

INTRODUCTION TO WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

The programme is designed to assist the Council in achieving its corporate priorities by ensuring topics add value to the Council's objectives, are strategic in outlook, are timed to optimise scrutiny input and reflect the concerns of Waverley residents and council members. The programme is indicative and is open to being amended with the agreement of the Chair with whom the item is concerned. The work programme consists of three sections:-

- Section A – Lists items for Overview and Scrutiny consideration. It is not expected that the committee cover all items listed on the work programme and some items will be carried over into the following municipal year. In-depth scrutiny review topics for consideration by the respective Committee will also be listed in this section.
- Section B – Lists live in-depth scrutiny task and finish groups, including objectives, key issues and progress.
- Section C – Lists the Scrutiny tracker of recommendations for the municipal year.

Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Section A

Work programme 2018-19

Subject	Purpose for Scrutiny	Lead Member/ officer	Date for O&S consideration	Date for Executive decision (if applicable)
Ockford Ridge	To scrutinise the development and refurbishment programme and monitor the delivery of the project.	Louisa Blundell	<i>Standing item</i>	N/A
Corporate Performance Report Q2	To receive the corporate performance report for Q2.	Cllr Carole King / Annalisa Howson / Nora Copping	November 2018 (Q2) February 2019 (Q3)	N/A
Health Inequalities scrutiny review – summary of Housing elements of the report outcomes	For the Committee to learn about the scrutiny review undertaken by a working group of the Community Wellbeing OS and to consider the Housing aspects which came out of that review.	Yasmine Makin	November 2018	The review report was considered and recommendations agreed by Executive in July 2018.
Homelessness Reduction Act 2017	For officers to keep the committee up to date with the impact of the legislation once in force, particularly on the Council's housing strategy.	Mike Rivers	November 2018	N/A
Waverley Scrutiny Group (WSG) Recharges report-progress update	To scrutinise the progress made so far by officers regarding the recommendations made in the report brought by the WSG at the July 2018 meeting of this Committee.	Hugh Wagstaff/ Simon Eversley	November 2018	N/A
Waverley Scrutiny Group (WSG) Mutual Exchanges report	To receive the Mutual Exchanges review report from the tenants' Scrutiny Group.	Hugh Wagstaff	November 2018	N/A

Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Subject	Purpose for Scrutiny	Lead Member/ officer	Date for O&S consideration	Date for Executive decision (if applicable)
Housing Revenue Account – Rent Setting Policy	For Committee Members to receive the update report, including the changes suggested at the September 2018 meeting.	Cllr King / Hugh Wagstaff	November 2018	N/A
Damp in Council Homes	Following the scrutiny of the strategy for responding to reports of damp in September 2018, for officers to present the accompanying action plan to the Committee.	Cllr King / Annalisa Howson	November 2018	N/A
Garages Rent Charge Review	For the Committee to receive a progress update on the review of HRA garages and for the Committee to consider the officer recommendation for 2019/20 rent charges.	Cllr King / Hugh Wagstaff	November 2018	
Council Housing: Pride and Prejudice	For the Committee to receive the final report from the task and finish group (see section b).	Cllr King / Yasmine Makin	February 2018	
New maintenance contracts – mobilisation update	For the Committee to receive an update on the mobilisation of the recently procured maintenance contracts due to take effect from 1 April 2019.	Cllr King / Hugh Wagstaff	February 2019	N/A
Housing Service Plan 2019/20	To scrutinise the 2019/20 service plan for the Housing services.	Cllr King / Hugh Wagstaff / Andrew Smith	February 2019	N/A

Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Subject	Purpose for Scrutiny	Lead Member/ officer	Date for O&S consideration	Date for Executive decision (if applicable)
Waverley Scrutiny Group Mutual Exchange report recommendations progress	For the Committee to be updated and to scrutinise the progress made so far against the recommendations of the Waverley Scrutiny Group's Mutual Exchange review.	Cllr King / Hugh Wagstaff	February 2019	N/A
Housing Revenue Account – Green Spaces	Following discussion at the September 2018 Committee meeting, for the Committee to hear from officers regarding proposals to no longer be responsible for maintaining green spaces surrounding private properties.	Cllr King / Hugh Wagstaff	July 2019	N/A
Tenancy and Estates update	For the Committee to receive an update on the work of the Tenancy and Estates team, including information on fraud and team structure (as requested at the September 2018 meeting)	Cllr King / Rachel White	July 2019	
Affordable housing	Consider the extent to which housing association partners are delivering housing objectives in terms of meeting and matching need following comments made from the strategic review that there needs to be balanced communities who can afford to live here and work locally.	Andrew Smith	TBC	N/A
Future of Supported Housing Scheme	Consider white paper on Housing related support funding.	Mike Rivers	TBC	N/A
Universal Credit / Financial Inclusion	To consider the potential impacts of Universal Credit on the Housing Business Plan.	TBC	TBC	N/A

Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Subject	Purpose for Scrutiny	Lead Member/ officer	Date for O&S consideration	Date for Executive decision (if applicable)
Private sector housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the enforcement of standards and compliance on private landlords (governance and regulations); and • Houses in multiple occupations: to scrutinise the Council's approach to enforcing standards of HMOs across the Borough in light of the anticipated legislative changes requiring 1 & 2 storey HMOs to obtain a license. 	Simon Brisk	TBC	N/A
Annual review of Housing Strategy	For the Committee to review the Housing Strategy.	Andrew Smith	July 2019	N/A
Housing and mental health	To hear from external organisations about the link between housing and mental health	Yasmine Makin	TBC	N/A

Section B

In-depth scrutiny reviews 2017-18

Subject	Objective	Key issues	Lead officer	Progress
<p>Review of Housing Design Standards</p>	<p>To provide members with an overview of the Design Standards and Specifications adopted in 2014 for new council homes and outline a proposal for review of these standards by the committee both in context of ‘Site C’ at Ockford Ridge and other future council housing developments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code for Sustainable Homes • Nationally prescribed standards and the optional requirements for Local Housing Authorities (building regulations) • Internal design standards meet the needs of tenants and if not to identify which aspects can be improved • Health and safety 	<p>Louisa Blundell</p>	<p>The Housing Design Standards review report was brought to this Committee and to the Executive in July 2018. All recommendations were agreed and the new standards will be adopted in autumn 2018.</p>
<p>Council Housing: Pride and Prejudice</p>	<p>To identify stigma in the borough and nationally and create an action plan in order to encourage officers, Members and residents to tackle the stigma around being a council tenant.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition and level of stigma • Types of stigma • Chartered Institute for Housing – Rethinking Social Housing • Government announcements regarding stigma 	<p>Annalisa Howson / Yasmine Makin</p>	<p>The scope of the task and finish group has been agreed and the Group has met once with further meeting scheduled. The Group will provide a final report to the February Committee meeting.</p>

Section C

Scrutiny tracker 2017-18

Housing Scrutiny recommendations tracker				
Meeting date	Agenda item	Outcome / Recommendations	Officer / Executive response	Timescale
3 July 2018	HRA Asset Management Strategy 2021 – 2026 scoping report	OUTCOME: for the current strategy to be updated to ensure it reflects changing technologies, in addition to other considerations listed on page 2 of the report.	In addition to the considerations listed in the report, officers will update the Strategy to reflect changes in development and technology.	The new Strategy will be for 2021 – 2026.
	Housing Design Standards Review – Working Group report	RECOMMENDATION: for the Executive to consider the report and agreed the recommendations contained within it.	Executive considered this report and agreed its recommendations at its 10 July 2018 meeting. More information can be found in section B.	July 2018
	Performance Management Report Q4	RECOMMENDATION: the Committee endorsed the new indicators and recommends their approval to the Executive.	The new indicators were agreed at the Executive 10 July 2018.	July 2018

Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Housing Scrutiny recommendations tracker				
18 September 2018	Tackling Housing Fraud Progress report	OUTCOME: Members suggested officers publicised the excellent work carried out by Waverley to tackling housing fraud.	The Autumn edition of Homes and People contained reference to the number of homes retrieved following tenancy fraud investigations.	November 2018
	Housing Revenue Account – Rent Setting Policy	OUTCOME: the Committee suggested that the policy would benefit from a technical glossary.	Officers agreed to include the technical glossary , more information on Waverley homes let on affordable rents and a section on how market rents as ascertained.	Added to the work programme - November 2018
	Tenancy and Estates update	OUTCOME: detail on the roles and responsibilities of Tenancy and Estates officers was requested by Members in addition to further information regarding progress of work undertaken to tackle housing fraud.	Officers will include this detail in the next update to the Committee.	July 2019
	Corporate Performance Report Q1	OUTCOME: the Committee agreed that the new format should be discussed at the OS Coordinating Board.	This item was discussed at the OS Coordinating Board meeting in September and it was agreed that in future the report would be accompanied by a covering report including the additional information requested by the Committee.	September 2018
	A New Deal For Social Housing	OUTCOME: the Committee resolved to share their individual responses to the Government’s green paper consultation via email with officers.	Following Member feedback officers submitted a response to the green paper 5 November 2018.	November 2018
		OUTCOME: the Committee set up task and finish group to create an action plan in order to tackle council house stigma.	See section B.	