

Thurrock: An ambitious and collaborative community which is proud of its heritage and excited by its diverse opportunities and future

Delivery of Private and Housing Stock Task and Finish Group

The meeting will be held at **6.00 pm** on **6 February 2024**

Committee Room 2, Civic Offices, New Road, Grays, Essex, RM17 6SL.

Membership:

Councillors Lee Watson (Chair), Joycelyn Redsell (Vice-Chair), James Halden, Sue Shinnick and Neil Speight

Agenda

Open to Public and Press

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Queries regarding this Agenda or notification of apologies:

Please contact Jenny Shade, Principal Democratic Services Officer by sending an email to direct.democracy@thurrock.gov.uk

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Information for members of the public and councillors

Access to Information and Meetings

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DECLARING INTERESTS FLOWCHART – QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

Breaching those parts identified as a pecuniary interest is potentially a criminal offence

Helpful Reminders for Members

- *Is your register of interests up to date?*
- *In particular have you declared to the Monitoring Officer all disclosable pecuniary interests?*
- *Have you checked the register to ensure that they have been recorded correctly?*

When should you declare an interest *at a meeting*?

- **What matters are being discussed at the meeting?** (including Council, Cabinet, Committees, Subs, Joint Committees and Joint Subs); or
- If you are a Cabinet Member making decisions other than in Cabinet **what matter is before you for single member decision?**



Does the business to be transacted at the meeting

- relate to; or
- likely to affect

any of your registered interests and in particular any of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interests?

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests shall include your interests or those of:

- your spouse or civil partner's
- a person you are living with as husband/ wife
- a person you are living with as if you were civil partners

where you are aware that this other person has the interest.

A detailed description of a disclosable pecuniary interest is included in the Members Code of Conduct at Chapter 7 of the Constitution. **Please seek advice from the Monitoring Officer about disclosable pecuniary interests.**

What is a Non-Pecuniary interest? – this is an interest which is not pecuniary (as defined) but is nonetheless so significant that a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard to be so significant that it would materially impact upon your judgement of the public interest.

Pecuniary

If the interest is not already in the register you must (unless the interest has been agreed by the Monitoring Officer to be sensitive) disclose the existence and nature of the interest to the meeting

If the Interest is not entered in the register and is not the subject of a pending notification you must within 28 days notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest for inclusion in the register

Unless you have received dispensation upon previous application from the Monitoring Officer, you must:

- Not participate or participate further in any discussion of the matter at a meeting;
- Not participate in any vote or further vote taken at the meeting; and
- leave the room while the item is being considered/voted upon

If you are a Cabinet Member you may make arrangements for the matter to be dealt with by a third person but take no further steps

Non- pecuniary

Declare the nature and extent of your interest including enough detail to allow a member of the public to understand its nature



You may participate and vote in the usual way but you should seek advice on Predetermination and Bias from the Monitoring Officer.

Our Vision and Priorities for Thurrock

An ambitious and collaborative community which is proud of its heritage and excited by its diverse opportunities and future.

1. **People** – a borough where people of all ages are proud to work and play, live and stay
 - High quality, consistent and accessible public services which are right first time
 - Build on our partnerships with statutory, community, voluntary and faith groups to work together to improve health and wellbeing
 - Communities are empowered to make choices and be safer and stronger together

2. **Place** – a heritage-rich borough which is ambitious for its future
 - Roads, houses and public spaces that connect people and places
 - Clean environments that everyone has reason to take pride in
 - Fewer public buildings with better services

3. **Prosperity** – a borough which enables everyone to achieve their aspirations
 - Attractive opportunities for businesses and investors to enhance the local economy
 - Vocational and academic education, skills and job opportunities for all
 - Commercial, entrepreneurial and connected public services

Minutes of the Meeting of the Delivery of Private and Housing Stock Task and Finish Group held on 16 August 2023 at 6.00 pm

Present: Councillors James Halden, Joycelyn Redsell, Sue Shinnick and Lee Watson

Apologies: Sue Hodgson, Housing Representative

In attendance: Ewelina Sorbjan, Assistant Director Housing
Ryan Farmer, Housing Strategy and Quality Manager
Julian Wain, Strategic Place Advisor
Jenny Shade, Senior Democratic Services Officer

1. **Appointment of Chair**

Councillor Watson was appointed chair of the Delivery of Private and Housing Stock Task and Finish Group.

2. **Appointment of Vice Chair**

Councillor Redsell was appointed vice chair of the Delivery of Private and Housing Stock Task and Finish Group.

3. **Purpose of Committee**

The aim of the Task Force Group is to create a responsive working group to discuss Thurrock Council's capacity to deliver major projects in regard to private and housing stock houses. To discuss major new builds, look at those partnerships who successfully delivered homes, those partnerships that were non-successful, look at examples of what went well, not so well and analyse the differences. To work alongside the Planning Transport and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee members in achieving this. To recommend findings of the task and finish group and report back to the main committee. Final report to be presented to the Housing and Planning Transport and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

4. **Urgent Items of Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

5. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

6. Terms of Reference

Members noted the terms of reference and agreed these would need to be updated to reflect the points discussed at Item 7.

7. HRA Development Activity

Members were provided with a PowerPoint on housing development in regard to what projects had gone well and those not less so. The PowerPoint can be viewed as part of the recording of the meeting from the link below:

[Delivery of Private & Housing Stock Task & Finish Group - Wednesday 16 August 2023, 6:00pm - Thurrock Council committee meeting webcasts \(public-i.tv\)](#)

The following points were raised:

- Members agreed this task and finish group should be linked more with the Planning Transport and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- Members agreed that further members of that committee should play a role within this task and finish group.
- Members agreed that specific officers should be invited to this task and finish group.
- Members agreed that all products of housing should be discussed at this task and finish group including shared ownership.
- Members agreed the work undertaken should be dovetailed with the Local Plan.
- Members agreed that following the council's intervention there were a lot of uncertainties.
- Members agreed that governance processes needed to be more streamlined.
- The Task Group was keen to look at good housing schemes that could be translated into Thurrock quickly.
- Members agreed more engagement was required with developers.

At 7.05pm, Councillor Halden left the meeting.

ACTIONS

1. Councillor Watson to speak with the Director of Place and extend the invitation to the next meeting for a presentation to be undertaken on major projects that include housing.
2. Councillor Watson to speak with the Chair of Planning Transport and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee in regard to a further member of that committee to sit on the task and finish group.
3. The Terms of Reference will be updated to reflect the above.

4. The Task and Finish Group will meet in six weeks, democratic services to advise of date and time.

The meeting finished at 7.25 pm

Approved as a true and correct record

CHAIR

DATE

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact
Democratic Services at Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk**

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