

Skills Economy and Growth Scrutiny Commission 17th January 2024 Item 5 – Planning Policy, Net Zero and Existing Buildings	Item No 5
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Outline

Background

Low carbon and zero carbon requirements in the built environment are of increasing importance in a planning context. The scrutiny commission decided to review how the Hackney Council can and will use its borough planning powers to nudge retrofitting for existing and heritage buildings owned by the council and private landlords.

This item will explore what is possible for heritage buildings and conservation areas by hearing from other councils and industry experts; about planning powers and how they can be used to help make commercial and heritage buildings more energy efficient to support a Borough's climate action plan.

Purpose

The purpose of this item is to explore if Hackney's planning policy will support the Executive to achieve their manifesto commitment to climate change, in relation to retrofitting existing buildings. We asked our guest to provide the following information.

1. Westminster City Council will provide information about the work of the retrofit task group, use of planning legislation, partnerships and innovative approaches being trailed through the task group.
2. LBH will provide information about the council's lead work with London Councils action plan for the Low Carbon Development workstream, Hackney's built environment, use of planning powers, the changes they need to do more and how Hackney is integrating with wider regional and partnership work.
3. Lynch Architects will provide information about a local project in Hackney with an overview of the project proposals, scope and their experience of the local planning process.
4. Historic England provided information about the role of heritage to support climate change, Historic England's emerging climate change guidance & advice on retrofitting historic buildings.

Report in the agenda:

To support this discussion the following presentation and reports were provided for background information and presentation at the meeting.

- Presentation from Westminster City Council
- Presentation from London Borough of Hackney
- Presentation from Lynch Architects
- Presentation (written submission) from Historic England.

Invited Attendees

Westminster City Council

- **Lauren Shevills**, Lead Retrofit Innovation and Delivery Officer

Lynch Architects Ltd

- **Rachel Elliott** RIBA, Associate Director

London Borough of Hackney

- **Councillor Guy Nicholson**, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Delivery, Inclusive Economy & Regeneration
- **Natalie Broughton**, Assistant Director Planning & Building Control
- **Adam Dyer**, Principal Conservation and Design Officer

Action

The Commission is asked to note the presentations and ask questions.