

Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission

Item No

4th March 2019

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Item 6 - Update on discretionary private rented sector licensing

Outline

In the July 2018 Commission meeting the Mayoral Adviser for Private Renting and Housing Affordability answered questions on the Council's preparations for the launch of wider private rented sector licensing schemes planned for October 2018. These schemes would bring more private rented properties than those already covered by the mandatory scheme for larger HMOs, into a licensing framework.

This item included discussions around the extent of inspection activity which would take place in the schemes and the costs which landlords would incur.

Members also noted that the research carried out to help shape the proposals had identified high numbers of HMOs which were subject to mandatory licensing but which did not have a license in place, and that health and safety hazards were in evidence in many of these properties.

This item has been scheduled for Members to receive updates on the introduction of discretionary licensing schemes, the Council's work to target properties which should be licensed but are not, and that health and safety in these properties are rectified.

The paper enclosed has been provided in support of this item.

Guests expected:

Kevin Thompson, Head of Private Sector Housing

Action

Members of the Commission are asked to review the paper in advance of the meeting and to ask questions on the latest developments with the wider private rented sector licensing schemes.