

Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 14th December 2020
Councillor Ehtasham Haque- Scrutiny Lead for Housing and Regeneration

1. Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Sub-Committee Meetings 2020/21 held to date

Only one meeting has been held of the H&R Scrutiny Sub-Committee during this financial year (2020/21) - on 3rd November 2020. During this meeting we considered:

- A report on Social Landlords Performance
- The draft report following on from the scrutiny challenge session, (held on 3rd March 2020), on the Homelessness Reduction Act (HRA) – One Year On and recommendations for the Committee’s approval. *The report was not approved at this meeting – see actions (2).*
- A spotlight presentation by the Housing Options Service on Delivery of the Service: focusing on the Customer journey (in light of Covid-19), an update on the changes to the Allocations Scheme and the introduction of an Intermediate Housing Register of Interest).

2. Actions arising from Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Sub-Committee Meeting 3rd November

Following discussions after the meeting as to how to progress the scrutiny challenge report on the Homelessness Reduction Act – One year on, it was agreed that the Strategy and Policy (Place) team would circulate the report on my behalf to both current and previous members of the Committee. I have asked them to:

- revisit the report and recommendations. *This offers all Committee Members a further opportunity to comment on its findings, particularly the recommendations.*
- Provide any feedback by **Friday 18th December**. *This will be used to enhance the report.*
- a final version will be circulated to past and present committee members for approval in January 2021 ahead of the next sub-Committee meeting to be held on the 10th February where the report will be ratified, under the AOB heading.

3. The ~Items to be considered at the next meeting on the 10th February 2021:

Item	Actions/Recommendations
Spotlight Comprehensive Regeneration Update	A presentation covering all aspects of the Council’s approach to regeneration, containing an outline of all current regeneration schemes.
Spotlight Leaseholder Service Improvement Plan (THH)	A presentation providing an update on the implementation of actions in the THH Leaseholder Service Improvement Plan following the presentation on service charges to the committee in January 2019.
Spotlight Housing Companies Update	A presentation providing an update on the Council’s two housing companies –Seahorse and Mulberry Homes.
Policy Framework Scrutiny Social Landlords Performance Report	A report on Social Landlords’ performance with One Housing Group invited to attend.
AOB Report from the Scrutiny Challenge Session ‘The Homelessness Reduction Act – One Year On’	Ratification of the report and its recommendations, agreed by Members in January 2021.

4. Other Actions:

In my capacity as Chair of the Sub-Committee, I have met with the Corporate Director of Place and the Place Shaping Team Leader, the Divisional Director for Housing and Regeneration and Senior officers from the Strategy and Policy (Place) team to shape the direction of future Committee meetings and to resolve the ratification of the Homelessness Reduction Act report.

I Plan to have a meeting with the (Acting) Divisional Director for Growth and Economic Development to discuss what area we should scrutinise at the subsequent meeting in April 2021.

Finally, I have requested that we hold two short informal meetings (in January and March 2021) to update Sub-Committee members on the progress of scrutiny matters being considered.