

**WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**  
**MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup> 2021**

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**Title:**

**HOUSING DESIGN STANDARDS TASK AND FINISH GROUP**

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**Portfolio Holder:** Cllr A Rosoman, Portfolio Holder for Housing

**Head of Service:** Andrew Smith, Head of Housing Delivery and Communities

**Key decision:** No

**Access:** Public

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**1. Purpose and summary**

To receive an update from the working group regarding its progress and findings.

**2. Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Committee note the findings of the attached report

**3. Reason for the recommendation**

To allow the Committee to remain informed about the work the Task & Finish Group is doing under its aegis

**4. Background**

4.1 The Committee approved the scope of this review on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020.

**5. Relationship to the Corporate Strategy and Service Plan**

5.1 The Review of the Design Standards is directly related to the aims of the Corporate Strategy in terms of working to maximise the availability of housing that meets the needs of local people at all income levels and taking steps towards the aim of becoming a net zero-carbon council by 2030 encouraging carbon reduction and carbon offsetting and sustainable homes.

**6. Implications of decision**

6.1 **Resource (Finance, procurement, staffing, IT)**

At this stage the financial consequences of the review are not known but will be identified as the work progresses. An objective of the review is to secure best value for money. Staffing will be within existing resources and the new Scrutiny Officer will support the review.

## **6.2 Risk management**

Any relevant aspects of risk management will be identified as part of the review

## **6.3 Legal**

Legal implications will be identified, where relevant, as part of the review.

## **6.4 Equality, diversity and inclusion**

An equality impact assessment will be completed during the course of the review.

## **6.5 Climate emergency declaration**

A major aim of the review is to ensure the energy efficiency and sustainability standards including housing insulation and heating standards align with the objectives of the September 2019 Climate Emergency declaration by this Council.

## **7. Consultation and engagement**

7.1 Consultation with tenants will be included as part of the review.

## **8. Other options considered**

8.1 None

## **9. Governance journey**

9.1 It is intended that the Task and Finish Group will continue to bring update reports back to this Committee and will make a final report in June/July 2021. This Committee will make recommendations arising from the report to the Executive.

## **Annexes:**

Annexe 1 – Update from the Scrutiny Officer

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## **Background Papers**

**There are no** background papers, as defined by Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972).

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## **CONTACT OFFICER:**

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Agreed and signed off by:  
Legal Services: date

Head of Finance: date  
Strategic Director: date  
Portfolio Holder: date