



## Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

### Scrutiny Board (Environment and Neighbourhoods)

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> January 2011

### Subject: Strategic Governance Board and Shared Service Centre

#### Electoral Wards Affected: All

Ward Members consulted  
(referred to in report)

#### Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Scrutiny Board on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2010 considered a Call In request concerning the decision of the Executive Board on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2010 to approve the attached report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods on the future of Council housing.
- 1.2 The outcome of the Call-In meeting was that the decision of the Executive Board was released for implementation. However, the Scrutiny Board agreed that a Working Group be established to work with the officers and the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods and Housing) in defining the proposals contained in the above decision, prior to a further report back to the Executive Board in March 2011.
- 1.3 Members were concerned at the Call In meeting about the lack of clarity regarding the composition of the proposed Strategic Governance Board and the possibility that such a proposal would concentrate too much power in the hands of very few Members and officers and what the role of the ALMOs would be under the new arrangements.
- 1.4 As the timescale is short before Executive Board is to consider a further report on this matter in March 2010 it has been agreed to scrutinise two specific issues relating to the report on the future of Council housing namely the:
- Strategic Governance Board
  - Shared Service Centre

## 2.0 Terms of Reference for Strategic Governance Board

- 2.1 The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods will report on the proposed terms of reference for the Strategic Governance Board for Members comments and input.

2.2 The terms of reference for the Strategic Governance Board are attached for the consideration of the Board at today's meeting.

### **3.0 Shared Service Centre Inquiry**

3.1 Draft terms of reference for an inquiry on the establishment of the Shared Service Centre are attached for the consideration of the Board at today's meeting.

### **4.0 Working Group**

4.1 The Scrutiny Board on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2010 on hearing the call-in on the future of Council housing agreed that a Working Group be established to undertake the necessary work.

### **5.0 Recommendations**

5.1 The Board is asked

- (i) To consider the proposed terms of reference for the Strategic Governance Board and give comments and input to this document
- (ii) To consider and approve terms of reference for an inquiry on the Shared Service Centre.
- (iii) To determine membership of the Working Group to undertake the shared service centre inquiry.

### Background Papers

None used