

Report of: Environmental Health and Community Housing Business Managers

To: Executive Board

Date: 17th July 2006

Item No:

Title of Report : Private Sector Housing Strategy



Summary and Recommendations



Purpose of report: To present the consultation draft of the Private Sector Strategy



Key decision: No

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Patrick Murray

Scrutiny Responsibility: Housing



Area(s) affected: All

Report Approved by: Portfolio Holder- Patrick Murray



Director-Michael Lawrence



Legal-Jeremy Thomas

Finance –Dave Higgins



Policy Framework: None



Recommendation(s):

To approve the draft strategy for consultation with key stakeholder groups.



1. Oxford City has one of the largest proportions of privately rented dwellings in the country and a large number of unfit dwellings. The Private Sector Housing strategy is the first time all the various strands of the Councils involvement in improving housing in the Private Sector (both rented and owned) have been brought together.

2. The main objective of the strategy is to improve the condition of private sector properties and thereby the health and well being of residents. To do this the report concentrates on how resources can be best used to reach the worst housing and the most vulnerable residents. There are already a number of mandatory duties imposed on Local Authorities by Central Government but the strategy outlines a number of further options that could help make the service more proactive in identifying and helping those in most need.
3. Consultation will take place as indicated in chapter 5 of the report and the report will then be circulated for final approval towards the end of this year.

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Background papers: None

