

Fair Access Strategic Working Group Draft Terms of Reference

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The overall aim of the Fair Access Strategic Working Group (FASWG) is to ensure that fair access issues are fully integrated into and implemented through all relevant housing strategies. This will ensure that the housing and related needs of all groups which experience specific difficulties or disadvantage in accessing quality housing are met.

2.0 Key objectives

2.1 The key objectives of the Fair Access SWG Group are to champion fair access in housing through:

- Ensuring that the fair access dimension is integral to all aspects of housing strategy
- Ensuring and promoting fair access to housing and housing related support services for all people who experience specific difficulties or disadvantage in accessing quality housing in Leeds.¹
- Informing and influencing other relevant agenda's for example; community cohesion, neighbourhood renewal, health & social care

3.0 Key tasks

The Fair Access SWG will pursue the following key actions:

- Champion fair access issues in Leeds at the Leeds Housing Partnership Executive and the LHP Coordination group, and at a sub regional/regional level
- Review wider housing and regeneration strategies, local, regional and sub-regional to ensure they reflect and promote fair access to housing
- Review health and social care policy development to assess impacts on fair access to housing
- Review the development of relevant strategy, policy and procedure
- Contribute to discussions on priorities for capital housing investment (through SRHP and other sources) and revenue funding (through Supporting People and/or Area Based Grant and Local Authority mainstream funding) to improve fair access
- Ensure all partner organisations support the Fair Access agenda and are committed to the delivery of the action plans of relevant strategies

4.0 Approach

4.1 The key objectives and tasks of the Fair Access SWG will be achieved through the following approach:

¹ This will include the elderly, vulnerable and excluded customer groups needing supported housing, minority communities, refugees and asylum seekers and rural housing needs.

- enabling effective contribution from all partners
- working cross-tenure
- focussing on both neighbourhood and city-wide issues (and relevant impacts of sub regional/ regional and national issues)
- influencing other providers of housing and associated services through the Leeds Housing Partnership

5.0 Accountability

- 5.1 The Fair Access Strategic Working Group will be accountable through the Leeds Housing Partnership Executive

6.0 Membership

- 6.1 The membership of the Fair Access Strategic Working Group includes representatives from Environments and Neighbourhoods and Adult Social Care (Leeds City Council), Primary Care Trust, ALMOs, Housing Association's, Tenants and service user representatives, re'new and providers of housing related support services.
- 6.2 Members of the Fair Access Strategic Working Group will attend and make effective contribution to the bi-monthly meetings.

7.0 Administrative Support

- 7.1 Environments and Neighbourhoods will provide the administrative support to the group.