

<b>Mayor and Cabinet</b>			
<b>Report Title</b>	Matters referred by the Public Accounts Select Committee – The Council's Obligations to Leaseholders		
<b>Key Decision</b>	No	<b>Item No.</b>	X
<b>Ward</b>	All		
<b>Contributors</b>	Public Accounts Select Committee		
<b>Class</b>	Part 1	<b>Date</b>	20 January 2010

## **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 This report informs the Mayor and Cabinet of the Public Accounts Select Committee's Review of the Council's obligations to Leaseholders. The final report of the Review is included at Appendix A below.

## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Mayor is recommended to:
- (a) Note the views and recommendations of the Committee set out in the main report at Appendix A.
  - (b) Note the views of the Housing Select Committee, set out in the referral at Appendix B.
  - (c) Agree that the Executive Director for Customer Services be asked to respond to the Review's recommendations.
  - (d) Ensure that a response is provided to the Public Accounts Select Committee at its first meeting in the new municipal year.

## **3. Context**

- 3.1 The review was scoped in June 2009 and two evidence gathering sessions were held in July 2009 and September 2009. Follow-up questions were sent to officers and witnesses after the evidence sessions and responses were received; and a questionnaire was sent to 1000 leaseholders over the summer, supplemented by two focus groups. The Committee agreed its recommendations in December 2009.

## **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this report per se, although the financial implications of several of the recommendations will need to be considered in due course.

## **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1 The Constitution provides for Select Committees to refer reports to the Mayor and Cabinet, who are obliged to consider the report and the proposed response from the relevant Executive Director; and report back to the Committee within two months (not including recess). It is therefore requested that a response is provided to the Public Accounts Select Committee no later than its first meeting in the 2010/2011 municipal year.

## **6. Equalities Implications**

- 6.1 The Council works to eliminate unlawful discrimination and harassment, promote equality of opportunity and good relations between different groups in the community and recognise and take account of people's differences. On this basis, the Council is committed to ensuring that its leaseholders receive equitable and transparent services from their housing management providers and that those services are flexible to take account of people's needs and circumstances.

## **7. Crime and Disorder/Environmental implications**

- 7.1 There are no specific implications.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Charlotte Dale, Scrutiny Manager (0208 3149534), or Kevin Flaherty, Head of Business & Committee (0208 3149327).