

**GREATER CAMBRIDGE CITY DEAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AGENCY –
NOMINATION OF COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE**

To: **General Purposes Committee**

Meeting Date: **15 March 2016**

From: **Chris Malyon, Chief Finance Officer**

Electoral division(s): **All**

Forward Plan ref: **n/a** *Key decision:* **No**

Purpose: **To brief the Committee on a request for elected member representation on a Joint Member Reference Group for the Housing Development Agency formed under the City Deal arrangements, and seek the Committee's nomination for the role**

Recommendation: **General Purposes Committee nominates [one Member] from the Investment Review Group to represent the County Council on the Joint Member Reference Group for the City Deal Housing Development Agency**

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Housing Development Agency (HDA) was established in 2015 as part of the response to the Greater Cambridge City Deal need to deliver housing growth, and in particular affordable homes, although its remit is not restricted to the City Deal area.
- 1.2 The HDA was set up with funding from Cambridge City Council, South Cambs District Council and the County Council, and is currently a joint working arrangement comprising staffing from the existing Housing teams of the City and South Cambs councils, with the intention of becoming a separate legal entity in due course.
- 1.3 Details of the HDA and its establishment have previously been discussed at this Committee, and its objectives were set out in the original HDA business case:-
 - To complement the current market led delivery of housing and to drive certainty into the delivery of new housing, together with the prospect of delivering more homes into the future, will require a collective shift in thinking and action to achieve. The HDA will be the focus for the energy and imagination that is needed for this public sector drive to make sure the right houses are provided in the right place at the right time to support the growth of Greater Cambridge
 - The following objectives are therefore proposed for the HDA;
 - To deliver the commitment contained within the City Deal to deliver an additional 1,000 dwellings on exception sites by 2031
 - To deliver the new homes identified in Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council approved Housing Revenue Accounts new build strategies – approximately 2,000 new homes
 - To deliver new homes for Ermine Street Housing, the new private limited company created by South Cambridgeshire District Council, subject to the approval of its long term plan – potentially approximately 1,000 new homes. (The City Council is also currently considering the investment of General Fund capital in Intermediate Housing)
 - To act on land and funding opportunities proposed by the County Council and the University and Colleges meeting aspirations to retain a long term stake in any development and the draw down of revenue income streams

2. MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 The HDA continues to develop and is now actively working on potential development sites for the three founding councils. As the HDA grows towards a more formal structure, its Board has identified the need for a Member Reference Group to provide oversight and guidance for the next stages.
- 2.2 The proposed Group does not have a formal structure or status at present but will develop its terms of reference, including how it will provide input into a formal company structure as it progresses alongside the HDA. It is proposed that the Group will have equal representation, made up of one Member from

each founding council.

2.3 The County Council itself has commissioned the HDA in respect of sites within its development programme for its own portfolio. The County Council's Investment Review Group (IRG), set up as an advisory group for the development programme via General Purposes Committee, has proposed that the Committee nominates one Member from IRG as the County Council's representative for the HDA's Member Reference Group, to provide continuity of knowledge and information. All Members from IRG are willing to perform this role.

2.4 The current members of IRG are:-

- Cllr Paul Bullen
- Cllr Roger Hickford
- Cllr David Jenkins
- Cllr Paul Sales

2.5 General Purposes Committee is asked to agree the nomination of one of the Members in 2.4 above to the Joint Member Reference Group for the HDA.

3. ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PRIORITIES

3.1 Developing the local economy for the benefit of all

The activities of the HDA contribute to housing development, employment, and provision of housing in the county.

3.2 Helping people live healthy and independent lives

The development of high quality affordable housing provision and general needs housing will provide a better environment for people to live in, and helps meet the wider City Deal objectives.

3.3 Supporting and protecting vulnerable people

The development of high quality affordable housing provision and general needs housing will provide a better environment for people to live in, and helps meet the wider City Deal objectives.

4. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Resource Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

4.2 Statutory, Risk and Legal Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

4.3 Equality and Diversity Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

4.4 Engagement and Consultation Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

4.5 Localism and Local Member Involvement

There are no significant implications within this category.

4.6 Public Health Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.