

DERBY HOMES' GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Report of the Director & Company Secretary

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT

A comprehensive review of the Derby Homes Governance Arrangements has been carried out. This report consolidates the changes approved by the Board.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Board

- receives the Derby Homes Governance Arrangements and returns all other copies to the Governance Services Manager
- agrees implementation of the Governance Arrangements from 25 October 2007.

3. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 A comprehensive review of the Governance Arrangements has been carried out during the year. The review drew on current best practice for ALMOs and was informed by the latest template Governance Arrangements available to round 6 ALMOs. It has allowed us to consolidate and streamline the suite of documents set out in the Governance Arrangements and includes documents developed more recently.

3.2 The changes were approved by the Board as follows:

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| 29 March 2007 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Memorandum & Articles of Association (agreed by the Board in principle and approved by the Council 25/10/07) |
| 26 July 2007 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standing orders• Local Housing Board Constitution• Delegation of Responsibilities• Appointment and Recruitment of Board Members• Appointment of Staff |
| 27 September 2007 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Financial Regulations• Procurement Procedure Rules• Board Member Code of Conduct |

- 3.3 Workshops were held on the 12 July and 13 September for Board members to discuss the changes in detail, prior to the Board meetings. Nick MacKenzie of Anthony Collins Solicitors and Derby Homes' staff attended the workshops to explain the changes and answer Board members' queries.
- 3.4 The draft documents were made available to all Board members electronically or through Derby Homes' website in advance of the workshops and Board meetings.
- 3.5 A full copy of the Governance Arrangements and the Code of Conduct for Board Members will be distributed to Board members at the Board meeting.

4. FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS PLAN IMPLICATIONS

The full legal cost of the Governance review is estimated at £30,000. Some of this £8,695 was a charge in 2006/7. The 2007/8 budget for legal and professional fees is £114,000. The charges arising from the review will be contained within this budget.

5. LEGAL AND CONFIDENTIALITY IMPLICATIONS

Derby Homes needs to operate in the most effective way. This review ensures current best practice is reflected in the way the organisation operates.

The areas listed below have no implications directly arising from this report

- Consultation
- Personnel
- Environmental
- Equalities Impact Assessment
- Health & Safety

If Board members or others would like to discuss this report ahead of the meeting please contact the author, or the Chief Executive, phil.davies@derbyhomes.org - Tel 01332 711010

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Background Information: None.

Supporting Information: Board reports: Item A12, 29/3/07, Item A10, 26/7/07, Item 8, 27/9/07.