

 <b>Brent</b>	<b>Housing Scrutiny Committee</b>  14 September 2017  <b>Report from the Director of Performance, Policy and Partnerships</b>
Wards Affected: ALL	
<b>Revision to the Housing Scrutiny Committee 2017-18 Work Programme</b>	

## **1.0 Summary**

- 1.1 This report sets out revisions to the 2017-18 Housing Scrutiny Committee's work programme agreed on 27 Jul 2017. Selected agenda items have been changed from the schedule of programme.
- 1.2 The start time of the 1 Nov 2017 housing scrutiny meeting has been changed due to the meeting falling on an 'event day' at Wembley Stadium.

## **2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1 Members are asked to discuss and agree the report and the work programme set out in Appendix A.

## **3.0 Background**

- 3.1 Scrutiny is a member-led process which looks at the performance of Brent Council and other organisations in the borough to ensure that they deliver good quality services to local residents. The role is to challenge effectively and the committee endorses the principles of effective scrutiny which have been developed by the Centre for Public Scrutiny.
- 3.2 They are to provide a 'critical friend' challenge to Cabinet, be independent-minded, drive improvement in public services, and finally to provide a voice for concerns of the public and Brent's communities. The committee sets out to do this in a constructive way.

## **4.0 Remit**

- 4.1 The Housing Scrutiny Committee's remit is to scrutinise housing functions within the Community Wellbeing department, including the

transfer of Brent Housing Partnership Ltd; housing supply; housing growth numbers; temporary accommodation; landlord licensing; the private rented sector; housing policy; homelessness; registered providers; supported housing; floating support, and home adaptations. Its remit covers the portfolio areas of the Leader, Deputy Leader, and Cabinet Member for Housing & Welfare Reform.

4.2 Under Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 local authorities are required to appoint at least one committee to provide overview and scrutiny. The committee is also responsible for scrutinising the partnership work of the Safer Brent Partnership and receives their annual reports each year.

4.3 The committee has its own chair and vice-chair and is made up of six other elected members. In accordance with the council's Standing Orders, there may be two co-opted members for Housing.

## 5.0 2017-18 work programme

5.1 The committee agreed the work programme for 2017/18 during the 27-Jul 2017 scrutiny meeting. In light of the need to provide an extended period to collect data from Registered Providers in Brent, the related agenda item from the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2017 housing scrutiny meeting has been moved to the 1-Nov 2017 meeting.

5.2 Appendix A includes the revised work programme with one new item and one item exchanged between the 14-Sep and 1-Nov 2017 housing scrutiny meetings. The table below highlights the changes from the agreed to the revised work programme.

Agenda item	Agreed work programme for 14 Sep 2017 meeting	Revised work programme for 14 Sep 2017 meeting
1.	Rent and management of Travellers site	BHP performance data, resident engagement strategy and map of all BHP properties in each ward
2.	Scope – task group on fire safety in social housing	Rent and management of Travellers site
3.	Developing oversight for Brent based Housing Associations (HA)	Implementation of actions previously recommended by Local Government Ombudsman
4.	Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme 2017-18	Scope – task group on Fire Safety of low-rise domestic properties (up to nine storeys)
5.		Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme 2017-18

5.3 The new item is highlighted in red, the item highlighted in blue has been transferred to the 1 Nov 2017 and the item highlighted in green brought forward to the 14-Sep 2017 housing scrutiny meeting.

5.4 The start time for the housing scrutiny meeting on 1 Nov 2017 has been brought forward to 18.30 due to the meeting falling on an 'event day' at Wembley Stadium. The pre-meeting will begin at the usual time of 18.00.

## **6.0 Financial Implications**

6.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report.

## **7.0 Legal Implications**

7.1 There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.

## **8.0 Diversity Implications**

8.1 There are no diversity implications immediately arising from this report.

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