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|  | <p style="text-align: center;">Performance and Finance Select Committee 25th March 2009</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Report from the Directors of Policy and Regeneration and Finance and Corporate Resources</p> |
| For Action | Wards Affected: ALL |
| Community use of Council Owned Buildings task group | |

1. Summary

- 1.1 To present the draft Performance and Finance Select Committee task group on Community use of Council Owned Buildings.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Performance and Finance Select Committee agree the recommendations of the Community use of Council Owned Buildings task group.
- 2.2 That the report is passed to the Council's Executive for approval.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 The Community use of Council Owned Buildings task group was set up by the Performance and Finance Select Committee to look at the need to ensure a consistent and fair approach to leasing property to the voluntary and community sector and ensure that council assets are used to their full potential. The task group were keen to reconsider arrangements for voluntary and community sector use of council buildings to ensure that outcomes contribute to the social regeneration of the local area and that arrangements are fair to all sections of the community.
- 3.2 The task group's work focussed on two key issues:
- Contractual and leasing arrangements for current buildings and consider how they could be standardised
 - Good practice from other councils on how they manage their properties with the third sector.
- 3.3 Throughout the review, the task group was keen to focus on consistency and ensuring equality and good value-for-money in the use of council-owned assets.

The task group has made a number of recommendations that if implemented should:

- Set out a framework for effective use of our buildings through a consistent policy for leases with the voluntary and community sector
- Support future involvement with the voluntary and community sector in taking this forward
- Provide information to feed into the council's response to Quirk.

3.4 The task group's recommendations are on page 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the report.

3.5 If the Performance and Finance Select Committee approve the report and recommendations it will be passed to the council's Executive for approval.

4.0 Financial implications

4.1 There are none arising directly from this report

5.0 Legal implications

5.1 These are included in section 8 of the task group report

6.0 Diversity implications

6.1 The need to ensure equality and diversity is included in the recommendations.

7.0 Background documents

7.1 Draft Community use of Council Owned Assets Task Group Report

8.0 Contact officers

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