

Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Tenant Scrutiny Board

Date: 16th April 2014

Subject: Meeting Venues

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. The draft Tenant Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules discussed at item seven of this agenda states that "*the Tenant Scrutiny Board may sit at such place and at such time as it considers necessary and appropriate*".
2. Initial discussions on the meeting places included the suggestion that the Board could meet in various locations throughout the city. The argument being to encourage local community involvement. Whilst the sentiments behind this are clear, the logistics to make this happen are significant.
3. From a Democratic Services point of view, our experiences of arranging Area Committee meetings in the locality have shown that it is difficult to find appropriately sized rooms, (with parking) that are freely accessible to the public, are available at the time required, have on site catering facilities and appropriate Information technology support. In addition such rooms are often expensive to hire.
4. It is the view of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development that all formal meetings of the Tenant Scrutiny Board should be held in the Civic Hall, where all of the above facilities are on hand. A single, city location would also reflect the status of the Tenants Scrutiny Board.
5. The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development would however, strongly encourage the Board to undertake visits to different localities when undertaking specific pieces of

Scrutiny work, for example focus groups, mystery shopping, and other evidence gathering exercises.

Recommendations

6. The Board is asked to endorse the principle of holding formal Board meetings at the Civic Hall supplemented with city wide visits when gathering Inquiry evidence.

Background documents¹

None used

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.