

LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN	WARDS: All
REPORT TITLE: Work Programme – Housing Scrutiny	
REPORT OF: Director of Property Management	
FOR SUBMISSION TO: Housing Scrutiny Committee	DATE: 21 st February 2023
<p>SUMMARY OF REPORT: This report provides an update on the Committee’s work programme for 2022/23 and provides an update on action requested at previous meetings of the Committee.</p> <p>Local Government Act 1972 – Access to information No documents that require listing were used in the preparation of this report</p> <p>Contact Officer: Gavin Haynes, Director of Property Management gavin.haynes@camden.gov.uk</p>	
<p>RECOMMENDATIONS: The members of the Housing Scrutiny Committee are asked:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) to consider any proposals for items that should be included in the work programme and to confirm the work programme for the year ahead. 	

Signed:



Director of Property Management

Date: 9th February 2023

1. **INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The committee has been set up with the following terms of reference:

- To scrutinise the Council's policies and the provision, planning, financing, management and performance of services relating to housing provided by the Council and other service providers.

1.2 A committee workplan is attached to this report (Appendix A). The committee may wish to make further suggestions or amendments to the workplan for the year ahead.

2. **CABINET FORWARD PLAN – Housing**

2.1 Items for the Forward Plan for the new municipal year are yet to be decided.

3 **PANELS**

3.1 The Scrutiny committee may establish a time limited, task focussed Panel. The Panel is chaired by a member of the committee and is able to request contributions and evidence about local housing services from a wider range of contributors including Partners, expert advisors and local residents. A report is made by the Panel to the Scrutiny Committee on its findings at the end of its work. Updates are provided to the Committee by the Chair of the panel whilst its work is ongoing.

3.2 Committee members are reminded of the constraints on Council resources at this time and have previously committed to run these Member-led panels with only limited officer support in order to ensure an efficient and cost-effective process.

4 **CO-OPTees**

4.1 In addition to council members, the committee has previously decided that three co-optees should sit on the committee. These arrangements are subject to annual review.

5 **ACTION TRACKER**

5.1 The actions arising from the last meeting (January 2023) are attached at Appendix B.

6. **COMMENTS OF THE BOROUGH SOLICITOR**

6.1 The Borough Solicitor has been consulted and has no comments to make on the report.

7. COMMENTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

- 7.1 The Executive Director of Corporate Services has been consulted and has no comment to add.

DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME

**Housing Scrutiny Committee draft work programme
2022/23**

Yet to be programmed

- Camden Housing Strategy
- Allocations Policy (Policy review and service redesign)
- Leaseholder services
- Landlord Licensing Scheme update

APPENDIX B - HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ACTION TRACKER (JAN 2023)

Meeting	Item	Action	Action by	Status
12/12/22	The Cost of Living Crisis and the Council's response	Officers agreed to provide the scrutiny committee with information regarding the number of people who had applied for hardship fund payments who were in paid employment; data on the types of people accessing warm spaces; whether the libraries could be opened earlier over the winter months so that people could access them as a warm space; ensuring staff advising people on the accessing the hardship fund were providing consistent information; free school meal auto-enrolment proposal; food vouchers eligibility criteria; cost of living fund eligibility criteria along with how many times a household or an applicant could apply to the fund; along with a general update on the progress of the support measures the Council was providing in the future.	Executive Directors	Response to be provided directly to Housing Scrutiny Committee members.
17/1/23	Corporate Performance quarter 2	Officers would provide an update regarding whether the outcomes of damp and mould visits were captured as part of the feedback evaluation, along with any developing themes.	Director of Property Management	Response to be provided prior to the next meeting.

17/1/23	CCTV, RSP & ASB Update	Officers agreed to provide an update regarding the position on Westcroft Estate regarding CCTV installation, progress on the Responsive Security Patrol seeking additional powers, and whether Origin Housing in Phoenix Road had appropriate CCTV in place.	Director of Property Management	Response to be provided prior to the next meeting.
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