

## **UPDATE FROM THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING ON HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION.**

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### **What is the Commission being asked to do?**

At the last meeting of the Commission the Chairman reported that the Cabinet Member for Housing had been keeping him regularly informed on the work being undertaken on the Houses in Multiple Occupation recommendations, which had been submitted to Cabinet in February 2015. Recently her Service had responded to a Government consultation in respect of the proposals to extend the mandatory licensing of HMO's.

In October 2016 Central Government had indicated that a nationwide mandatory HMO licensing scheme was to be implemented, with a further consultation in 2017 with a planned 6 month lead in time thereafter.

The Cabinet Member for Housing has accepted this invitation to attend the Improvement & Review Commission and update Members of her service's work with the Department of Communities and Local Government in respect of both the previous and forthcoming consultations and how she sees the planned nationwide mandatory scheme fitting in with the recommendations of the Commission's February 2015 HMO Task and Finish Group report.

The report of the Task and Finish Group as presented to Cabinet in February 2015 is attached as **Appendix A**.

This is an opportunity for questions and discussion, in the spirit of working together, to ensure the Commission plays a constructive added-value role in this most important aspect of the Housing Service.