1 PURPOSE

1.1 To propose Terms of Reference for the Strategic Housing Working Group.

1.2 Relevance to the Council’s ambitions and priorities:

- Council Ambitions – To meet the identified housing needs of households in the borough.
- Community Objectives – To achieve a balanced housing market.
- Corporate Priorities – None.
- Other Considerations – None.

2 ISSUES

2.1 Committee discussed the need to agree a Terms of Reference for the Strategic Housing Working Group at the last Committee.

3 RISK ASSESSMENT

3.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – N/A.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – The Terms of Reference are required to provide Members with a documented basis for future decision-making.
- Political – To ensure the purpose and structure of the Strategic Housing Working Group is defined.
- Reputation – N/A.

5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

5.1 Accept the proposed Terms of Reference for the Strategic Housing Working Group as attached at Appendix 1.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

For further information please ask for Rachael Stott, extension 4567.
APPENDIX 1

HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE
STRATEGIC HOUSING WORKING GROUP
TERMS OF REFERENCE

STRUCTURE AND REPORTING

• The group will be known as the Strategic Housing Working Group of the Health and Housing Committee.

• The Chair of the Health and Housing Committee will chair the group.

• The minutes of any meetings will be reported to the Health and Housing Committee.

• The meeting dates will be reactive to provide a policy steer to affordable housing proposals, and to respond flexibly to strategic housing issues as they arise.

AIMS

• The aim of the sub-group is to aid the delivery of affordable housing in the borough.

• To match the supply of homes in our area with the identified housing needs.

OBJECTIVES

• To promote understanding of general housing needs of the local community and to advise the Health and Housing Committee as appropriate.

• To support delivery of the strategic housing objectives 2008-2012 as agreed at Housing Forum.

• To ensure H & H Members are aware of development proposals and to provide an opportunity for member guidance on requests for advice regarding the affordable housing offered within schemes.

• To provide an informed response to affordable housing development proposals in the borough to aid delivery.

• To work in partnership with our preferred registered providers and the Homes and Communities Agency to deliver the most needed housing in the right location.

• To ensure the specific housing needs of the vulnerable and elderly are addressed.