

Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission Work Programme Suggestions 2022/2023

Remit

Scrutinise matters relating to *community safety (including statutory duties of crime and disorder committee), housing and maintenance (social housing and private sector housing), Public realm, housing needs and benefits (including temporary accommodation) planning (residents), community halls, corporate property, environment and sustainability (fleet management and energy).*

Statutory duty to scrutinise the London Borough of Hackney Community Safety Partnership as the *Crime and Disorder Committee*.

Suggested Discussion Items

Remit Areas	Item	Notes about item	Source	Included in work programme
Housing Needs	Temporary Accommodation	<p>What happens to non-secure tenants on regenerated estates? Where have they ended up?</p> <p>How does the Settled Homes team work?</p> <p>How do they decide which tenants to contact/what are their operating guidelines and do they work with other teams across the council to share knowledge, for example if someone is vulnerable?</p> <p>Who decides what kind of TA someone gets? Out of borough, on an estate, in a hostel etc how is this reviewed to ensure the accom is suitable for their needs?</p> <p>Are we aware of the different impacts/challenges associated for the resident?</p>	Commission Member	
	Changes to the Housing Register	<p>We promised to work closely with residents to help them, using initiatives such as the mutual exchange fair.</p> <p>How is this working in practice?</p>	Commission Member	

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		<p>Have we put anything in place that didn't already exist? For example, rather than just directing residents to homeswapper, which many are already using, have we set up our own Hackney wide local database and are we trying to match people up?</p>		
	<p>Housing Association Transfers to Larger Properties</p>	<p>Many housing associations direct their residents to the council when they need a larger property, as opposed to transferring them internally. However, many such residents are now ineligible for council housing and officers have said they don't receive lettings via housing associations/receive very few. What is the true picture and what are HA doing with their voids? Ultimately, how are we helping overcrowded residents?</p>	<p>Commission Member</p>	
<p>Housing Policy</p>	<p>Supported Housing Delivery and Strategy</p>	<p>Review the housing needs and current provision of supported housing for Hackney residents living with complex conditions</p> <p>Would be a substantial piece of work that would occupy commission for much of annual cycle</p>	<p>Interim Director - Regeneration</p>	
<p>Housing Regeneration</p>	<p>Delivery of New Homes Projects</p>	<p>Review time taken from initiating a new homes project to it starting on site i.e. including engagement, design, planning and procurement etc.</p> <p>Would be a substantial piece of work that would occupy commission for much of annual cycle</p>	<p>Interim Director - Regeneration</p>	

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	Infilling on Estates and Community Cohesion	Is there community cohesion or are residents just living side by side?	Commission Member	
Housing Services	We will launch a review through a special Living in Hackney Commission to explore and advise on existing models and develop New ways to build affordable and accessible homes in Hackney	Manifesto pledge	Mayor and Cabinet	
	Resident Engagement Consultation	Commission to submit consultation response and share with members	Horizon scanning Commission Member	
	Neighbourhood Housing Office Closures (except Woodberry Downs)	Consulting on Housing officers doing weekly surgeries as an alternative to having housing offices. Needs to be implemented within 12 months	Strategic Director - Housing	
Housing Services Maintenance	Housing Repairs	Progress of the council's action plan to tackle the repairs backlog built up during the pandemic	Horizon scanning Commision Member	
	Maximising the benefits of district heating networks across the housing stock to drive forward		Strategic Director - Housing	

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	the net zero carbon target			
	Community Hubs across the Borough in Community Centres	There is one pilot in place	Strategic Director - Housing	
Private sector housing	Extension of the Private Sector Landlord Licensing Scheme borough wide	<p>Manifesto pledge 237</p> <p>If chosen this would need to be completed within 12 months</p> <p>Would be a substantial piece of work that would occupy commission for much of annual cycle</p>	Interim Director - Regeneration	
Public Realm	Fortnightly residual waste service review, recycling and performance (Nov/Dec/Jan)		Strategic Director - Sustainability & Public Realm	
	Parks and Green Spaces Strategy - Review of Year 1 Progress (Feb/March)		Strategic Director - Sustainability & Public Realm	
	Parking and Enforcement Plan Fees and Charges Consultation	Commission to submit consultation response and share with members	Horizon scanning	

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Community Safety	The efficacy of Hackney Community Safety Partnership to reduce crime and disorder in the Night Time Economy (July/Aug/Sept)		Strategic Director - Sustainability & Public Realm	
	Policing of Drugs in Hackney	Look into how drug crime is policed in Hackney including stop and search and what happens to people when they are found with substances	Commission Member	
Environment	Climate Action Plan	Out for consultation in October/November - commision to make submission	Group Director - Finance and Corporate Resources	
	Edmonton Incinerator	Scrutinise the decision/support from Hackney to this project, the fact that this isn't included in the net-zero target and a discussion about work being done to increase recycling rates (especially on estates) and encourage the circular economy (not just Library of Things but fixing shops etc)	Commission Member	
Planning (Residents)	Implementation of Child Friendly Borough SPD (Jan/Feb)		Strategic Director - Sustainability & Public Realm	
Sustainability	Low Carbon Development (Oct/Nov)		Strategic Director - Sustainability & Public Realm	

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	Measures taken across services to combat climate change linking with service plans/manifesto pledges (Oct/Nov/Dec)		Strategic Director - Sustainability & Public Realm	
Fleet Management	Supporting a Greener Fleet	Progress in making the council's fleet greener - procurement, management, efficiency etc	Group Director - Finance and Corporate Resources	
Arts & Culture	Arts & Cultural Strategy	Feed into the development of one or more of the strategy's focuses; community cohesion, education, employment, economy and health and wellbeing.	Strategic Director - Engagement, Culture and Organisational Development	
	Funding of the Arts & Cultural Sector	How are projects funded? How do organisations navigate the complexity of funding? What sources of funding are available e.g. local, regional, national	Commission Member	
	Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in the Arts & Cultural Sector	How is the council broadening participation in the arts and cultural sector?	Commission Member	
	Engagement between the Arts & Cultural Sector and Education Settings	Working with schools to deliver the arts through the national curriculum, how the sector engages with schools and how the council facilitates this.	Commission Member	
	Utilising the Council's Landlord Relationship in	Exploring how the council can use its landlord relationship to promote arts and	Commission Member	

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	promoting Arts & Culture	culture, and how this may fit into a whole system approach to engagement		
Other	Cost of Living Crisis	How the council is supporting residents through the crisis, removing complexity of different support schemes and grants, being more proactive	Group Director - Finance and Corporate Resources	
Other	Maximising Access to Council Services	How the council is ensuring services are easily accessible, easy to navigate and residents are signposted	Strategic Director - Customer and Workplace	
Cabinet Holding to account	Cabinet Question Time Cllr Williams		Standing Item	
	Cabinet Question Time Cllr Nicholson		Standing Item	
	Cabinet Question Time Cllr Coban		Standing Item	
	Cabinet Question Time Cllr Kennedy		Standing Item	
	Cllr Moema		Standing Item	
	Cllr Etti		Standing Item	

Public Suggestions

Remit Areas	Suggestion	Notes about item	Included in work programme
Housing needs	<p>I live in a temporary accommodation, and I feel like my freedom is limited by the visitor policy in place. I am no criminal but when I ask for a visitor I am always told not possible you know what kind of people lives here.... Well, I do live here, why the council put me in a place where I am considered a risk or even worst where I am at risk. Not to mention the incredibly high rents, the fact that we cannot associate in a tenancy association despite paying council rent, an overall abuse of our basic rights with as an excuse our security. Is incredibly invasive, I had 2 surgery and I couldn't have visitors because of a 9 to 5 only weekdays policy (people works so no-one could come), I struggled a lot and little help was given. People here do their best but the fact that my benefit money goes since 2 years In private pocket instead going towards new home seems to me extremely wrong, and more then a 1000 pound a month to live in a place where my freedoms and human right are limited is not a good look for hackney council. Also we have pest and after an initial effort nothing seems happening in regard, I am forced to. Move my room for their needs and I do not even have a bidding number to try get out of here which is a further violation of my basic rights as hackney citizen and the</p>		

	<p>council is well aware of what they are doing. There are no services and no trained staff to deal with mental health patients which often causes misunderstanding ending in abuses, no one fault, just lack of training. There is no communal living area, no consideration or help for mental health patients. Hackney Council keep telling us they are building affordable houses but they want a minimum income of 35000 pound which will never be affordable for a disabled like i am. Is a shame</p>		
Environment	<p>What the plans are to engage Hackney residents, businesses, public authorities and voluntary sector with the Council's nature recovery strategy. What the council can do to end the use of glyphosate and other harmful herbicides and pesticides in Hackney. How the Council can best support the Hackney's burgeoning gardening & greening sector.</p>	Shares remit with Scrutiny Panel	
Housing services	<p>Customer services and communication and standards across Hackney services related to living and housing and neighbourhoods, repairs and leasehold services in particular related to major works.</p>		
Community safety	<p>The policing in Hackney has been shown to be discriminatory towards black people, and black children. What happened with Child Q was an unacceptable breach of her rights and dignity. I often witness stop and search for no reason on black children. I once witnessed a police van purposefully hit a black man riding a bicycle, after which up to six police officers got out and violently arrested him. The</p>		

	<p>Hackney police also recently hosted visiting officers from Israel, presumably to share tactics. This is shocking: Israel is an Apartheid state and Israeli police are known for their violent discrimination of Palestinians. The fact that it took over two years for the police to apologise for Child Q publicly is unacceptable. Hackney council needs to figure out a way to hold the police to account for their egregiously racist and violent actions.</p>		
	<p>Increase living costs Council tax rises Rent increases</p>	<p>Shares remit with Scrutiny Panel and Skills, Economy and Growth Commission</p>	
<p>Housing services maintenance</p>	<p>1). Housing Services - Long wait times often when trying to contact the Repairs Contact Centre and getting repairs to Council Properties completed in a timely way and on first attempt.</p> <p>2). How to improve the help and support for residents who are either; older, fail and disabled residents living in Council Housing. Particularly resident who have very limited financial resources and don't have any family or friends who can help them. Particularly with trimming back overgrown shrubs and hedges and cutting back overgrown trees. The Good Gym only offers very limited gardening help.</p>	<p>Shares remit with Health in Hackney Commission</p>	
<p>Housing needs/ environment/sustainability</p>	<p>Affordable housing Air quality Cycling infrastructure</p>	<p>Shares remit with Skills, Economy and Growth and Health in Hackney Commissions</p>	

	<p>Cost of living Climate emergency A Citizens' Assembly on environmental policies for the current council term</p>		
<p>Housing services/housing policy/housing contracts</p>	<p>(1) Hackney Council liaison officers on major works program are grossly indifferent and ineffective at their jobs. As liaison between Leaseholders and Hackney Council's appointed contractor (Engie) their role is to inform Leaseholders of delays, to update us to progress and to listen to our concerns. All Leaseholders in the Brownlow block have been forced to incessantly contact Engie directly for information during the past 12 months, for a project that was only meant to last six, and which remains ongoing. Any contact with the liaison officers (Maria Collins, Claudia Collins) has been met with "we'll investigate and get back to you" with no subsequent follow up. We have dozens of emails to this effect.</p> <p>(2) Hackney Council appointed Engie as contractor to mutiple major works programs over the past few years and the strain on their resources is resulting in delays and poor quality. Hackney Council should review how many contracts it is awarding to any one contractor to assess whether this is going to have a negative impact.</p>		
<p>Arts & Culture</p>	<p>Language barrier/culture should be taken into account while commissioning/funding services proper funding for mental health services helping more to cultural specific</p>	<p>Shares remit with Skills, Economy and Growth and Health in Hackney Commissions</p>	

	<p>organizations more services for children and young people to tackle racisms/discrimination more funding for welfare advice services to reduce poverty improving quality of schools in Hackney/education distribution of funding fairly and according to needs/size of different communities more funding for provision of activities for physical health more effective advocacy</p>		
<p>Housing policy/housing services maintenance/public realm/planning (residents)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How to get more social rented housing in Hackney without building at least three times as much unaffordable housing. 2. How to stop social rented homes from being demolished. 3. How to ensure social rented homes are properly maintained. 4. How to protect shops, markets and amenities that serve local working class people. 5. How to protect garages, playgrounds, green spaces and other spaces on housing estates from over-development. 6. How to get activities for young people in our community halls. 7. How to encourage tenants' associations and other bodies where ordinary Hackney citizens can get together and collectively press for the things they want and need. 8. How to keep rents in social and private housing down. 		
<p>Housing policy/housing needs/public realm</p>	<p>More housing and parking</p>		

Other	Lack of provisions and consideration for local dog owners and dog related business		
Other	Having worked for two Doggy DayCares looking to access affordable/reasonable space in order to grow their business Based on an ever-increasing demand for dog daycare- I struggle to understand why a lack of and an ability to dismiss “usage” of space such as a dog daycare is often met with conflict and proves so difficult!! Yet is so needed!!! Hackney need to listen to reasonable suggestions to “rent” small areas of park/field/inside and outside spaces in order to faciliate something massively lacking in Hackney, even though there are multiple companies looking to provide such a service, yet priced out or told space isn’t available to their usage. We need dog care facilities. There are a multitude of parks where existing, reputable companies would be willing to invest and set up a “corner” of many parks,spaces etc		
Other	More day care facilities for dogs.		
Housing policy	Make it easier for those with pets to rent		
Environment/sustain ability	Mete Coban, The Mayor manipulating figures regarding pollution to suit their agenda. Allowing cycle lobbies to influence planning & highway management.		
Housing needs	1 The mental health for adult/carer. 2. Housing needs supports for Disabled family whose live in temporary accommodation. 3. Programme to support activity for	Shares remit with Health in Hackney and Children and Young People Commissions	

	young/juniors disability/Autism to protecting them from loneliness.		
Planning (residents)	There are not enough dog care options and the prices of day care have sky-rocketed recently, putting further pressure during this cost of living crisis. We need to make it easier for people to start businesses relating to pet care (dog day cares, dog walking etc) to keep up with demand.		
Other	More provision for positive reinforcement dog daycare facilities. Many residents in the borough are now able to work from home part time which means many of us are able to add a dog to our chosen families.		