

# RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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Agenda Item No. 7

meeting date: THURSDAY, 10 NOVEMBER 2011  
title: HOUSING NUMBER REVIEW – TERMS OF REFERENCE  
submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
principal author: COLIN HIRST – HEAD OF REGENERATION AND HOUSING

## 1 MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

1.1 The proposed terms of reference for the housing requirements working sub-group.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Council Ambitions – To match the supply of homes in our area with identified housing needs.
- Community Objectives – To progress the Core Strategy.
- Corporate Priorities – To be a well-managed Council.
- Other Considerations – None.

## 2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Members will recall that the consideration is being given to the issue of housing requirements in the Ribble Valley and the work undertaken by Nathaniel Litchfield and Partners to inform the Council's deliberations. As previously agreed a period of consultation has commenced in relation to the evidence report which is due to close in December. The intentions of the consultation is to provide a formal opportunity for people to comment on the published report and to enable matters of relevance to be taken onboard in reviewing the existing housing requirement.

2.3 To assist that process it was agreed to form a working sub-group of this Committee to review any comments and to contribute to the work of the Committee in relation to establishing housing requirements. It was resolved that terms of reference would be agreed by this Committee.

## 3 TERMS OF REFERENCE

3.1 The group will have a key role in giving detailed consideration to the review of housing requirements and providing guidance on how the review is progressed and ultimately provide a steer on the proposed housing requirement to Committee. It is not anticipated that the group would undertake any detailed work on the technical aspects of the review.

3.2 The suggested terms of reference are presented for discussion and endorsement and are attached in draft form as Appendix 1 to this report.

## 4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The matters dealt with in this report may have the following risks:

- Resources – No direct implications.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – The proposed abolition of the Regional Spatial Strategy places a requirement on the Council to establish housing numbers as part of the Core Strategy. The Council's decisions must be evidence based.
- Political – There is a particular public interest in this area of the Council's work.
- Reputation – None.

## 5 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

- 5.1 The proposed Terms of Reference are agreed and that the Working Sub-Group is now established.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE

### BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 1 None.

For further information please ask for Colin Hirst, extension 4503.

# Appendix 1

## **Planning & Development Committee Housing Review Working Sub-Group Terms of Reference**

1. STRUCTURE AND REPORTING
  - 1.1 The Group will be known as the Housing Review Working Sub-Group of the Planning and Development Committee.
  - 1.2 The Group will be chaired by the Chairman of Planning and Development Committee.
  - 1.3 The minutes of the meeting will be reported to the Planning and Development Committee.
2. AIMS
  - 2.1 The aim of the Sub-Group is:
    - To match the supply of homes in our area with the identified housing needs and to support progress on the Core Strategy.
3. OBJECTIVES
  - 3.1 To provide a forum to discuss the findings of the consultant's report and the implications for the proper planning of the borough.
  - 3.2 To consider the consultation response to the Housing Requirements Review Report and identify any key matters of concern.
  - 3.3 In the light of the consultation response to consider the recommendations in the Council's report and contribute advice to the Planning and Development Committee on an appropriate level of housing provision.