

## Agenda Item 11

<b>Executive Member</b>	Councillor Chris Townsend
<b>Strategic Management Team Lead Officer</b>	Rachel O'Reilly
<b>Author</b>	Alison Wilks
<b>Telephone</b>	01306 870645
<b>Email</b>	Alison.wilks@molevalley.gov.uk
<b>Date</b>	30 July 2013

<b>Ward (s) affected</b>	None in establishing the Working Group	<b>Key Decision</b>	No
--------------------------	--	---------------------	----

<b>Subject</b>	Establishment of a Working Group – Housing Allocations Policy
----------------	---

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive is asked to:

- (1) approve the establishment of a Working Group to consider the draft Housing Allocations Policy report and the comments received thereon;
- (2) agree that the Working Group comprise of five Councillors (2 Conservatives, 2 Liberal Democrat and 1 Independent);
- (3) agree that the Working Group's views be included in the report on the Housing Allocations Policy to be considered by the Executive at its meeting on 26 November 2013; and
- (4) agree that Group Leaders inform the Corporate Head of Service with responsibility for Democratic and Legal Services of the names of Members to serve on the Working Group.

### CORPORATE PRIORITIES

The report to be submitted to the Executive will make recommendations on how residents access the housing register and the Council's policy on how housing applicants are prioritised for social housing.

### The Executive has the authority to determine the Recommendations

#### 1.0 Background

The Housing Allocations Policy was last reviewed in July 2010, and it is considered appropriate to review the current policy in the light of the Localism Act 2011, that provides flexibilities to housing authorities in developing their policy.

Changes to be considered are on access to the housing register, local connection and prioritisation of applicants. Public consultation will run from July into the beginning of October and a member seminar will be held on 25 September. The

seminar will cover the legal framework for the Housing Allocations Policy and explain the current policy, the need to review it and the options for change.

The Working Group will meet in October and its purpose will be to:

- consider the results of the consultation;
- comment on the proposed changes and options;
- consider and comment on the risk implications; and
- comment on the report to the Executive

The report recommending changes to the Housing Allocations Policy will incorporate the Working Group's comments and will be considered by the Scrutiny Committee on 19 November and be submitted to Executive for approval on 26 November.

## **2.0 OPTIONS**

1. The Executive can decide to establish the Working Group as identified in this report.
2. The Executive can advise the Officers to undertake a different course of action.

## **3.0 CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

### **Monitoring Officer Commentary**

The Executive is able to establish this Working Group

**S151 Officer Commentary** - Other than some very small meeting related expenses there are no financial implications in the establishment of the Working Group.

**Risk Implications** - There are no risk implications in establishing the Working Group.

**Equalities Implications** - There are no equalities implications in establishing the Working Group.

**Employment Issues** - There are no employment implications in establishing the Working Group.

**Sustainability Issues** - There are no sustainability issues in establishing the Working Group.

**Consultation** - The working group forms part of the consultation process for the review of the Housing Allocations Policy.

**Communications** - There are no communication issues relating to the establishment of a Working Group

## **4.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS** - There are no background papers.