

# Overview & Scrutiny

## Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission

All Members of the Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission are requested to attend the meeting of the group to be held as follows

**Tuesday 12 March 2024**

**7.00 pm**

**Council Chamber, Hackney Town Hall, Mare Street, London E8 1EA**

This meeting can be viewed (or replayed) via the following link:

<https://youtube.com/live/HrhAgF9KWsl>

A back up link is provided in the event of any technical difficulties:

<https://youtube.com/live/NCqjYLjAgmk>

Should you wish to attend the meeting please give notice to the contact below and note the guidance included in the frontsheet

Contact:

Craig Player

☎ 020 8356 4316

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**Dawn Carter-McDonald**

**Interim Chief Executive, London Borough of Hackney**

**Members:** Cllr M Can Ozsen, Cllr Soraya Adejare (Chair), Cllr Clare Joseph (Vice-Chair), Cllr Joseph Ogundemuren, Cllr Sam Pallis, Cllr Ali Sadek, Cllr Zoe Garbett, Cllr Caroline Selman and Cllr Yvonne Maxwell

## Agenda

**ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

- 1 Apologies for Absence**
- 2 Urgent Items / Order of Business**
- 3 Declaration of Interest**
- 4 Draft Private Sector Housing Strategy 2024-29** (Pages 9 - 10)
- 5 Update on Housing Strategy 2024-29** (Pages 11 - 12)
- 6 Minutes of the Meeting** (Pages 13 - 24)

**7 Living in Hackney Work Programme 2023/24**

(Pages 25 - 38)

**8 Any Other Business**

# Access and Information

## Public Involvement and Recording

### Public Attendance at the Town Hall for Meetings

Scrutiny meetings are held in public, rather than being public meetings. This means that whilst residents and press are welcome to attend, they can only ask questions at the discretion of the Chair. For further information relating to public access to information, please see Part 4 of the council's constitution, available at <https://hackney.gov.uk/council-business> or by contacting Governance Services (020 8356 3503)

Following the lifting of all Covid-19 restrictions by the Government and the Council updating its assessment of access to its buildings, the Town Hall is now open to the public and members of the public may attend meetings of the Council.

We recognise, however, that you may find it more convenient to observe the meeting via the live-stream facility, the link for which appears on the agenda front sheet.

We would ask that if you have either tested positive for Covid-19 or have any symptoms that you do not attend the meeting, but rather use the livestream facility. If this applies and you are attending the meeting to ask a question, make a deputation or present a petition then you may contact the Officer named at the beginning of the agenda and they will be able to make arrangements for the Chair of the meeting to ask the question, make the deputation or present the petition on your behalf.

The Council will continue to ensure that access to our meetings is in line with any Covid-19 restrictions that may be in force from time to time and also in line with public health advice. The latest general advice can be found here - <https://hackney.gov.uk/coronavirus-support>

### Rights of Press and Public to Report on Meetings

Where a meeting of the Council and its committees are open to the public, the press and public are welcome to report on meetings of the Council and its committees, through any audio, visual or written methods and may use digital and social media providing they do not disturb the conduct of the meeting and providing that the person reporting or providing the commentary is present at the meeting.

Those wishing to film, photograph or audio record a meeting are asked to notify the Council's Monitoring Officer by noon on the day of the meeting, if possible, or any time prior to the start of the meeting or notify the Chair at the start of the meeting.

The Monitoring Officer, or the Chair of the meeting, may designate a set area from which all recording must take place at a meeting.

The Council will endeavour to provide reasonable space and seating to view, hear and record the meeting. If those intending to record a meeting require any other reasonable facilities, notice should be given to the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting and will only be provided if practicable to do so.

The Chair shall have discretion to regulate the behaviour of all those present recording a meeting in the interests of the efficient conduct of the meeting. Anyone acting in a disruptive manner may be required by the Chair to cease recording or may be excluded from the meeting.

Disruptive behaviour may include moving from any designated recording area; causing excessive noise; intrusive lighting; interrupting the meeting; or filming members of the public who have asked not to be filmed.

All those visually recording a meeting are requested to only focus on recording Councillors, officers and the public who are directly involved in the conduct of the meeting. The Chair of the meeting will ask any members of the public present if they have objections to being visually recorded. Those visually recording a meeting are asked to respect the wishes of those who do not wish to be filmed or photographed. Failure by someone recording a meeting to respect the wishes of those who do not wish to be filmed and photographed may result in the Chair instructing them to cease recording or in their exclusion from the meeting.

If a meeting passes a motion to exclude the press and public then in order to consider confidential or exempt information, all recording must cease, and all recording equipment must be removed from the meeting. The press and public are not permitted to use any means which might enable them to see or hear the proceedings whilst they are excluded from a meeting and confidential or exempt information is under consideration.

Providing oral commentary during a meeting is not permitted.

## Advice to Members on Declaring Interests

### Advice to Members on Declaring Interests

Hackney Council's Code of Conduct applies to all Members of the Council, the Mayor and co-opted Members.

This note is intended to provide general guidance for Members on declaring interests. However, you may need to obtain specific advice on whether you have an interest in a particular matter. If you need advice, you can contact:

- Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services
- the Legal Adviser to the Committee; or
- Governance Services.

If at all possible, you should try to identify any potential interest you may have before the meeting so that you and the person you ask for advice can fully consider all the circumstances before reaching a conclusion on what action you should take.

#### **You will have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter if it:**

- i. relates to an interest that you have already registered in Parts A and C of the Register of Pecuniary Interests of you or your spouse/civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse/civil partner;
- ii. relates to an interest that should be registered in Parts A and C of the Register of Pecuniary Interests of your spouse/civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse/civil partner, but you have not yet done so; or
- iii. affects your well-being or financial position or that of your spouse/civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse/civil partner.

#### **If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest in an item on the agenda you must:**

- i. Declare the existence and nature of the interest (in relation to the relevant agenda item) as soon as it becomes apparent to you (subject to the rules regarding sensitive interests).
- ii. You must leave the meeting when the item in which you have an interest is being discussed. You cannot stay in the meeting whilst discussion of the item takes place, and you cannot vote on the matter. In addition, you must not seek to improperly influence the decision.
- iii. If you have, however, obtained dispensation from the Monitoring Officer or Standards Committee you may remain in the meeting and participate in the meeting. If dispensation has been granted it will stipulate the extent of your involvement, such as whether you can only be present to make representations, provide evidence or whether you are able to fully participate and vote on the matter in which you have a pecuniary interest.

#### **Do you have any other non-pecuniary interest on any matter on the agenda which is being considered at the meeting?**

You will have 'other non-pecuniary interest' in a matter if:

- i. It relates to an external body that you have been appointed to as a Member or in

another capacity; or

ii. It relates to an organisation or individual which you have actively engaged in supporting.

**If you have other non-pecuniary interest in an item on the agenda you must:**

i. Declare the existence and nature of the interest (in relation to the relevant agenda item) as soon as it becomes apparent to you.

ii. You may remain in the meeting, participate in any discussion or vote provided that contractual, financial, consent, permission or licence matters are not under consideration relating to the item in which you have an interest.

iii. If you have an interest in a contractual, financial, consent, permission, or licence matter under consideration, you must leave the meeting unless you have obtained a dispensation from the Monitoring Officer or Standards Committee. You cannot stay in the meeting whilst discussion of the item takes place, and you cannot vote on the matter. In addition, you must not seek to improperly influence the decision. Where members of the public are allowed to make representations, or to give evidence or answer questions about the matter you may, with the permission of the meeting, speak on a matter then leave the meeting. Once you have finished making your representation, you must leave the meeting whilst the matter is being discussed.

iv. If you have been granted dispensation, in accordance with the Council's dispensation procedure you may remain in the meeting. If dispensation has been granted it will stipulate the extent of your involvement, such as whether you can only be present to make representations, provide evidence or whether you are able to fully participate and vote on the matter in which you have a non-pecuniary interest.

**Further Information**

Advice can be obtained from Dawn Carter-McDonald, Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services via email [dawn.carter-mcdonald@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:dawn.carter-mcdonald@hackney.gov.uk)

## Getting to the Town Hall

For a map of how to find the Town Hall, please visit the council's website <http://www.hackney.gov.uk/contact-us.htm> or contact the Overview and Scrutiny Officer using the details provided on the front cover of this agenda.

## Accessibility

There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall.

Induction loop facilities are available in the Assembly Halls and the Council Chamber. Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

## Further Information about the Commission

If you would like any more information about the Scrutiny Commission, including the membership details, meeting dates and previous reviews, please visit the website or use this QR Code (accessible via phone or tablet 'app')

[Scrutiny Panel](#)



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| <b>Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission</b><br><b>12th March 2024</b><br><b>Item 4 – Draft Private Sector Housing Strategy 2024-29</b> | Item No<br><b>4</b> |
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## Outline

The Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission is keen to hear about development of the Council's draft Private Sector Housing Strategy 2024-29, which is due to be agreed by Cabinet later this year.

The draft Private Sector Housing Strategy 2024-29 sets out the action the Council will take, along with its partners, to support the improvement of housing and management standards in the private sector. The Commission sees this discussion as timely, giving members an opportunity to challenge how the strategy will be delivered, how the Council has considered risks and the key measures of success before it is adopted.

## Report(s)

The following document is included for information:

- Item 4a. Draft Private Sector Housing Strategy 2024-29 (*to follow as supplementary paper*)

## Invites Attendees

- Cllr Sem Moema, Deputy Cabinet Member for Private Rented Sector & Housing Affordability

## Action

Members are asked to consider the background information and ask questions of those in attendance.

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| <b>Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission</b><br><b>12th March 2024</b><br><b>Item 5 – Update on Housing Strategy 2024-29</b> | Item No<br><b>5</b> |
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## **Outline**

The Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission will receive an update on the development of the Council's new Housing Strategy 2024-29 and the timeline options for its publication.

## **Report(s)**

None.

## **Background Information**

- [Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission discussion on the evidence base for new Housing Strategy - 22nd November 2023](#)

## **Invites Attendees**

- Nathan Keates, Project Manager Housing Strategy & Policy

## **Action**

Members are asked to consider the background information and ask questions of those in attendance.

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| <b>Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission</b><br><b>12th March 2024</b><br><b>Item 6 – Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b> | Item No<br><b>6</b> |
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## Outline

The draft minutes of the Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission meeting held on 27th February 2024 are provided.

## Action



Members are asked to review and agree the draft minutes as an accurate record of the meeting, and note any responses to actions arising.

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London Borough of Hackney  
Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission  
Municipal Year 2023/24  
Tuesday 27 February 2024

Minutes of the proceedings of  
the Living in Hackney Scrutiny  
Commission held at  
Hackney Town Hall, Mare  
Street, London E8 1EA

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| <b>Chair:</b>                             | <b>Councillor Soraya Adejare</b>  |
| <b>Councillors in Attendance:</b>         | <b>Cllr Joseph Ogundemuren, Cllr Sam Pallis, Cllr Zoe Garbett and Cllr Yvonne Maxwell</b>   |
| <b>Apologies:</b>                         | <b>Cllr Caroline Selman and Cllr M Can Oszen</b>  |
| <b>Councillors in Online Attendance:</b>  | <b>Cll Ali Sadek, Cllr Ian Rathbone and Cllr Clare Joseph</b>   |
| <b>Officers In Attendance:</b>            | <b>Simon Young (Principal Public Health Specialist &amp; Substance Misuse Partnership Lead)</b>   |
| <b>Other People in Attendance:</b>        | <b>Cllr Claudia Turbet-Delof</b>  |
| <b>Officers in Online Attendance:</b>     | <b>Jennifer Wynter (Assistant Director Benefits &amp; Housing Needs) Beverley Gachette (Strategic Commissioning Lead, Rough Sleeping and Homelessness) and Chris Lovitt (Deputy Director, City &amp; Hackney Public Health)</b>   |
| <b>Other People in Online Attendance:</b> | <b>Cllr Kam Adams, Amy Wilkinson (Director of Partnerships, Impact and Delivery at NHS North East London Integrated Care Board &amp; City and Hackney Place Based Partnership), Ellie Hobart (Deputy Director of Health Improvement &amp; Inclusion, NHS North East London), Cindy Fischer (Senior Manager Unplanned Care, NHS North East London) and Councillor Sade Etti (Deputy Cabinet Member for Homelessness &amp; Housing Needs)</b> |
| <b>Officer Contact:</b>                   | <b>Craig Player</b><br> 020 8356 4316<br> craig.player@hackney.gov.uk   |

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## **Councillor Soraya Adejare in the Chair**

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

1.1 The Chair updated those in attendance on the meeting etiquette and that the meeting was being recorded and livestreamed.

1.2 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Oszen.

1.3 Cllr Joseph, Cllr Sadek and Cllr Rathbone were in online attendance.

## **2 Urgent Items / Order of Business**

2.1 There were no urgent items, and the order of business was as set out in the agenda.

## **3 Declaration of Interest**

3.1 In relation to item 4, the Deputy Cabinet Member for Homelessness & Housing Needs declared that she was a Governor at North East London NHS Foundation Trust.

## **4 Supported Accommodation for Rough Sleepers & Single Homeless People with Complex Needs**

4.1 The Chair opened the item by explaining that the discussion followed on from the meeting held on 22nd November 2023, where the Commission looked at the local context for supported accommodation for single homeless people with complex needs, including current provision, its benefits, and future demand.

4.2 During the discussion the Commission heard that the main barriers to increasing provision in Hackney in line with future need included access to funding sources and identifying suitable sites. The Commission was therefore keen to further explore the challenges and opportunities in developing supported accommodation for this cohort locally, and to look at the ways in which improved partnership working could potentially unlock opportunities for increased provision.

4.3 As part of the scrutiny process, members undertook site visits to supported accommodation schemes in Camden and Hackney. An overview report from these visits is included with the agenda papers.

### 4.4 Representing London Borough of Hackney

- Councillor Sade Etti, Deputy Cabinet Member for Homelessness & Housing Needs
- Jennifer Wynter, Assistant Director Benefits & Housing Needs
- Beverley Gachette, Strategic Commissioning Lead, Rough Sleeping and Homelessness

### 4.5 Representing City & Hackney Public Health

- Chris Lovitt, Deputy Director of Public Health
- Simon Young, Principal Public Health Specialist & Substance Misuse Partnership Lead

### 4.6 Representing NHS North East London Integrated Care Board / City & Hackney Place Based Partnership

- Amy Wilkinson, Director of Partnerships, Impact and Delivery



#### 4.7 Representing NHS North East London

- Ellie Hobart, Deputy Director of Health Improvement & Inclusion, NHS North East London
- Cindy Fischer, Senior Manager Unplanned Care, NHS North East London

#### 4.8 Attending from the Health in Hackney Scrutiny Commission

- Cllr Claudia Turbot-Delof
- Cllr Kam Adams

4.9 It was noted that apologies had been received from the Deputy Mayor for Delivery, Inclusive Economy & Regeneration and officers covering housing strategy, housing delivery and corporate property. The discussion would therefore focus on the work of health partners in supporting this cohort locally and the opportunities for further collaboration in this area.

4.10 The Chair then invited the Deputy Director of Health Improvement & Inclusion and Senior Manager Unplanned Care at NHS North East London (NEL) to give a verbal presentation. The main points are highlighted below.

4.11 Strategy and policy around addressing the health needs of homeless people and wider health inclusion groups was guided by various national and regional documents. This included the homelessness commissioning guidance for London, the Rough Sleeping Strategy, Core20PLUS and the NICE guidelines, and most recently national guidance for NHS action on inclusion health.

4.12 NHS NEL defined homelessness as including; rooflessness (without a shelter, sleeping rough on the streets); houselessness (a place to sleep but it is temporary, in institutions or a shelter including refugee and asylum seekers); living in insecure housing (threatened with severe exclusion due to insecure tenancies, eviction, domestic violence, or staying with family and friends); and living in inadequate housing (in caravans on illegal campsites, extreme overcrowding).

4.13 The case for action in addressing the health needs of those experiencing homelessness was clear. Health outcomes remained poor, people continued to face barriers to accessing health and care services and face stigma and discrimination when interacting with services, and people had significant unmet health, housing and social care needs.

4.14 Health service implications resulting from, or being worsened by, the current housing situation included the exacerbation of health issues both physical and mental, limited housing options (with the right support) leading to people staying longer in hospital, continuity of care issues and implications for recruitment, retention and agency spend as key workers were unable to afford to live and work in London.

4.15 Since 2013, there had been a year on year increase in rough sleeping in North East London until 2020 (during the COVID-19 pandemic there was a decrease in rough sleeping due to an increase in government funding for those experiencing homelessness via schemes such as the 'Everyone in' campaign and the 'Rough sleepers initiative'). However, between 2013 and 2023 there had been an increase of 129.5% in rough sleeping.

4.16 The emerging vision for 2022/23 to 2023/24 in terms of improving the health outcomes of the homeless population in North East London included six emerging priorities and Integrated Care Board (ICB) actions.

- 1) Identifying gaps in provision in outer boroughs and addressing unmet health needs accordingly
- 2) Improving pathways for hospital discharge and step-down
- 3) Improving access to primary and community provision
- 4) Development of integrated specialist services across NEL
- 5) Preventing young people experiencing homelessness through system working to identify opportunities to prevent homelessness up stream
- 6) Supporting refugee and asylum seekers and those with no recourse to public funds

4.17 NHS NEL ICB commissioned services included:

- The Greenhouse Practice (East London Foundation Trust)
- Rough Sleeping and Mental Health Programme (East London Foundation Trust)
- Pathway Homeless Team (East London Foundation Trust and Homerton Healthcare Foundation Trust)
- Lowri House (Peabody)
- Routes to Roots (Providence Row Charity)
- NEL Refugee and Asylum Seeker health outreach (to be introduced in April 24)

4.18 The City & Hackney Placed Based Partnership (PbP) governance structure, as included in the agenda papers, was referenced. Key governance routes included the City & Hackney PbP Delivery Group, the City & Hackney Neighbourhood Health and Care Board, the City & Hackney Health and Care Board and the City & Hackney ICB Sub Committee.

4.19 The Assistant Director of Benefits & Homelessness Prevention added that the Benefits & Homelessness Prevention team planned to present on the topic of supported accommodation for homeless people with complex needs at the next City & Hackney Neighbourhood Health and Care Board on 26th March 2024.

#### Questions, Answers and Discussion

4.20 *A Commission Member asked about how health partners worked in partnership to provide support for homeless people with multiple and complex needs.*

4.21 The Senior Manager Unplanned Care, NHS NEL explained that commissioned health partners worked in closely in partnership to provide integrated specialist services across North East London which aimed to improve health and social outcomes.

4.22 For example, the Greenhouse Practice was provided by East London Foundation Trust but worked very closely with other agencies such as the Council and Homerton Healthcare Foundation Trust, as well as providers of community services.

4.23 *A Commission Member asked about what was known about “hidden” homelessness in Hackney, particularly in terms of women experiencing hidden homelessness.*

4.24 The Senior Manager Unplanned Care, NHS NEL acknowledged that there was a need to further understand the health needs of those in housing situations that were not as well captured in official statistics. Improving data collection and analysis around this cohort would allow health and wellbeing support to be better targeted.

4.25 The Deputy Director of Health Improvement & Inclusion, NHS NEL added that a population profile for homeless health across North East London was currently in development. Additionally, a London-wide survey was being undertaken to understand the health needs of the female hidden homeless population which NHS NEL would be feeding into.

4.26 The Assistant Director of Benefits & Homelessness Prevention added that a rough sleeping census for women in London to understand the experiences of women who were rough sleeping and may not be represented in data, policy or services was undertaken annually.

*4.27 A Commission Member asked whether there were any opportunities to use existing NHS assets to deliver supported accommodation for single homeless people with complex needs locally.*

4.28 The Director of Partnerships, Impact and Delivery, NHS NEL ICB & City and Hackney PbP explained that a piece of work was currently underway with the to explore collaborative opportunities across estates to deliver primary care and other services where possible.

4.29 More widely, NEL ICB was working across the whole system to identify opportunities for collaboration in terms of assets. Whilst this was at the early stages, it was hoped that opportunities could be worked on to support integration and collective effort to deliver services.

4.30 The Deputy Director of Health Improvement & Inclusion, NHS NEL added that there was an infrastructure team at NHS NEL level which looked for development opportunities which might be available, as well as potential resources from Section 106 and the Community Infrastructure Levy. Dialogue around any opportunities for homelessness provision and wider health inclusion services was at the early stages but ongoing.

*4.31 A Commission Member asked what some of the reasons were for there being a wider gap in the provision of supported accommodation compared to demand in Hackney when compared with other boroughs such as Camden.*

4.32 The Strategic Commissioning Lead, Rough Sleeping and Homelessness explained that the Council changed its model of housing related support services for adults with complex needs in 2016 to achieve efficiencies and cost savings. Financial pressures meant that it had to carefully review the costs of all non-statutory services.

4.33 Camden had historically had a larger budget for housing related support services for adults with complex needs. This had also been supplemented by the Supporting People Programme which was a ring-fenced grant which was intended to fund services to help vulnerable people live independently.

4.34 Hackney was also largely reliant on external providers of supported accommodation for homeless people with complex needs, whereas Camden had a

large proportion of provision which was directly funded and delivered by the Council itself.

*4.35 A Commission Member asked about how the Council worked collaboratively with community and voluntary organisations providing support services for homeless people with complex needs in the borough.*

4.36 The Assistant Director of Benefits & Homelessness Prevention explained that the Council worked closely and extensively with organisations providing support to homeless people with complex needs locally.

4.37 In reference to a specific question around working with Spitalfields Crypt Trust, it was noted that the Council had a longstanding relationship with the organisation and supported them through exempt accommodation (supported housing which was exempt from certain Housing Benefit provisions).

*4.38 A Commission Member asked about how the Council and health partners were working collaboratively in terms of data modelling and future projections around the needs of homeless people with complex needs.*

4.39 The Deputy Director of Health Improvement & Inclusion, NHS NEL explained that work was ongoing across NHS NEL around gathering health data and information sharing to ensure interventions were data and evidence driven. This would link in with ongoing work being undertaken by Public Health to update the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA).

4.40 The Principal Public Health Specialist & Substance Misuse Partnership Lead added that a JSNA was currently being undertaken to understand local need in regard to substance misuse, which would have a focus on homelessness and rough sleeping.

4.41 A JSNA around homelessness and rough sleeping specifically was last produced in 2018, which focused largely on housing quality and temporary accommodation. Work was ongoing to develop a new JSNA which would have more of a focus on the needs of the homeless and rough sleeping population, and this would likely be completed in the next year.

4.42 The Senior Manager Unplanned Care, NHS NEL added that stakeholders came together regularly both at a North East London and City & Hackney level to discuss issues of strategic importance and share information. For example, the Homeless Health Partnership Group included representatives from the Council, Public Health and various health, social and voluntary care partners.

4.43 This met to ensure strategies for this cohort were appropriately aligned, and explore opportunities for collaborative service delivery to address the health needs of the homeless and rough sleeper population.

4.44 The Director of Partnerships, Impact and Delivery, NHS NEL ICB & City and Hackney PbP went on to add that the conversation around supported accommodation for homeless people with complex needs at the City & Hackney Neighbourhood Health and Care Board on 26th March 2024 would provide a springboard for further conversations across the local health system.

4.45 *A Commission Member asked about how the Council was working with registered social landlords to explore opportunities for the potential use of their housing stock to deliver supported accommodation for this cohort.*

4.46 It was noted that the question would be better answered by colleagues from housing strategy, housing delivery and corporate assets who would have a fuller understanding of partnership work with registered social landlords.

4.47 *A Commission Member asked whether the current level of supported accommodation provision for this cohort was enough to address the needs of homeless people and rough sleepers with substance misuse issues.*

4.48 The Principal Public Health Specialist & Substance Misuse Partnership Lead explained that there were various pieces of work going on locally to address the needs of homeless people and rough sleepers with substance misuse issues.

4.49 One recent example was the work funded by the Rough Sleeping Drug and Alcohol Treatment Grant, which funded drug and alcohol treatment and wraparound support for people sleeping rough or at risk of sleeping rough. This involved outreach work with rough sleepers and those living in temporary accommodation.

4.50 Alongside this was the work of the Community Wellbeing Team, which provided mobile services across the borough to provide care and support to rough sleepers and those experiencing homelessness. This work included a range of multi-agency services including Turning Point, the Benefits & Homelessness Prevention Team and the Greenhouse Practice.

4.51 Having said this, provision could inevitably go further. There were well-documented challenges around recruitment and retention, workloads, transient populations and ever increasing demand.

4.52 In terms of setting out what was needed and what might be possible in terms of increased provision, more work needed to be done around data modelling and future projections through the JSNAs and collaborative work across the City & Hackney PbP. In addition, further engagement was needed with the Greater London Authority (GLA) to explore potential opportunities and collaboration.

4.53 *A Commission Member asked about what work had been undertaken, or needed to be undertaken, around modelling the potential cost benefits of supported accommodation for homeless people with complex needs.*

4.54 The Strategic Commissioning Lead, Rough Sleeping and Homelessness explained that work around understanding the value for money of the supported housing sector for public services was challenging but ongoing. The Benefits & Homelessness Prevention Team was working closely with Public Health to understand this more clearly.

4.55 *A Commission Member asked for further information on the local hospital discharge model for homeless people with complex needs, and what impact not having appropriate places to discharge people following a period in hospital was having.*

4.56 The Assistant Director of Benefits & Homelessness Prevention explained that the Council had a good partnership with hospitals and the NHS around hospital discharge. Lowri House was a key example of this, providing those that were ready to leave hospital but did not have anywhere to live tailored accommodation and support before being moved on.

4.57 However, move on options from hospital discharge were limited and there was not enough supported accommodation provision to meet growing demand. This meant that many people were moved on into inappropriate temporary accommodation, which often led to increased safeguarding incidents and health deterioration, and placed them at increased risk of experiencing homelessness again in future.

4.58 The Senior Manager Unplanned Care, NHS NEL added that in order to get the Lowri House pathway set up a year ago, a detailed business case had to be put together which involved monitoring the number of homeless patients going through the Homerton and City & Hackney Centre for Mental Health and evaluating the work of the Pathway Homeless Hospital Discharge Team.

4.59 The pathway was originally commissioned for a two-year period, and non-recurrent funding would be needed going forward to extend it for a further period of time. It received national grant funding which was allocated for projects to support people experiencing homelessness after being discharged from hospitals which funded the first year.

4.60 It was acknowledged that a lack of suitable accommodation was also having an impact in terms of the shortage of hospital beds and on safe discharge. Whilst services worked closely together to ensure safe discharge, these pressures sometimes meant that people were discharged too early or spent longer periods of time in hospital. Following up after hospital discharge for those that were moved into temporary accommodation was also challenging, particularly if the person had been moved out of the borough.

*4.61 A Commission Member asked what the continuity of care model for homeless people and rough sleepers who came into contact with health services looked like locally.*

4.62 The Senior Manager Unplanned Care, NHS NEL explained that the Pathway Homeless Hospital Discharge Team was commissioned in part to ensure that users had an ongoing relationship with the clinical team and a smooth transition between different services.

4.63 The team did focus on onward planning and following up within the community. This involved ensuring that people were registered with a GP practice, and were engaging with Council, NHS, community and voluntary services where appropriate. Multidisciplinary partnership meetings were held regularly to ensure care was handed over smoothly.

*4.64 A Commission Member asked about how the Council and health partners ensured the needs of homeless people with complex needs were met when placed in temporary accommodation outside of the borough.*

4.65 The Assistant Director of Benefits & Homelessness Prevention explained that when a request for emergency or temporary accommodation was made, a risk assessment was undertaken to determine what that person's needs might be.

4.66 The lack of access to supported and temporary accommodation in Hackney meant that some people had to be placed outside of the borough, away from their support services and social networks. There was huge risk in doing so, particularly around increased safeguarding incidents, health deterioration and ultimately early death.

*4.67 A Commission Member asked what benchmarking had taken place to explore best practice regionally, nationally and internationally, and what had been learned.*

4.68 The Strategic Commissioning Lead, Rough Sleeping and Homelessness explained that the Council regularly reviewed best practice models in relation to provision for this cohort, and had links with commissioning authorities across the country and the GLA to share experiences.

*4.69 A Commission Member asked whether there had been many examples of homeless people with substance misuse issues being placed out of the borough, and what impact that had on ensuring they had access to the right support services.*

4.70 The Principal Public Health Specialist & Substance Misuse Partnership Lead explained that, anecdotally, substance misuse services such as Turning Point were beginning to see more and more people who engaged with their services being moved out of the borough.

4.71 If someone had been placed out of borough, it was naturally more difficult for Hackney services to engage them. Handovers between services in Hackney and in other local authorities could also be challenging due to the transient nature of that population, issues around information sharing and staffing pressures.

4.72 This again underlined the need to build a strong database around the needs of this cohort from the new JSNAs, ongoing collaborative working through the City & Hackney PbP, and utilising GLA data and services.

### Summing Up

4.73 The Chair thanked Commission Members for their questions and all witnesses for their responses and engagement with the scrutiny process.

4.74 It was explained that, after the meeting, the Commission would reflect on the evidence heard and may make suggestions or recommendations for consideration.

4.75 The Commission would also be looking to have additional conversations with the Deputy Mayor for Delivery, Inclusive Economy & Regeneration and officers covering housing strategy, housing delivery and corporate property to discuss the challenges and opportunities for developing supported accommodation in collaboration with these service areas.

## **5 Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-26 - Executive Response to Scrutiny Recommendations**

5.1 The Chair explained that the Commission held a discussion on the draft Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-26 on 18th September 2023, which enabled members to challenge how the strategy would be delivered, how the Council had considered risks, and the key measures of success before it was adopted by Cabinet.

5.2 Following the meeting, the Commission brought together its findings and sent a letter to the Executive outlining its recommendations. The response from the Executive to the letter was received on 30th January 2024.

5.3 It was explained that the Commission would be following up on progress made against key commitments in the strategy, particularly around increasing permanent and temporary housing, supporting residents with multiple and complex needs and youth homelessness.

5.4 Members noted the Executive response to the Commission's findings in relation to the Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-26, and the next steps in terms of following up the recommendations and findings.

## **6 Minutes of the Meeting**

6.1 The draft minutes of the meetings held on 11th December 2023 and 22nd January 2024 were agreed as an accurate record.

## **7 Living in Hackney Work Programme 2023/24**

7.1 The Chair referred to the Commission's work programme and highlighted the discussion items planned for the remainder of the municipal year.

7.2 It was noted that the Commission would be looking primarily at the draft Private Sector Housing Strategy 2024-29 at our next meeting in March, and would receive a brief update on progress and timelines in regard to the new Housing Strategy 2024-29.

7.3 The Intermediate Housing Panel had not yet begun its work. Its interim findings were likely to be presented to the Commission in Autumn 2024.

## **8 Any Other Business**

8.1 None.

Duration of the meeting: 7.00 - 8.20 pm





|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission</b><br><b>12th March 2024</b><br><b>Item 7 – Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission</b><br><b>Work Programme 2023/24</b> | Item No<br><b>7</b> |
|--|---------------------|

## **Outline**

Attached is the work programme for the Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission for the 2023/24 municipal year.

Please note that this is a working document.

## **Action**

Members are asked to note the work programme for the Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission for the 2023/24 municipal year.

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# Overview & Scrutiny

## Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission: Work Programme for June 2023 – March 2024

*Each agenda will include an updated version of this work programme*

| Dates   | Proposed Item  | Directorate and lead officer contact   | Description, Comment and Purpose of item  |
|---|--|--|---|
| <b>12<sup>th</sup> June 2023</b><br><br>Papers deadline:<br>Tues 30th May<br>2023 | <b>Cabinet Question<br/>                     Time: Accountability<br/>                     of Private Rented<br/>                     Sector &amp; Housing<br/>                     Associations</b> | Cllr Sem<br>Moema,<br>Deputy Cabinet<br>Member for<br>Private Rented<br>Sector and<br>Housing<br>Affordability | To question the Deputy Cabinet Member on the Council’s relationship with its housing association partners and the private rented sector and how it works with both tenants and landlords to ensure effective accountability and protection.<br><br>Particular focus will be given to how the Council works with housing associations and the private rented sector to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Maximise supply, nominations and lettings</li> <li>● Support tenancy sustainment</li> <li>● Maintain properties in good repair</li> </ul> |
|   | <b>LiH Scrutiny<br/>                     Commission Work<br/>                     Programme Planning<br/>                     2023-2024</b>  | Craig Player,<br>Overview &<br>Scrutiny Officer  | To consider and make suggestions for the LiH Scrutiny Commission work programme for the new municipal year.   |

| Dates  | Proposed Item  | Directorate and lead officer contact  | Description, Comment and Purpose of item  |
|--|--|---|---|
| <b>10<sup>th</sup> July 2023</b><br><br>Papers deadline:<br>Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> July<br>2023 | <b>Meeting the Council's Net Zero Target: Retrofitting</b>                         | Steve Waddington,<br>Strategic Director Housing Services<br><br>James Goddard,<br>Assistant Director Strategy, Assurance and Private Sector Housing | To look at the Council's work to meet its net zero carbon target in relation to the retrofit of housing stock in the borough since the Commission last looked at retrofit in 2021 as part of the overarching Net Zero Review.<br><br>Particular focus will be given to progress against retrofitting and promoting better energy use across two key areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Council housing stock</li> <li>● Housing association, private rented sector and owner-occupied housing stock</li> </ul> |
|  | <b>Housing Support for Care Leavers: Executive Response</b>                        | Craig Player,<br>Overview & Scrutiny Officer  | To note the Executive response to the Housing Support for Care Leavers Review undertaken with the Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission in 2021/22 and agree the follow up process.   |
|  | <b>Accountability of Registered Social Landlords: Recommendations and Findings</b> | Craig Player,<br>Overview & Scrutiny Officer  | To note the agreed letter to the Executive and Housing Associations in response to the scrutiny sessions on the accountability and performance of registered social landlords held throughout the 2022/23 municipal year.   |

| Dates   | Proposed Item   | Directorate and lead officer contact   | Description, Comment and Purpose of item   |
|---|---|--|--|
|   | <b>LiH Scrutiny Commission Work Programme Planning 2023-2024</b>              | Craig Player, Overview & Scrutiny Officer  | To note the shortlist for the Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission work programme for the new municipal year and make any comments and/or further suggestions as appropriate.   |
| <b>18<sup>th</sup> September 2023</b><br><br>Papers deadline:<br>Tues 5 <sup>th</sup><br>September 2023 | <b>Homelessness &amp; Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-26</b>                     | Rob Miller,<br>Strategic Director<br>Customer & Workplace<br><br>Jennifer Wynter,<br>Assistant Director Benefits & Homeless Prevention | To look at the Council's Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-26 and provide any feedback or comments before it is adopted by Cabinet.  |
|   | <b>Letter to Independent Office for Police Conduct: Child Q Investigation</b> | Craig Player, Overview & Scrutiny Officer  | To note the agreed letter to the Independent Office for Police Conduct regarding its investigation into the police officers involved in the Child Q incident following the joint scrutiny session held with the Children & Young People's Scrutiny Commission held on 25th April 2023. |
|   | <b>Policing of Drug Use: Findings &amp; Response</b>                          | Craig Player, Overview & Scrutiny Officer  | To note the agreed letter to the Community Safety Partnership and Mayor's Office for Police & Crime and their responses following the scrutiny session on the policing of drug use in Hackney held on 23rd January 2023.   |

| Dates  | Proposed Item   | Directorate and lead officer contact   | Description, Comment and Purpose of item  |
|--|---|--|---|
|  | <b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Public Engagement Protocol</b>   | Craig Player,<br>Overview &<br>Scrutiny Officer  | To note the Overview & Scrutiny Public Engagement Protocol, which was agreed at Scrutiny Panel on 13th July 2023.   |
|  | <b>LiH Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2023-2024</b>   | Craig Player,<br>Overview &<br>Scrutiny Officer  | To agree the LiH Scrutiny Commission work programme for the new municipal year.   |
| <p><b>22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023</b></p> <p>Papers deadline: Mon 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023</p> <p>This meeting was rescheduled from 16th October 2023 due to the Mayoral elections.</p> | <b>Supported Accommodation for Rough Sleepers &amp; Single Homeless People with Complex Needs</b> | <p>Rob Miller,<br/>Strategic Director<br/>Customer &amp;<br/>Workplace</p> <p>Jennifer Wynter,<br/>Assistant<br/>Director Benefits<br/>&amp; Homeless<br/>Prevention</p> <p>Dr Adi Cooper<br/>OBE, Chair of<br/>City &amp; Hackney<br/>Adults<br/>Safeguarding<br/>Board</p> | To look at the current provision and future need for supported accommodation for rough sleepers and single homeless people with multiple and complex needs. |

| Dates | Proposed Item   | Directorate and lead officer contact  | Description, Comment and Purpose of item   |
|-------|---|---|--|
|       | <b>Draft Housing Strategy &amp; Private Sector Housing Strategy: Evidence Base</b>              | James Goddard,<br>Assistant Director Strategy, Assurance and Private Sector Housing | To look at the evidence base for the Council's draft Housing Strategy and Private Sector Housing Strategy.   |
|       | <b>Resident Engagement for Estate Regeneration: Findings &amp; Executive Response</b>           | Craig Player,<br>Overview & Scrutiny Officer  | To note the agreed letter to the Executive and its response following the scrutiny session and related work on resident engagement for estate regeneration schemes in Hackney held on 20th April 2023. |
|       | <b>Draft Homelessness &amp; Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-26: Recommendations &amp; Findings</b> | Craig Player,<br>Overview & Scrutiny Officer  | To note the agreed letter to the Executive following the scrutiny sessions on temporary accommodation and the draft Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy held on 22nd March and 18th September 2023. |

| Dates  | Proposed Item  | Directorate and lead officer contact  | Description, Comment and Purpose of item  |
|--|--|---|---|
|  | <b>Overarching Scrutiny Panel Review into Net Zero: Executive Response</b> | Craig Player, Overview & Scrutiny Officer   | To note the Executive response to the Overarching Scrutiny Panel Review into Net Zero undertaken in 2021/22 and the follow up process.  |
| <b>11<sup>th</sup> December 2023</b><br><br>Papers deadline:<br>Tues 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2023 | <b>Housing Services Resident Engagement Strategy 2022-25</b>               | Steve Waddington,<br>Strategic Director Housing Services<br><br>Resident Liaison Group and/or Tenants & Resident Associations | To look at progress made against the strategic priorities identified in the Housing Services Resident Engagement Strategy since it was adopted by Cabinet in December 2022, which are as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Embed a 'Resident First' culture across the service</li> <li>2. Support our involved residents' groups to thrive</li> <li>3. Widen the ways residents can engage with us</li> <li>4. Ensure that residents influence our decision-making and drive service improvement</li> <li>5. To promote engagement activity that strengthens our communities</li> </ol> |



| Dates | Proposed Item          | Directorate and lead officer contact  | Description, Comment and Purpose of item  |
|-------|------------------------|---|---|
|       | <b>Housing Repairs</b> | <p>Steve Waddington,<br/>Strategic Director Housing</p> <p>Rob Miller,<br/>Strategic Director Customer &amp; Workplace</p> <p>Resident Liaison Group and/or Tenants &amp; Resident Associations</p> | <p>To look at the progress made against the improvement actions put in place by the Council to improve housing repairs performance and customer care.</p> <p>Particular focus will be given to those improvement actions discussed at the previous meeting in December 2022 including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Damp &amp; mould and the Leaks Hub</li> <li>● Property MOTs</li> <li>● DLO growth</li> <li>● Roll out of Repairs Hub</li> <li>● Contract management</li> <li>● Disrepair case management</li> <li>● Alternative Dispute Resolution</li> </ul> |

| Dates   | Proposed Item   | Directorate and lead officer contact   | Description, Comment and Purpose of item  |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p><b>22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024</b></p> <p>Papers deadline: Tues 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024</p> | <p><b>Anti-Social Behaviour on Council Managed Estates &amp; Blocks</b></p> | <p>Gerry McCarthy, Assistant Director Community Safety, Enforcement and Business Regulations</p> <p>Steve Waddington, Strategic Director Housing Services</p> <p>Central East Borough Command Unit, Metropolitan Police Service</p> <p>Resident Liaison Group and/or Tenants &amp; Resident Associations</p> | <p>To look at how the Council works with partner agencies and communities to ensure multi-agency responses and support in order to prevent, reduce and if necessary enforce against anti-social behaviour on council managed estates and blocks.</p> <p>Particular focus will be given to the multi-agency approach across key areas including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Prevention and early intervention</li> <li>● Supporting those affected by anti-social behaviour</li> <li>● Enforcement and diversionary activities</li> <li>● Engaging with communities</li> </ul> |

| Dates   | Proposed Item  | Directorate and lead officer contact  | Description, Comment and Purpose of item   |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p><b>27<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b></p> <p>Papers deadline:<br/>Thurs 16<sup>th</sup><br/>February 2024</p> | <p><b>Supported Accommodation for Rough Sleepers &amp; Single Homeless People with Complex Needs</b></p> | <p>Rob Miller,<br/>Strategic Director<br/>Customer &amp; Workplace</p> <p>Jennifer Wynter,<br/>Assistant Director Benefits &amp; Homeless Prevention</p> <p>Stephen Haynes,<br/>Strategic Director Inclusive Economy, Regeneration &amp; New Homes</p> <p>NHS North East London</p> <p>City &amp; Hackney Public Health</p> | <p>To further understand the challenges and opportunities in developing supported accommodation and in commissioning housing-related support.</p> <p>Particular focus will be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Challenges and opportunities in developing and delivering supported accommodation units</li> <li>● Challenges and opportunities in commissioning housing-related support</li> <li>● Enablers and barriers to effective collaboration between key agencies and organisations</li> </ul> <p>This session follows on from the previous discussion held at the meeting on 22nd November 2023.</p> |

| Dates   | Proposed Item   | Directorate and lead officer contact   | Description, Comment and Purpose of item  |
|---|---|--|---|
|   | <b>Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-26: Executive Response to Scrutiny Recommendations</b> | Craig Player, Overview & Scrutiny Officer  | To note the from the Executive to the findings and recommendations made following the scrutiny session on draft Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy held on 18th September 2023. |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2024<br><br>Papers deadline: Fri 1st February 2024 | <b>Draft Private Sector Housing Strategy 2024-29</b>  | James Goddard, Assistant Director Strategy, Assurance and Private Sector Housing | To look at the Council's draft Private Sector Housing Strategy 2024-29 and provide any feedback or comments before it is adopted by Cabinet in early 2024.                          |
|   | <b>Update on Housing Strategy 2024-29</b>   | James Goddard, Assistant Director Strategy, Assurance and Private Sector Housing | To receive an update on the progress in developing the Council's new Housing Strategy 2024-29 and the timelines for publication.  |

**Items to be considered outside of formal meetings: June 2023 – March 2024**

| <b>Proposed Item</b>              | <b>Directorate and lead officer contact</b>   | <b>Description, Comment and Purpose of item</b>   | <b>Type</b>      |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|------------------|
| <b>Arts &amp; Culture Funding</b> | Petra Roberts,<br>Strategic Service<br>Head Culture,<br>Libraries and Heritage          | To look at how arts and cultural provision is funded in Hackney, and how individuals, groups and organisations are supported to make use of local, regional and national funding opportunities.   | Written briefing |
| <b>Hackney Prevent</b>            | Gerry McCarthy, Head<br>of Community Safety,<br>Enforcement and<br>Business Regulations | To look at Hackney Prevent's progress against its key priorities and objectives (with key consideration given to the Channel process), and explore potential ramifications of Home Office funding ending in 2025/25 (though responsibility to implement duty locally remains) on future work. | Written briefing |

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