

## **BUSINESS SUPPORT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**3 FEBRUARY 2015**

### **CALL-IN: HOUSING STRATEGY 2015/2018**

Report from: Robin Cooper, Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture

Author: Michael Turner, Democratic Services Officer

#### **Summary**

This report advises the Committee of a notice of call-in received from the Labour Group of a Cabinet decision (200/2014) to approve the Draft Housing Strategy 2015-2018 and delegate authority to the Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Services, to make any necessary minor changes prior to publishing the strategy.. The Committee must consider the Cabinet decision and decide either to take no further action or to refer the decision back to Cabinet for reconsideration.

#### **1. Budget and Policy Framework**

- 1.1 In accordance with Chapter 4, part 5, paragraph 16.3 of the constitution with regard to decisions, Cabinet decision 200/2014 has been called-in to this Committee by six Members of the Labour Group.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 The Cabinet considered this matter on 16 December 2014 and made the following decisions:

**Decision  
number:**

**Decision:**

**200/2014**      **The Cabinet approved the Draft Housing Strategy 2015-2018, as attached at Appendix 1 to the report.**

**201/2014**      **The Cabinet delegated authority to the Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Services, to make any necessary minor changes prior to publishing the strategy.**

## **Reasons:**

**Approval of the Draft Housing Strategy would enable the Council to comply with the requirement of Section 87 of the Local Government Act 2003 that the Council has a Local Housing Strategy and ensure that there is a common understanding of Medway's housing market and how gaps in housing and/or housing related support can be addressed.**

2.2 The options open to this Committee in dealing with this call in are to:

- a) ask Cabinet to reconsider its decisions if members have concerns about them (setting out in writing the nature of any concerns), or
- b) refer the matter to full Council so Council can decide whether or not to object to the decisions and, if so, then refer them back to Cabinet for reconsideration.

## **3. Risk Management**

3.1 Risk management is addressed in paragraph 5 of the Cabinet report

## **4. Financial and legal implications**

4.1 The financial implications are within the attached Cabinet report at appendix 1.

4.2 In accordance with rule 16.3 of the constitution, six members of the Council may call in a decision for scrutiny by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

## **5. Recommendations**

5.1 The Committee is asked to consider the called-in Cabinet decisions and decide either to accept the Cabinet decision 200/2014 set out in paragraph 2.1 of this report and to take no further action or refer the decisions back to Cabinet for reconsideration.

## **Lead officer contact**

Michael Turner  
Democratic Services Officer  
01634 332817

## **Background papers**

As set out in the Cabinet report at Appendix 1

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Report to 16 December 2014 Cabinet meeting - Housing Strategy 2015-2018