

## **CONFIRMATION OF WORKING GROUP**

### **Local Planning & Environment Advisory Committee – 1 July 2014**

Report of Chief Officer Legal and Governance

Status: For Decision

Key Decision: No

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**Portfolio Holder** Cllr. Piper

**Contact Officer** David Lagzdins Ext. 7350

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**Recommendation to Local Planning & Environment Advisory Committee:** That Members agree terms of reference and membership of a Squaring the Housing Circle Working Group to report to the Advisory Committee on using the planning system to provide more properties of the type needed within the District.

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**Reason for recommendation:** to enable a small working group of Members to meet more frequently and report back to the Advisory Committee on its findings for consideration.

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#### **Introduction and Background**

- 1 During the last municipal year a joint working group was proposed between the Housing & Community Safety and Local Planning and Environment Advisory Committees. It is necessary for the Committee consider the terms of reference and membership.

#### **'Squaring the housing circle, Joint Working Group with Housing & Community Safety Advisory Committee**

- 2 At the meeting of the Housing and Community Safety Advisory Committee held on 11 February 2014 (Minute 30) it was resolved that a joint working group with the Local Planning & Environment Advisory Committee be set up to consider Squaring the Housing Circle in using the planning system to provide more properties of the type needed within the District; that it consist of four Members, two from each Advisory Committee; and that Councillors Mrs Clark and Mrs Ayres be the Members from the Housing and Community Safety Advisory Committee.
- 3 At its meeting on 17 June 2014 the Housing & Community Advisory Committee reconfirmed the working group and terms of reference and agreed to add a further member. The membership now stands as Councillors Mrs Ayres, Mrs George and Mrs Parkin. It was therefore agreed that the membership be increased to 6 to allow this Advisory Committee to also appoint up to three members.

- 4 Councillors Searles and Williamson have previously volunteered to attend meetings of the working group on behalf of this Advisory Committee.
- 5 Both Councillors are still members of this Advisory Committee.

### **Key Implications**

#### Financial

None directly arising from this report.

#### Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

Working groups are constituted for the municipal year. Members would only be allowed to claim travel expenses for formally constituted working groups.

#### Equality Impacts

Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty:		
Question	Answer	Explanation / Evidence
a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to disadvantage or discriminate against different groups in the community?	No	
b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have the potential to promote equality of opportunity?	No	
c. What steps can be taken to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above?		

### **Conclusions**

Members should consider whether they wish the working group to continue to meet, agree the membership and confirm the terms of reference.

#### **Background Papers:**

[Housing & Community Safety Advisory Committee – 11 February 2014 - Minutes](#)

**Christine Nuttall**  
**Chief Officer for Legal and Governance**