

 Northwards Housing North Manchester's Council Homes		Report to: Northwards Housing Board 9 September 2008		Item No: <h1>9d</h1>	
Title:		Board Support			
Date:		1 September 2008			
Author:		Diane Roberts		Tel No: 0161 227 3033	
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Confidential:		No			
For: (Please tick action required)		NOTING		DISCUSSION	
				✓ APPROVAL	
PURPOSE OF REPORT					
To give Directors the facility to access independent advice or support on a formal basis.					
RECOMMENDATION					
That the Board approve Enlighten consultants as their "Independent Advisors".					
IMPLICATIONS					
Equality & Diversity:					
Financial:					
Staffing:					
Decency Target:					
Governance:		Directors are entitled to seek independent advice.			
Risk Assessment:					

Equality & Diversity Implications (Please tick where relevant):

BME	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender	<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Parents	<input type="checkbox"/>
Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	Domestic Violence	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alcohol/Drug Mis-users	<input type="checkbox"/>

Consultation/Consideration:

	Yes, No or N/A:	Name:	Date:
Sub-Committee:	n/a		
Area Panel:	n/a		
Task Groups:	n/a		
Ward Councillors:	n/a		

Background

Enlighten Consultants, Hilary Devereux and John Evans have provided the Board with support and training since Northwards inception.

There is no current formal arrangement where Board Members can contact Enlighten for independent advice and support. This report is to request that the Board formally approve Enlighten as “Independent Advisors” to the Board.

Members of the Board may contact Enlighten on any Northwards matter without prior Board approval. Enlighten will give advice and support or will signpost the Board member to other sources of information where this is outside their expertise. Their advice is private and confidential. Enlighten would only inform Northwards if they have been informed of illegal activity.

Board Members still have the right to seek independent advice from other consultancies, agencies, lawyers etc as appropriate. Advice from other sources should be approved by the Board/Chair prior to Board Members making contact.