

## **Committee: Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

**Date: 26 March 2014**

Agenda item: 8

Wards: All Wards

### **Subject: Draft Final Report of the Climate Change and the Green Deal Task Group**

Lead officer: Rebecca Redman, Scrutiny Officer

Lead member: Councillor Russell Makin, Chair of the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel

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#### **Recommendations:**

- A. That the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel considers and endorses the report arising from the scrutiny review of Climate Change and the Green Deal, attached at Appendix 1;
- B. That the Panel considers the response received from Merton Priory Homes to its draft Final Report and recommendations and agrees how it would like to incorporate this response; or if it wishes to amend the groups recommendations to reflect opportunities for partnership working with MPH and Circle Housing (to be tabled at the meeting); and
- C. That the Panel agrees to forward the review report to cabinet for approval and implementation of the recommendations.

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#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 To present the scrutiny review of Climate Change and the Green Deal in Merton to the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel for endorsement; and to seek agreement to forward the report to Cabinet for approval and implementation of the review recommendations.

#### **2. DETAILS**

- 2.1 The Panel, at its meeting on 25 June 2013, agreed to establish a task group to look at climate change, in particular the refresh of the council's climate change strategy, and whether the Green Deal is suitable for Merton residents.
- 2.2 The Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel appointed a task group to carry out the review. The task group's report is attached at Appendix 1.

- 2.3 The task group also met with Merton Priory Homes and Circle Housing to discuss its findings and the potential for joint working and delivery of some of the energy improvement initiatives discussed. MPH and Circle Housing agreed to provide a response to the findings and recommendations of the task group. This response is to be tabled at this meeting for Members consideration and action. The Panel should consider if and how it would like to amend any of the groups recommendations in response to the views and proposals of MPH and Circle Housing.

### **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 3.1 The Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel can select topics for scrutiny review and for other scrutiny work as it sees fit, taking into account views and suggestions from officers, partner organisations and the public.

### **4. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED**

- 4.1 In carrying out its review, the task group co-opted representatives from Sustainable Merton, met with representatives from Peterborough City Council, and also talked to council officers and Cabinet Members.
- 4.2 Appendix 1 of the Task Group Report lists those who contributed to the review.

### **5. TIMETABLE**

- 5.1 The task group's draft final report will be considered, with a view to being endorsed to forward to Cabinet, by the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel at its meeting on 26 March 2014.
- 5.2 The Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel will then send the report to the Council's Cabinet in June 2014 for consideration.

### **6. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 None for the purposes of this covering report.

### **7. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 None for the purposes of this report.

### **8. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 It is a fundamental aim of the scrutiny process to ensure that there is full and equal access to the democratic process through public involvement and engaging with local partners in scrutiny reviews. Furthermore, the outcomes of reviews are intended to benefit all sections of the local community. An Equalities Impact Assessment was completed as part of the review process and is available on request from the Scrutiny Team.

### **9. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 None for the purposes of this report.

### **10. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 None for the purposes of this report.

- 11. APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT**
- 11.1 Appendix 1 – task group review report on Climate Change and the Green Deal.
- 12. BACKGROUND PAPERS**
- 12.1 None for the purposes of this report.

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