

**MINUTES OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY TASK GROUP - QUALITY OF HOUSING PROVIDED BY SOCIAL LANDLORDS**

**MEETING DATE** Tuesday, 20 March 2018

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillor Jane Fitzsimons (Chair), and Councillors Tom Gray, Margaret Lees, Matthew Lynch, June Molyneaux, Alistair Morwood, Mick Muncaster, Steve Murfitt and Kim Snape

**OFFICERS:** Fiona Hepburn (Housing Options and Support Manager) and Ruth Rimmington (Democratic and Member Services Team Leader)

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor Charlie Bromilow

**18.5 Minutes of meeting Monday, 29 January 2018 of Overview and Scrutiny Task Group - Quality of housing provided by social landlords**

**Decision: That the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group - Quality of housing provided by social landlords held on 29 January 2018 be approved as a correct record**

**18.6 Declarations of Any Interests**

Councillors Matthew Lynch and Steve Murfitt declared a non-pecuniary interest in all items on the agenda.

**18.7 Consideration of the draft scoping document**

The Chair updated the Group on developments since the last meeting. The Executive Leader had agreed a budget for the survey of tenants.

The Executive Leader, Executive Member and Chief Executive will be interviewed following the results of the survey.

Members noted that the scoping document will be presented to each meeting and updated as the inquiry progresses.

**Decision: That the scoping document be noted.**

**18.8 Discussion regarding a survey of tenants, Councillors and partners**

The Chair, lead officer and clerk had met with Infusion, a research, consultation and evaluation service at Blackpool Council.

Questions had been drafted, in the areas suggested by the Task Group, and the draft survey was enclosed within the agenda.

Contact has been made with the Registered Providers (RP's) (Jigsaw, Places for People, Accent, Contour and New Progress) to request address information. The survey will not be addressed to individual tenants in line with the requirements for the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) due to come into force in May. The sample size will be 4,000 randomly selected properties across the five RP's. This will include smaller estates within Chorley.

Part of the proposal includes two consultation events, one at each of the large estates. Members felt this would encourage tenants to complete the survey. The return rate for the residents' satisfaction survey was 18%..

The Members discussed the survey and covering letter in detail and made amendments where appropriate. A prize of £100 Totally Locally Chorley vouchers was suggested to a randomly selected person as an incentive. This will be investigated.

Councillor Mick Muncaster left the meeting at 5.55pm.

Members considered the corporate equality monitoring questions and expressed concern about including questions about pregnancy and sexual preferences. It was noted that the survey will be outside the Equality Scheme if questions are removed, but felt that the some of the information is not needed for the purposes of the survey and might frighten tenants. Some of the information will also be sensitive personal data under GDPR. As a result it was AGREED to retain only "What type of property do you live in?" and "When did you move into your current property?"

The results of the survey will be presented to the Task Group and to the RP's.

Councillor Alistair Morwood left the meeting at 6.55pm.

Members noted that Councillors will also have the opportunity to contribute, via survey monkey. The draft survey was considered and amendments made.

**Decision: That the updated covering letter and survey be distributed to Task Group members for any further comments, before being sent to RP's for their information and then sent to a random selection of tenants.**

## 18.9 Date of next meeting

Dates will be set up to interview representatives from Jigsaw and Places for People.

Chair

Date