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**Sheena Ramsey, Chief Executive**

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the proposed arrangements for the governance of the Council's housing function and responsibilities from 1 April 2021.
2. Following the cessation of The Gateshead Housing Company there is a need to implement new arrangements for the governance of the Council's housing functions and responsibilities.
3. As well as confirming the proposed arrangements for the involvement of members in the governance of housing moving forward, recognition is also given to the anticipated involvement of tenants and leaseholders, and the involvement of stakeholders and partners such as housing associations, charitable housing service providers and private landlords.
4. The Cabinet has considered the facts and issues arising from the report including alternative options and took all relevant advice before formulating their recommendation.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

5. It is recommended that Council:
  - (i) Approves the establishment of a new formal advisory committee, to be called the Strategic Housing Board, which will advise the Council or Cabinet on any matter relating to the discharge of their respective housing functions.
  - (ii) Approves membership of the Strategic Housing Board comprising of 15 elected members, plus the respective Chairs of the Health and Wellbeing Board and Community Safety Partnership, 3 tenant representatives and 3 partner representatives.
  - (iii) Approves a change in the title of the Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the Housing, Environment and Healthy Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
  - (iv) Approves a change in the scope of responsibility of the Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee particularly to enable the inclusion of tenant observers and their scrutiny of services and buildings compliance.

