

ESSENTIAL REFERENCE PAPER 'A'

IMPLICATIONS/CONSULTATIONS

Contribution to the Council's Corporate Priorities/ Objectives (delete as appropriate):	<p>Priority 1 – Improve the health and wellbeing of our communities</p> <p>Priority 2 – Enhance the quality of people's lives</p> <p>Priority 3 – Enable a flourishing local economy</p>
Consultation:	None
Legal:	The approval of the Amended Agreement is needed to continue our participation in the PLACE scheme and to enable East Herts Council to access the funds provided by the East of England Project Board.
Financial:	The funding of grants, loans and enforcement works under the PLACE scheme will be from the PLACE funding currently being managed by Chelmsford City Council. However there may be some small ancillary costs to be met by East Herts Council but they can be met within existing budgets and are likely to total no more than £100 per annum, depending on the number of successful loan applications.
Human Resource:	<p>East Herts Council Legal Service will be responsible for registering any legal charges (either as local land charges for grants or at Land Registry for loans). In the case of default East Herts will be responsible for making best endeavours to recover any monies owed to the consortium.</p> <p>There is no dedicated Empty Homes Officer employed within the council's Housing and Health Service so any work will need to be carried out within the existing staff resources within Housing and Health using</p>

	existing expertise and time.
Risk Management:	None identified
Health and wellbeing – issues and impacts:	Good quality housing has a positive impact on the health and well-being of residents.
Equality, diversity and human rights considerations, and whether Equality Impact Assessment required:	No
Environmental Sustainability	Housing, particularly new housing, impacts on the environment in a number of ways. By bringing existing empty homes back into use and making them modern and energy efficient not only adds to meeting housing need but also reuses existing properties and mitigates the environmental impact of the alternative of demolition and rebuild.