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## Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

**Scrutiny Board (Environment and Neighbourhoods)** 

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010

Subject: Review of the Housing Lettings Process - Draft Statement

Electoral Wards Affected: All	Specific Implications For:
	Equality and Diversity  Community Cohesion
Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)	Narrowing the Gap

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 At the April 2009 Council meeting, concerns were raised about the current housing lettings policies. In response, the Executive Board considered a number of proposed options for change aimed at improving the management and allocation of tenancies and requested that these be developed further into recommendations for change to be incorporated into a revised Lettings Policy and guidance.
- 1.2 However, the Scrutiny Board also decided to take a broad look at the housing lettings process, from the housing application stage through to tenancy management, to explore where improvements in partnership working and data sharing can be made to improve the allocation and management of tenancies.
- 1.3 This review has now concluded and the Board is in a position to report on its findings and recommendations resulting from the evidence gathered. The Board's draft Statement will follow and be made available prior to the meeting for the Board's consideration.
- 1.4 Scrutiny Board Procedure Rule 16.3 states that "where a Scrutiny Board is considering making specific recommendations it shall invite advice from the appropriate Director(s) prior to finalising its recommendations. The Director shall consult with the appropriate Executive Member before providing any such advice. The detail of that advice shall be reported to the Scrutiny Board and considered before the Statement is finalised".
- 1.5 Any advice received will be reported at the Board's meeting for consideration, before the Board finalises its statement.

1.6 Once the Board publishes its final statement, the appropriate Director(s) will be asked to formally respond to the Scrutiny Board's recommendations within three months.

## 2.0 Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to consider and agree the Board's Statement on the Housing Lettings Process.

## **Background Papers**

None