

<b>Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission</b> <b>16<sup>th</sup> December 2019</b> <b>Item 5 – Update on Housing Services’ review of Community Halls</b>	Item No <b>5</b>
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### Outline

During a discussion in July on Housing Services’ support of resident engagement, Members made a number points around the use and management of the Council’s Community Halls.

Members noted that a review of the function was underway, amid recognition that that they are currently an underused asset.

In a letter sent to the Cabinet Member for Housing Services following the meeting, the Commission recognised the challenges around improving the accessibility of our halls - both in relation to financial pressures and around half of our halls being managed by organisations separate from the Council. However, the letter also asked that the review gave consideration to the specific points below.

- How Community Halls will play a role in the delivery of Council and partnership priorities
- How the visibility and accessibility of Community Halls (both those run by the Council and TRAs/TMOs) to community groups and organisations delivering activities will be improved
- How the split between Council-run and TRA and TMO-managed Community Halls will be managed to ensure effective use in all cases, including:
  - Any role for the Council in supporting wider use of all Council-owned Community Halls
  - Any measures to ensure equality of access to all Council Community Halls for all residents
  - How the use of all Halls will be evaluated on an ongoing basis

This item has been scheduled for the Commission to be updated around the outcomes of the Community Halls Review, including the considerations given to the points above.

A set of slides has been provided for the item which appears on pages 37 – 48, along with schematic on page 49 giving an overview of the current booking

process for halls (the level of detail on the schematic may mean this is practically only viewable on electronic versions of the agenda).

**Guests expected:**

- David Padfield, Interim Director, Housing Services
- Gilbert Stowe, Head of Tenant and Leasehold Services, Housing Services
- Sara Kulay, Project Manager, Housing Transformation, Housing Services

**Action**

Members are asked to review the papers enclosed, in advance of the meeting. They are asked to hear opening comments from guests and to ask questions around the outcomes from the review of Housing Services' resident engagement function.