH. It is necessary, in its role as shareholder, for the council to also agree a position on how to exercise its vote in forthcoming shareholder meetings on the proposals and whether they are in the best interests of tenants and leaseholders in providing accountability for their performance and services within Merton.
- 1.6. The report to Cabinet seeks to set out Circle's plans, the powers of the council and the impact on the MPH residents.

2 DETAILS

- 2.1. Full details are contained the report to Cabinet in Appendix 1.

3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 3.1. Please refer to Appendix 1

4 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

- 4.1. Please refer to Appendix 1

5 TIMETABLE

- 5.1. There is a Cabinet meeting on 16 January 2017 followed by full council on 1 February 2017.
- 5.2. Circle Housing are seeking to complete their plans by the end March 2017

6 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. Please refer to Appendix 1

7 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. Please refer to Appendix 1

8 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. Please refer to Appendix 1

9 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. Please refer to Appendix 1

10 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. Please refer to Appendix 1

11 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

- Appendix 1 – 16 January 2017 Report to Cabinet on Merton Priory Homes Governance

12 BACKGROUND PAPERS