

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Housing and Regeneration)

Date: 20th July 2012

Subject: Formal Response & Recommendation Tracking – Private Rented Sector Housing

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. In May 2012 this Scrutiny Board became responsible for all housing scrutiny matters which were previously undertaken by Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities).
2. This report sets out the response of Executive Board and progress made in responding to the recommendations arising from the Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities) inquiry report published in the municipal year 2011/12 on private rented sector housing.
3. A report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods was considered by the Executive Board on 20th June 2012 in response to the Scrutiny Board's report which also summarised the progress made in responding to the 8 recommendations arising from the Scrutiny review.
4. The Scrutiny recommendation tracking system allows the Scrutiny Board to monitor progress and identify completed recommendations; those progressing to plan; and those where there is either an obstacle or progress is not adequate. The Board will then be able to take further action as appropriate.

Recommendations

5. Members are asked to:
 - Agree those recommendations which no longer require monitoring;
 - Identify any recommendations where progress is unsatisfactory and determine the action the Board wishes to take as a result.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report sets out the formal response of Executive Board to the report and recommendations of Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities) following a review of private rented sector housing. It also sets out the progress made by the Directorate to date in responding to those recommendations.

2 Background information

- 2.1 The Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities) published its final report and recommendations in April 2012. A copy of this report has recently been circulated by email to all Members of this Board .
- 2.2 The Executive Board on 20th June 2012 considered a report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods on the Scrutiny Board's proposals which also summarised the progress made in responding to the 8 recommendations arising from the Scrutiny review.
- 2.3 The Executive Board welcomed this comprehensive and timely inquiry and accepted the Scrutiny Board's report and recommendations subject to the need to identify any resource implications to implement recommendation 1 and a report back to the Executive Board.
- 2.4 The Scrutiny recommendation tracking system allows the Board to monitor progress and identify completed recommendations; those progressing to plan; and those where there is either an obstacle or progress is not adequate. The Board will then be able to take further action as appropriate.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 A standard set of criteria has been produced to enable the Board to assess progress. These are presented in the form of a flow chart at Appendix 1. The questions in the flow chart should help to decide whether a recommendation has been completed, and if not whether further action is required.
- 3.2 To assist Members with this task, the Principal Scrutiny Adviser has given a draft status for each recommendation. The Board is asked to confirm whether these assessments are appropriate, and to change them where they are not. Details of progress against each recommendation is set out within the table at Appendix 2.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 Where internal or external consultation processes have been undertaken with regard to responding to the Scrutiny Board's recommendations, details of any such consultation will be referenced against the relevant recommendation within the table at Appendix 2.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 Where consideration has been given to the impact on equality areas, as defined in the Council's Equality and Diversity Scheme, this will be referenced against the relevant recommendation within the table at Appendix 2.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 This section is not relevant to this report.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

4.4.1 Details of any significant resource and financial implications linked to the Scrutiny recommendations will be referenced against the relevant recommendation within the table at Appendix 2.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 This report does not contain any exempt or confidential information.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 This section is not relevant to this report.

5 Conclusions

5.1 The Scrutiny recommendation tracking system allows the Board to monitor progress and identify completed recommendations. Progress in responding to those recommendations arising from the Scrutiny review of private rented sector housing within Leeds is detailed within the table at Appendix 2 for Members' consideration.

6 Recommendations

6.1 Members are asked to:

- Agree those recommendations which no longer require monitoring;
- Identify any recommendations where progress is unsatisfactory and determine the action the Board wishes to take as a result.

7 Background documents

7.1 Review of private rented sector housing within Leeds – Scrutiny Inquiry Report published April 2012.

7.2 Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods report to Executive Board in June 2012 – Progress and comments on Scrutiny Board Inquiry recommendations.