

MAJOR REVIEWS IN 2011/12 – SCOPING REPORT

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SUMMARY

To enable the Committee to consider a draft scoping report on 'Review of Hillingdon Housing Service' and to enable the Committee to agree the issues Members wish to include in their Review (see Annex 1).

INFORMATION

At the Committee meeting on 21 June 2011, Members discussed 5 potential review topics for 2011/12. These were:

1. Changes to the Health Service
2. Housing Benefit Changes
3. Special Needs and Supported Housing
4. Hillingdon Homes Return to Council / Review of Hillingdon Housing Service
5. The Personalisation Agenda

and requested officers to prepare a draft scoping report on: Review of Hillingdon Housing Service.

The draft scoping report is attached for Members' consideration. It is usual for a Policy Overview Committee to take forward two review topics during the municipal year, though it is up to Members of the Committee to determine this. Any second review topic can be decided at a later date.

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT

Review of Hillingdon Housing Service

At the last meeting, Members were informed that in October 2010, the London Borough of Hillingdon was the first local authority in the country to return housing management to the council from its arms length management organisation, Hillingdon Homes. Upon returning, Hillingdon homes became part of the Adult Social Care, Health and Housing Directorate - now Social Care Health and Housing (SCH&H) following the restructure of the Council in early 2011 when Children and Families joined the Directorate. Since then, the Council has been looking at the best way of further improving services for residents as well as where money can be saved. The Committee will not be asked to review the principle of bringing Hillingdon Homes back under Council control but rather a review will enable the Committee to assess whether savings from support service costs and

governance have been used to enhance services and to establish whether the opportunities arising from the integration of services have been fully maximised.

SUGGESTED COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

1. To consider the draft scoping report and ask any further question from officers;
2. To agree the first scoping report to undertake as a major review in 2011/12;
3. Subsequently, to agree the programme and the scheduling of witness sessions and amend or update the work programme accordingly.