

SCRUTINY LEADS UPDATES OSC MEETING 13TH DECEMBER 2021

Councillor Ehtasham Haque- Scrutiny Lead for Housing and Regeneration

There are 5 meetings of the sub-committee scheduled this year and 4 have been held:

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

And, just recently...

4. 2nd December

The final meeting for the year is planned for:

5. 15th March 2022

1. At the 19th October 2021 meeting:

We considered:

- The Social Landlord's Performance Report
- A presentation on economic growth focussing particularly on employment.
- A spotlight session on the council's regeneration framework.

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

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

- 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.

3. There was also a recent meeting, held on the 2nd December, for which the minutes are not available yet. The Items we considered at this meeting were:

Item	Actions/Recommendations
Policy Framework Scrutiny - Social Landlords Performance Report	Focussed discussion on performance of THH RPs with a further invitation sent to the chief officer at Spitalfields HA to attend. Focussed discussion on performance of THH RPs with a further invitation sent to the chief officer at Spitalfields HA to attend. In addition, there were 20 residents from Spitalfields HA who wanted to attend the meeting to continue their complaints about the services they are allegedly receiving. There was also a representative from the chair of the TRA at Clare House who expressed dissatisfaction with the way in which Clarion HA undertook the decanting of the block. Finally, we heard from officers from Peabody HA who spotlighted their performance to the sub-committee.
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. The Head of Housing Options updated the sub-committee on the results of housing applicants in the private sector and more widely on the progress being made with the Homelessness Transformation Programme.
Spotlight Report - Tenancy Agreement Review	Presentation on the outcome of the consultation with tenants on the proposed revised tenancy conditions. The Strategy and Policy Manager for Housing presented the results of the recent consultation exercise that had been undertaken on the proposal to update the council's tenancy agreement with its tenants.

Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan Scrutiny Lead for Health and Adults

1. Attended COVID19 Local Engagement Board (9/11/2021)
2. Chaired the Health and Adult Scrutiny Sub Committee (H&ASS) which heard reports on:
 - a. 6.1 Restoring health provision
 - b. 6.2 Adult Social Care Budget Proposals
 - c. 6.3 Better Care Fund Update
<http://democracy.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=314&MId=12475> (30/11/2021)
3. Attended all members seminar on GP access (01/12)

4. Met with Cabinet Member for Cllr Mufeedah Bustin Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion – (Job Share post as part of Social Inclusion and Public Realm portfolio) for a discussion and follow up on Food item heard at a previous H&ASS (02/12)

Upcoming:

1. Inner North East London Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee - Thursday, 16th December 2021 7.00 p.m.
2. Requested to attend wavier panel.
3. Requested meeting with Corporate Director of Health, Adults & Community and Joint Director of Integrated Commissioning.