

Scrutiny Panel 13th May 2020 Item 4 – Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission on the Impact of Covid-19 in relation to Housing and Domestic Violence	Item No 4
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OUTLINE

The current pandemic (Covid-19) has had a significant impact on the UK, its economy and the daily lives of people. Local authorities and statutory partners have had to refocus their support offer to local residents whilst keeping key services operational. The Council and its statutory partners have also had to ensure its resources are best placed to help with the immediate challenges presenting now and in the future.

It has been reported that during Covid-19 domestic violence crimes and reporting have increased. There is also concern about the support available to residents living in Council and Housing Association properties during this pandemic. The Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission has requested for an update on the impact of Covid-19 on housing services in Hackney and an update on the impact of Covid-19 on domestic violence (DV) locally.

The discussion will cover the follow areas:

- (1) Support available to residents regarding vulnerability, ASB, rent, leasehold charges and rent arrears due to COVID-19.
- (2) Update on DV reporting in Hackney, the support available and how support is being provided and made available during Covid-19.

The reports attached in the agenda provide information about the impact of Covid-19 on patterns of domestic abuse within the borough and information about the service responses for DV and ASB / Noise.

Attending for this item will be:

Metropolitan Police Service

Detective Chief Superintendent Marcus Barnett (BCU Commander)

Detective Superintendent Adam Ghaboos (Safeguarding Lead)

London Borough of Hackney

Cllr Clayeon McKenzie, Cabinet Member for Housing services

Cllr Caroline Selman, Cabinet Member for Community safety, policy and the voluntary sector

Cllr Sem Moema, Mayoral Advisor Private renting and housing affordability

David Patfield, Director of Housing Services

James Goddard, Interim Director, Regeneration
Sarah Wright, Director of Children and Families
Cathal Ryan, Service Manager for the Domestic Abuse Intervention Service.

ACTION

Members are asked to give consideration to the presentation, report and ask questions.