

Report of Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support

Report to Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities)

Date: 9th October 2017

Subject: Scrutiny Inquiry into Leeds' response to Grenfell – Session 2

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

- At its meeting on 17th July 2017, the Executive Board received a report detailing the work undertaken to-date by Leeds City Council and partners since the events of the Grenfell fire and agreed the following recommendation:

That in relation to the role of Scrutiny Boards, the following Scrutiny Boards be requested to pick up scrutiny of the relevant actions / emerging issues:-

- Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources) – emergency planning;*
- Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure and investment) – private sector properties and building control;*
- Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) – Council housing stock safety, resident engagement and investment decisions.*

- In responding to this recommendation, the Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board agreed to undertake an inquiry and approved the terms of reference for this inquiry last month (these are attached as appendix 1).
- In accordance with the agreed terms of reference, the purpose of this second inquiry session is to consider the following:
 - The actions currently in progress or completed in ensuring compliance with fire safety standards for Council housing stock;

- The role of the Council in encouraging fire safety compliance amongst other local housing providers, with particular reference to the Council's enforcement of the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS).
 - Contingency measures for re-homing council residents in the event of a major fire.
 - The medium/longer term investment strategy for Council housing stock in relation to fire safety measures, such as sprinkler systems, and associated communication methods.
4. Representatives from the Resources and Housing Directorate and the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service will be attending today's meeting to inform the Scrutiny Board of the current position in relation to the above areas.

Recommendation

5. Members are asked to consider the information presented in line with session 2 of its inquiry into Leeds' response to Grenfell.

Background documents¹

6. 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.