



## Report of the Director of Environment & Neighbourhoods

### Inner North West Area Committee

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> February 2008

Subject: Shared Housing Action Plan for 2008

<b>Electoral Wards Affected:</b>  ALL  <input type="checkbox"/> Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)	<b>Specific Implications For:</b>  Equality and Diversity <input type="checkbox"/> Community Cohesion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Narrowing the Gap <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Council Function <input type="checkbox"/>	Delegated Executive Function available for Call In <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report <input type="checkbox"/>

### Executive Summary

This report provides Area Committee with the 2008 Shared Housing Action Plan, following the 2007 annual review, which was undertaken by the Shared Housing Group between September and December 2007.

#### 1.0 Background Information

- 1.1 Attached to this report, as appendix 1, is the 2008 Shared Housing Action Plan (SHAP), produced by the Shared Housing Group.
- 1.2 The Shared Housing Group meets to consider the distribution of shared housing across the administrative area of Leeds. There is particular focus on the Area of Housing Mix (AoHM) which encompasses the traditional student areas of Headingley inner north west Leeds, where a high proportion the city's shared housing exists. A map of the AoHM appears as appendix 2.
- 1.3 The SHAP serves four objectives, these being:
  - To increase the sustainability of Inner North West Leeds;
  - To reduce the number of students accommodated within the AoHM by 2011;

- To increase the proportion of students accommodated outside of the AoHM by 2011; and
- To increase the range of opportunities for student housing in Leeds.

1.4 The Plan has been agreed through discussion with the following partners:

- Leeds City Council;
- Leeds HMO Lobby;
- Leeds Metropolitan Students' Union;
- Leeds Metropolitan University;
- Leeds Property Association;
- Leeds University Union;
- Unipol; and
- University of Leeds.

## **2.0 Key Issues**

2.1 The 2008 SHAP is linked closely to a number of policies supported by the Inner North West Area Committee and the work of its Sub Groups, in particular:-

- Aiming to limit the development of new student accommodation within the AoHM, whilst increasing the appeal of accommodation outside of the area;
- Reviewing and improving cleansing practices, particularly in response to peaks associated with the annual cycle of the housing market within the AoHM;
- Improving the integration of shared household occupants into communities within the AoHM, by raising awareness of council services and promoting responsible citizenship;
- New Resident Parking Zones will be explored in detail by the Transport Sub Group. Consideration will be given to the relatively high number of cars found in areas with significant levels of shared housing alongside the aim of the universities to encourage alternative means of travel to and from campus, such as cycling; and
- Other policies supported by the plan include the Direction on letting boards, the restrictive policy on flyering in the area and the Headingley Designated Public Places Order and Cumulative Impact Policy.

2.2 Success in delivering the aims of the 2008 SHAP will require effective partnership working between responsible agencies. The Shared Housing Group is developing an associated work programme and will receive reports from council departments and external partners on aspects of the SHAP throughout the year.

2.3 A review of the 2008 SHAP will be held toward the end of the year to measure the success of the various actions.

## **3.0 Recommendations**

3.1 The Area Committee is asked to note the contents of the Shared Housing Action Plan 2008.