

# Notice of meeting

## Housing and Property Scrutiny Committee



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF  
**KENSINGTON  
AND CHELSEA**

**6.30pm on Monday 18 March 2019**

**Committee Room 1, Kensington Town Hall,  
Hornton Street, London, W8 7NX**

**Contact:** Asha Bagayat

**Direct line:** 020 7361 2254

**E-mail:** Asha.Bagayat@rbkc.gov.uk

**Website:**

www.rbkc.gov.uk

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### Committee Membership:

Councillors Monica Press (Chair), Matthew Palmer (Vice-Chair), Adrian Berrill-Cox, Judith Blakeman, Janet Evans, Ian Henderson, Charles O'Connor, Josh Rendall and Dori Schmetterling.

Barry Quirk  
**Chief Executive**

**FILMING, BROADCASTING AND BLOGGING** – Please note that this meeting is open to the press and public and may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's website. Additionally, members of the press and public may film, tweet, blog etc. from those parts of the meeting room allocated as public seating. It is important, however, that councillors can discuss and take decisions without disruption so any activity of a manifestly disruptive nature will not be permitted. Generally the public seating areas, especially those further back, are not 'in shot', however the Council cannot guarantee that any part of the room or any seat cannot or will not be filmed and as such, by entering this meeting room, you are consenting to being filmed.

## Agenda

### A1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

### A2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

*Any Member of the Committee, or any other Member present in the meeting room, who has a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be considered at the meeting is reminded to disclose the interest to the meeting and to leave the room while any discussion or vote on the matter takes place.*

*Members are also reminded that if they have any other significant interest in a matter to be considered at the meeting, which they feel should be declared in the public interest, such interests should be declared to the meeting. In such circumstances Members should consider whether their continued participation, in the matter relating to the interest, would be reasonable in the circumstances, particularly if the interest may give rise to a perception of a conflict of interests, or whether they should leave the room while any*

### A3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7 FEBRUARY (attached)

*For confirmation as a correct record and signature by the Chair.*

## **HOUSING MATTERS**

- A4. UPDATE REPORT BY THE LEAD MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND GRENFELL RECOVERY** *(report attached)*
- A5. HOUSING MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE** *(report attached)*
- A6. ACCEPTING GLA GRANT FOR BUILDING COUNCIL HOMES FOR LONDONERS (KD05377)** *(report attached)*
- A7. UPDATE ON HOMELESSNESS FIGURES** *(report attached)*

## **PROPERTY MATTERS**

- A8. UPDATE REPORT BY THE LEAD MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND MODERNISATION** *(report attached)*
- A9. 37 PEMBROKE ROAD OFFICES REFURBISHMENT – ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS (KD05401)** *(report attached)*

*[Note: this report has a Part B (exempt) Appendix which is not for publication by virtue of the Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12A, Part 1, (as amended) paragraph 3 (as amended), in that it contains 'information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)'.]*

- A10. SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME REPORT** *(report attached)*
- A11. ANY OTHER ORAL OR WRITTEN ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

*[Each written report on the public part of the Agenda as detailed above:*

- (i) was made available for public inspection from the date of the Agenda;*
- (ii) incorporates a list of the background papers which (i) disclose any facts or matters on which that report, or any important part of it, is based; and (ii) have been relied upon to a material extent in preparing it. (Relevant documents which contain confidential or exempt information are not listed.); and*
- (iii) may, with the consent of the Chairman and subject to specified reasons, be supported at the meeting by way of oral statement or further written report in the event of special circumstances arising after the despatch of the Agenda.]*

## **A12. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

*If required, the Committee will resolve to exclude the press and public from the meeting should any item of business so require on the grounds that discussions may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)*

*Some reports on the agenda may include confidential information which is exempt from publication. The Committee may discuss this information in private.*

**The next meeting of the Committee is to be held on 17 April 2019**

## **What is Scrutiny?**

Scrutiny is a Councillor-led function within the Council. Its purpose is to hold decision-makers to account on behalf of Borough residents and to help develop policies and initiatives that make the Borough a better place to live and work. Its role and powers are set out in national legislation.

The day-to-day running of the Council is managed by those nine councillors who are members of the Leadership Team (also known as 'the Executive'): they take most of the biggest financial, policy and service decisions – usually referred to as 'key decisions'. The Leadership Team is held to account by six Scrutiny Committees, each of which focuses on specific service areas.

## **Terms of Reference and objectives of Housing and Property Scrutiny Committee**

- The provision, planning, management and performance of all housing services;
- Any partnerships associated with the delivery of housing;
- Improvement and delivery of social housing;
- Arrangements for the management of the Council's housing stock including the organisations charged or contracted to undertake this;
- Housing strategy, housing stock finance and development; and
- Corporate asset management.

The Committee consists of nine councillors and membership is politically balanced so that the number of places given to a political group is proportionate to the number of councillors the group has on the Council. All members of the Committee have full voting rights, although votes are rare at Scrutiny meetings.

The Lead Members, Cllr Kim Taylor-Smith (Deputy Leader and Lead Member for Grenfell and Housing) and Cllr Mary Weale (Lead Member for Finance and Modernisation) by law cannot be members of the Committee and, whilst they may be asked to attend meetings to present information and answer questions, they have no voting rights.

Senior Council officers attend to provide information and answer questions. They are not members of the Committee.

## **Committee Priorities**

There are three priorities for scrutiny focus this year:

- **Making progress on the provision of new social housing** (with the resulting decrease in displaced Grenfell survivors and our residents living in Temporary Accommodation outside the Borough).
- **A much improved service to residents in council-owned properties** (through the successful transfer of ex-KCTMO services into the Council) and ensuring that good progress has been made on Council tenants deciding the future management they want.
- **Satisfactory repairs and improvements to the key estates that in 2016 were selected for regeneration and demolition** and have experienced neglect and few repairs from that date by the KCTMO e.g. the Silchester and Warwick Road Estates.

### **Who will be at the meeting?**

At the Committee it is the role of the Chair to ensure that the Committee does its work both by hearing from the public and other stakeholders on particular topics, and also by the councillors holding the lead member(s) to account. The Chair must ensure an appropriate balance of these elements in each meeting.

A member of the Council's Governance Team will attend to take notes of the meeting, including a summary of the discussion and any recommendations. The minutes will be approved by the Committee and published on the Council's website in the papers for the next meeting so they can be confirmed as a correct record.

This is not a decision-making Committee, though the Committee can and does make recommendations to the Leadership Team and the senior officers who support them, who must provide a response to the Committee.

Effective scrutiny requires not only the Committee to 'ask difficult questions' but also the Executive to listen, respond and consider the impact of policies and also how these views could and should be considered when developing future policies and improving service.

Any contributions or comments relating to individual cases and circumstances should be referred to officers rather than raised at the meeting.

### **How are the meetings conducted?**

Anyone attending the meeting who wants to raise a concern about their individual circumstances should speak to the officers present at the meeting: they will have the opportunity for a detailed confidential discussion of their needs and a full response.

All meeting papers can be found at [www.rbkc.gov.uk/committees/Home.aspx](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/committees/Home.aspx).