



## **Housing Working Group**

**Minutes** of a meeting of the **Housing Working Group** held in **Warren Room, Lewes House, 32 High Street, Lewes** on **16 June 2008** at **14:00** .

### **Present:**

Councillors P F Gardiner (Chair on election), P L Bennett, M P Chartier, S B Davy, I A Nicholson and J V S Page

### **In Attendance:**

#### **Officers Attending:**

J Magness, Director of Finance and Community Services

S Findlay, Housing Strategy Manager

R Simms, Policy Development Officer

L Frost, Director of Planning and Environmental Services

P Hoppen, Assistant Director (Strategy and Regeneration)

D Feintuck, Committee Officer/Scrutiny Secretary

**Public attending:** G Light and N Macbeth (re- Housing Co-operatives)

**To Elect a Chair for the Working Party**

Resolved:

**1.1** That Councillor Gardiner be elected Chair for the meeting.

**2**

**Review of Affordable Housing Provision**

The Working Party considered Report No 107/08 which noted the remit approved by the Cabinet and proposed an approach to the review process to include a timetable and the allocation of specific tasks to councillors and officers. The Chair invited Ms Light and Ms Macbeth to outline the nature of housing co-operatives, councillors to indicate their priorities and preferred tasks and officers to suggest relevant considerations in the light of the remit and documents already circulated.

Points raised in discussion included:

- Housing was one of the Council's top three priorities;
- Identified good practice or other new ideas needed to be followed by an analysis of how they could be applied;
  
- The Audit Commission had recently produced a national study of development contributions contained in which were examples of how developers could be encouraged to provide affordable housing;
- The forthcoming Government proposals for a Community Infrastructure Levy, which would largely replace Section 106 agreements, would involve considering the provision of funding for an extended range of social and physical infrastructure;
- The emerging Local Development Framework and the 2008 Housing Strategy would need to comply with the South East Plan.

Resolved:

**2.1** That councillors agree to take part in researching the tasks as listed on the Addendum, Councillor Saunders being invited to join one or more task groups and Councillor Davy to work separately on her research;

**2.2** That the dates of all task group meetings be advised to the Committee Officer and then to be circulated

to all councillors;

**2.3** That the task groups meet approximately twice before September, including discussions with outside agencies as required;

**2.4** That the task groups report back to the Working Party on Monday 22 September 2008; and

**2.5** That a draft report be produced for a Working Party meeting on Monday 13 October 2008.

### **3 Date of Next Meeting/s**

The next Working Party meetings were scheduled to be held at 9.30am on day Monday 22 September 2008 (lunch to be provided) and at 2:00pm on Monday 13 October 2008, both in the Warren Room, 32 High Street, Lewes.

The meeting ended at **15:25** .

**P F Gardiner** Chair