

SCRUTINY LEADS UPDATES OSC MEETING 22ND NOVEMBER 2021

COUNCILLOR BEX - SCRUTINY LEAD FOR CHILDREN AND EDUCATION

1. Attended Continual Improvement Board (22/11)
2. Preparing for December's sub-committee. The focus will be on Children's Social Care, looking at the increased demand since the Covid-19 Pandemic began, Continual Improvement, and outcomes for Care Leavers. We have changed the time the committee meets to make it easier for children and young people to attend and speak, as we are finding that their contributions are powerful and effective.
3. Met with Corporate Director and Cabinet Member (15/11) for an update on children's and education services.
4. 2 members of the sub-committee have requested a Child Safeguarding Practice Review (this used to be called a Serious Case Review) into the circumstances surrounding the three young women who travelled to Syria in 2015. The Safeguarding Partnership is reviewing documents and will respond in writing within 6 weeks. I will keep the sub-committee and OSC informed of progress

LEEMA QURESHI SCRUTINY LEAD UPDATE FOR SCRUTINY LEAD FOR RESOURCES AND FINANCE

The Lead Member has participated in the following

1. Grant Determination Committee.
2. Parking Challenge Session.

COUNCILLOR EHTASHAM HAQUE- SCRUTINY LEAD FOR HOUSING AND REGENERATION

1. Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Sub-Committee Meetings 2021/22:

There are 5 meetings of the sub-committee scheduled this year and 3 have already been held:

1. 22nd June.
2. 9th September.
3. 19th October. (see note below:)

and 2 further meetings planned for:

4. 2nd December
5. 15th March 2022

2. At the 19th October 2021 meeting:

We considered:

- a) The Social Landlord's Performance Report

- b) A presentation on economic growth focussing particularly on employment.
- c) A spotlight session on the council's regeneration framework.

3. Actions arising from the Sub-Committee Meeting held on the 19th October 2021:

- a) As well as considering the Social Landlord's Performance Report, the sub-committee noted that the invitations to Spitalfields Housing Association (SHA) to attend both the 9 September and this meeting (19th October) had been declined, and that there were some SHA residents in attendance who wished to raise concerns with their housing provider. At the invitation of (myself as) chair, a number of residents addressed the sub-committee to highlight their ongoing concerns with their landlord.
- b) I (acting) as the Chair suggested that Spitalfields HA be given a further opportunity to attend the next meeting of the sub-committee on the 2nd December to respond to residents' concerns, following which the sub-committee should develop recommendations for the administration, to include a proposed a course of action for steps the council can take to address the matter.
- c) The presentation we received from Vicky Clark, Director for Growth, and Integration, on the council's services to improve employment outcomes for residents provided a summary of the strategic context, including the council's Growth Plan priorities; the key performance metrics of the WorkPath service and WorkPath partnership; and an overview of recent activity. The Sub-Committee also received some further information on the partnership working that had been undertaken with local universities and with Central London Forward on the green skills agenda.
- d) Finally, we heard from the Mayor And Sri Sudhakar, the council's Head of Regeneration, about the council's approach to regeneration and in particular, how the council monitored its policies to deliver regeneration outcomes and an overview of new ways of working. I expressed concern that past regeneration projects in the 1990s and 2000s did not do enough to address the wider economic decline in the borough. I felt that the limited time and scope of this item did not allow the sub-committee to provide sufficiently meaningful input into the council's regeneration approach, and so I proposed an informal meeting or a challenge session in the New Year, to involve a wider group of non-executive Councillors, co optees and expert speakers from other authorities.

4. The Items to be considered at the next meeting on the 2nd December 2021:

Item	Actions/Recommendations
Policy Framework Scrutiny - Social Landlords Performance Report	Focused discussion on performance of THH RPs with a further invitation sent to the chief officer at Spitalfields HA to attend.
Spotlight Report - 6-Month Review of the use of PRS Allocations.	Review of the implementation and impact of the recent change in allocations policy regarding use of the private rented sector.
Spotlight Report - Tenancy Agreement Review	Presentation on the outcome of the consultation with tenants on the proposed revised tenancy conditions.