COMMUNITY COMMITTEE ON 13 MARCH 2008 – ITEM 8

Recommendations from the Housing Initiative Task Group meeting on 10 March 2008

a) PRIVATE SECTOR SETTLED HOMES SCHEME

RECOMMENDED that the Council works with King Street Housing Society to set up a private sector 'settled homes scheme' as part of the Council's homelessness prevention work using funds provided for this purpose by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

For further information, please refer to the attached report (item 5) submitted to the HITG.

b) TEMPORARY HOMELESS ACCOMMODATION

RECOMMENDED that discretion is given to the Head of Housing Management to convert a limited number of hard to let bungalows currently used as temporary accommodation into permanent tenancies within the Council's own stock.

For further information, please refer to the attached report (item 6) submitted to the HITG.

c) WELFARE GARDENING AND DECORATING WORK

RECOMMENDED that the policy for welfare gardening and decorating work revert to the policy previously applied so that welfare work was applicable only for those elderly and disabled tenants on housing benefit, or on disability living allowance; this was on the basis that the available budget would need to be capped so that it could be targeted at those tenants most in need and that the service might still need to be rationed to achieve this aim.

A verbal report will be given explaining the basis for the recommended change of policy. It is being proposed principally because the cost of carrying out this service for tenants has increased greatly in the past year and the Task Group considers there is a need to maintain strict budget limits.

PART II ITEM - CONFIDENTIAL d) DEVELOPMENT AT HOLLOWAY CRESCENT LEADEN RODING

Please refer to the recommendations of the Task Group set out in full in the attached Part II report (PINK PAPER) regarding a comprehensive scheme for the redevelopment of Holloway Crescent, Leaden Roding. There is no Part II item on the agenda so Members are asked to defer this item until after item 12 on the agenda and to resolve to exclude the public at that point.