

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE – 5 AUGUST 2014

REPORT BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

ISSUES ARISING FROM SCRUTINY

WARD(S) AFFECTED: All

Purpose/Summary of Report

- This report details the comments and recommendations made by the Scrutiny Committees since the last meeting of the Executive and should be read in conjunction with reports of the Executive Members found elsewhere on the agenda.

<u>RECOMMENDATION FOR DECISION:</u>
(A) That the report be received.

1.0 Background

1.1 Scrutiny meetings have been held recently as follows:

Corporate Business Scrutiny Committee – 27 May 2014

Environment Scrutiny Committee – 10 June 2014

Community Scrutiny Committee – 24 June 2014

Corporate Business Scrutiny Committee – 8 July 2014

2.0 Report

2.1 **Housing Register Policy Review (Agenda Item 6)**

The Community Scrutiny Committee agreed that the Executive be advised that no policy changes in respect of “village priority procedures” or “salary threshold” are needed at this time.

3.0 Other Issues

3.1 The Corporate Business Scrutiny Committee considered a report

in respect of how the **Revenues and Benefits Shared Service** had been operating since the commencement of full operation in April 2012. In receiving the report, the Committee noted a significant increase in workload and consequent additional resources caused by the frequent need to recalculate entitlement, often for just a small or temporary change. The Committee expressed concern with this and agreed that the Executive be asked to lobby central government through appropriate channels to review the burden caused by the frequency of recalculation of benefits entitlement when changes were minimal.

4.0 Implications/Consultations

4.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'**.

Background Papers

None

Contact Members: Councillor G Jones, Chairman, Corporate Business Scrutiny Committee
gary.jones@eastherts.gov.uk

Councillor M Pope, Chairman, Environment Scrutiny Committee
mark.pope@eastherts.gov.uk

Councillor Mrs D Hollebon, Chairman, Community Scrutiny Committee
diane.hollebon@eastherts.gov.uk

Contact Officer: Jeff Hughes – Head of Democratic and Legal Support Services, Extn: 2170
jeff.hughes@eastherts.gov.uk

Report Authors: Martin Ibrahim - Democratic Services Team Leader
martin.ibrahim@eastherts.gov.uk

Marian Langley – Scrutiny Officer
marian.langley@eastherts.gov.uk