

BRIEFING PAPER

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO SRUTINY PANEL A RECOMMENDATIONS –
BALANCED NEIGHBOURHOODS THROUGH PLANNING

DATE: 16 OCTOBER 2014

RECIPIENT: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER

SUMMARY:

A report is scheduled to be presented to the 21 October 2014 meeting of Cabinet requesting that proposed responses to the recommendations of Scrutiny Panel A's Inquiry into Balanced Neighbourhoods through Planning are received and approved. This report, attached as Appendix 1, sets out a response and, where appropriate, specific actions, in respect of each of the Panel's recommendations.

BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:

1. On 12th September 2013, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee agreed the indicative terms of reference for an Inquiry examining the contribution that planning can make to maintaining balanced neighbourhoods. The set objectives of the Inquiry were:
 - To review how effectively the City Council's Article 4 and HMOs Supplementary Planning Document is working
 - To increase understanding of the various Government proposals to relax permitted development rights, including those relating to extensions and office-to-residential conversions, and to consider whether a local response should be developed
 - To consider the Council's approach to planning enforcement
2. The Inquiry was undertaken by Scrutiny Panel A with information presented to 6 meetings from November 2013 to May 2014. The final report was approved by OSMC on 12th June 2014.
3. The recommendations are grouped under the following key themes:
 - Houses in Multiple Occupancy
 - Planning Enforcement
 - Permitted Development Rights
 - Community-Led Planning
4. The recommendations contained within the final report are summarised as Appendix 1, with proposed actions set out against each recommendation.

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RESOURCE/POLICY/FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Financial

5. The resource implications are discussed in relation to each recommendation, where applicable.

Property / Other

6. None.

Legal

7. The responses require the exercise of a range of statutory powers, primarily under Town & Country Planning legislation.

Policy

8. The report is in line with the Policy Framework.

Appendices/Supporting Information:

- 1 Proposed Responses to Scrutiny Panel A's Recommendations

Further Information Available From:

Name:	Simon Rowberry
Tel:	023 8083 2044
E-mail:	simon.rowberry@southampton.gov.uk