

BUSINESS SUPPORT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4 SEPTEMBER 2008

OPERATION OF THE HOUSING MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

Report from: Deborah Upton, Assistant Director, Housing and Corporate Services

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Summary

This is a report previously considered by Audit Committee on 26 June 2008 and relates to the allegations made by whistleblowers into the Council's contract with Erinaceous Property Management. This report will need to be declared urgent for the reasons set out below.

1. Budget and Policy Framework

1.1 Under Chapter 4 – Rules paragraph 22.2 (a) of the Constitution the responsibility for the operational management of the Council's housing stock.

2. Background

2.1 This matter was considered at a meeting of the Audit Committee on 26 June 2008 and it was recommended that there would be regular reports to the Business Support O&S Committee on the operation of the housing maintenance contract.

2.2 The report to Audit Committee on the housing maintenance contract is attached as Appendix 1. The Chairman of the Committee has agreed to consider this as a late additional item for this meeting so that the Committee can agree arrangements for keeping housing maintenance under regular review at meetings in the future. This item was requested by the Chairman after the agenda despatch for this meeting

3 Financial and Legal Implications

3.1. These are contained within the body of the attached report.

4. Recommendations

4.1 Members are asked to consider the report.

Background Papers

Report to Audit Committee – 26 June 2008

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