



meeting      **LIFT BUILDINGS SELECT COMMITTEE**

date            **19 May 2008**

agenda item number

## **Report of the Chair of the LIFT Buildings Select Committee**

### **National Best Practice – Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment**

#### **Purpose of report**

1. To provide the Select Committee with an opportunity to consider national best practice in developing Local Improvement Finance Trust (LIFT) Buildings.

#### **Background**

2. The Scope for the review of LIFT Buildings tasks the Select Committee to:
  - identify best practice in the development and use of LIFT Buildings and to ensure that it is applied to new LIFT Buildings
  - identify current use of LIFT Buildings and to support increased access to services where buildings and facilities are not being fully utilised
  - identify potential barriers to community use of LIFT Buildings (eg cost)

#### **Issues**

3. The Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) published a survey of LIFT Buildings in March 2008 based on a survey of 20 completed buildings from across the country. A summary of the review is attached as an appendix to the report.
4. A copy of the complete survey is available at <http://www.cabe.org.uk/AssetLibrary/11284.pdf> and will be provided to Members of the Select Committee.
5. CABE has called for “an improvement in the design of primary healthcare buildings procured by LIFT (Local Improvement Finance Trust) companies. CABE has stated that unless a scheme achieves a

benchmark standard of 'excellent' in design, it should not be approved for construction".

6. Representatives of CABI have been invited to attend the meeting to discuss the survey with Members so that the findings of the scrutiny review can be informed by national best practice.

### **Recommendations**

7. It is recommended that  
  
the Select Committee consider the information presented and identify any further information required.

**Councillor Chris Winterton**  
**Chair of LIFT Buildings Select Committee**

Background papers: CABI Review, March 2008