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## REPORT OF THE HOUSING BEST VALUE SUB-COMMITTEE

### 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 At the meeting of the Housing Best Value Sub-Committee held on 1 April 2003, Members considered progress with the Housing Strategy Best Value Review Action Plan.
- 1.2 One of the issues which arose concerned the difficulty in obtaining advice from Essex County Social Services on the level of current and projected future need for supported housing for people with mental health problems
- 1.3 A copy of the recommendation from the Sub-Committee is appended.
- 1.4 Since the Sub-Committee meeting, some discussions have been held with the South Essex Partnership NHS Trust who, with Essex Social Services, provide the joint Community Mental Health team. There is also the possibility of developing proposals through the mechanism of the Local Service Agreement.

### 2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

That Essex County Council be advised of this Council's concern at the difficulties being experienced in obtaining information from Social Services on the quantification of supported housing needs for people with mental health problems.

Graham Woolhouse

Head of Housing, Health & Community Care

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#### Background Papers:

None

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**APPENDIX**

**Extract from Minutes of the Housing Best Value Sub-Committee held on  
1 April 2003**

**Mental Health**

The Head of Housing, Health and Community Care confirmed that difficulties have been encountered in obtaining information from Social Services on the quantification of supported housing needs.

Members recognised the importance of this aspect and it was:-

**Recommended** to the Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the County Council be advised of this Council's concern at the difficulties being experienced in obtaining information from Social Services on the quantification of supported housing needs. (HHHCC)