
Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Housing and Regeneration)

Date: 20 January 2015

Subject: Accommodation for Students and impacts on residential neighbourhoods

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 Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Board highlighted concerns about student accommodation while monitoring the recommendations of the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board's investigation into the Private Rented Sector and Empty Properties, which was completed in 2012. Particular concern was expressed about the impact of purpose built student accommodation on the broad "Headingley area".
2. A working group of key organisations connected with student housing and representatives of local residents, under the chairmanship of the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Planning and Personnel, has been working to consider the issues at play in Inner North West Leeds and agree a partnership approach to tackling these. Councillors Procter and Nagle from the Scrutiny Board have been members of the working group.
3. Given the Board's interest in this topic, a copy of the working group's final report is attached for the Board's information.

Recommendation

4. Members are asked to note the final report of the Leeds Student Accommodation Working Group.

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.