

Committee: General Purposes	Date: 10 December 2007	Classification: Unrestricted	Report No:	Agenda Item:
Report of: Corporate Director of Development & Renewal Originating officer(s) Matin Miah – Head of Homes & Communities Renewal Programmes		Title: Ocean Regeneration Trust Interim Board Wards Affected: St Dunstan’s & Stepney Green, Mile End & Globe Town		

1. **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 In June 2007 the Cabinet agreed the Ocean New Deal for Communities (NDC) Delivery Plan and the set up of the Ocean Regeneration Trust (ORT) as a special purpose vehicle for delivery of the future regeneration of the Ocean Estate, including the remainder of the NDC programme.
- 1.2 This report sets out the actions needed by the General Purposes Committee to establish an interim board of the ORT.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Committee is recommended to:-

- 2.1 Nominate 2 Council representatives to the interim Board of ORT.

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)
List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report

Brief description of “back ground papers”

Name and telephone number of holder and address where open to inspection.

Ocean NDC files

Chris Holmes (ext 4987 and Niall McGowan (ext 2538)

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In April 2007 Cabinet agreed in principle to the revised delivery arrangements for the Ocean. The delivery mechanism needed to meet Communities and Local Government Department (CLG) requirements for revised governance arrangements that take forward both the NDC programme and transformational change of the housing estate.
- 3.2 A CLG independent review recommended consideration of a small strategic management group that could take over responsibility of the remaining non-housing NDC programme and provide the NDC input into a housing regeneration programme.
- 3.3 In June 2007 Cabinet agreed the details of the proposed ORT delivery arrangements and the outline of the governance structure. ORT will have a board comprised of 3 residents, 2 council representatives, 2 RSL/developer representatives and 5 specialist independent members. There will also be a number of sub-boards and fora to allow wider community participation and specialist input.
- 3.3 ORT will be an asset management vehicle, which will have the potential to make a significant future contribution to the wider area for the benefit of the local community. It will take on ownership and management of both the housing regeneration and the community facilities developed and funded by the NDC as part of the housing redevelopment programme.

4. ACTION TAKEN

- 4.1 Since the Cabinet approval CLG have written to the Council agreeing the revised governance structure. In June 2007, Ocean NDC Board agreed to disband itself at the instruction of CLG to allow the establishment of the ORT.
- 4.2 Memorandum and Articles of Association for ORT have been drafted in accordance with CLG guidance and legal/tax advice. ORT has been registered and is to be a Community Interest Company (CIC) which is acceptable to CLG and fit for purpose.
- 4.3 Recruitment to the interim ORT board is progressing as planned. In conjunction with CLG a high profile interim independent (non voting) chair has been appointed (for a limited period only) to oversee the setting up of ORT. Once fully established, it is anticipated that the ORT will select a chair from among its voting members. An extensive community engagement/advertising campaign is underway on the estate and nationally to recruit the 3 resident and 5 independent specialist members of the interim board. Closing date for applications is 19 November with assessments/interviews scheduled for first week in December.

- 4.4 The 2 Council nominations are now required in order to set up the appointment panel for the resident and independent specialist members so that the interim board can be operational by the end of the calendar year. The full board will be established when the RSL/development partner has been appointed and nominates two representatives on the ORT board. This is likely to be December 2008, subject to the outcome of the competitive dialogue procurement process.

5. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

- 5.1 The costs of ORT will be covered by NDC funding in the short term, as this is the successor management vehicle, and will be covered in the longer term by the income derived from the investment programme for which development partners are currently being sought via competitive tender.

6. CONCURRENT REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (LEGAL)

- 6.1 The terms of reference of the committee empower it to appoint to bodies on which the Council has representation yet outside the Council's formal committee structure. The ORT is such a body and the committee may appoint the Council's representatives to the interim board.

7. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The advertising was widely targeted to maximise participation. A commitment to equalities forms an essential part of the selection criteria.

8. ANTI-POVERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 None directly arising as a result of this report

9. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

- 9.1 None specifically arising as a result of this report

10. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The timely appointment of interim board members is essential for meeting CLG requirements and any delay or difficulties in recruitment could impact on this.