WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Briefing Note

Meeting:	**Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
Title:	**Land Task and Finish Group**
Prepared by:	**Councillor Ian Shires** **Email: Cllr.Ian.Shires@walsall.gov.uk** **Tel: 01922 658304**

1.0 Recommendation

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

Approve the terms of reference for the Land Task and Finish Group.

2.0 Purpose

To inform the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the first meeting of the Land Task and Finish Group and the terms of reference agreed by the task and finish group.

3.0 Background

On 2 October 2017 the Land Task and Finish Group held its first meeting.

As part of the meeting the Task and Finish Group heard from the West Midlands Combined Authority Lead for Land and Housing, Councillor Sean Coughlan. A wide ranging conversation took place including:

- The findings of the Land Commission;
- Governance and delivery structures;
- Challenges with meeting housing targets including skills shortages;
- Site identification and land remediation;
- Housing standards and construction methods;
- Void properties;
- Social housing and alternative providers such as co-operatives;
- Black Country Garden Village.

Following the discussion with Councillor Coughlan the task and finish group discussed and agreed detailed terms of reference. These are attached at Appendix 1 to this report.