

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Housing and Regeneration)

Date: 29th October 2013

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. The Scrutiny Board on 20th July 2012 considered a recommendation tracking report on progress made in implementing the recommendations which had been agreed on private rented sector housing
2. On the 30th October 2012 the Board received a report on the locality approach to the private sector housing and regulation and empty homes and welcomed the progress in implementing recommendation 1 of this inquiry.
3. To consider the further progress that has been made in implementing the eight recommendations which were accepted for implementation by the Executive Board.
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.
- 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 are 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.

7.0 Background papers¹

7.1 None used.

¹The 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.