The Committee met for a second time on the 4th February. The principle focus of this meeting was to review the Committee's recommendations from 2018. It was decided that whilst large sections of this are either applicable or only require minor updating, due to a changing context, other issues would need to be considered afresh.

The Group was happy with the floor space standards Waverley currently had agreed in 2018, which are above national standards. However, they agreed that given the new extent of homeworking, modest changes in requirements might be necessary to ensure tenants have the flexibility to use this space for work.

The Group recognised it would likely need input from technical experts to evaluate options for microgeneration, heat sources and insulation. The Housing Delivery Officer and I were actioned to explore to what extent this could be delivered from within the Council's own resources.

The Group felt that developments needed to be future-proofed, so that for example, they provided sufficient the provision not only for charging the number of electric cars currently on the roads, but for a potentially much increased level.

The Group suggested that there needed to be a discussion with Planning as to which urban developments needed parking. However, the Group recognised that even if there were not individual spaces for dwellings, there would need to be pull-in spaces for deliveries and medical visits. It was also felt that there needed to be investment in cycling and pedestrian connectivity in new developments.

The Group endorsed the 2018 report's conclusions on roofspaces.

The Group also contributed ideas for questions for a survey of tenants in recently built properties.

At its next meeting on February 17th, the Group will continue its review of the 2018 report with a particular focus on building regulations and sustainability.

Finally, the Group has invited Cllr Hesse to join their number.

Mark Mills
Policy Officer (Scrutiny)
11th February 2021