

Appendix 2 - Climate Action, Housing and Regeneration Policy and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

ROUND 1 18 July 2022		
Agenda item	Purpose	Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director/senior officer
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Matt Noble, Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Regeneration and Renters Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing Raj Mistry, Executive Director of Environment and City Management
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Liza Begum Cabinet Member for Housing Services Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing
Work programme	To consider and agree the outline work programme for the committee for the year ahead, with input from Cabinet Members, Executive Directors and other officers on how to make best use of the Committee's time and where the Committee will have the biggest impact	n/a – report of Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison, drafted in conjunction with relevant senior officers

ROUND 2 19 September		
Agenda item	Purpose	Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Matt Noble, Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Regeneration and Renters Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing Raj Mistry, Executive Director of Environment and City Management
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Liza Begum Cabinet Member for Housing Services Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing
Major works improvement progress review	To examine actions taken to deliver more responsive and better managed major works.	Councillor Liza Begum Cabinet Member for Housing Services Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing
Communal, Community and Environmental improvements	To update on work progressing on estates, including resident engagement.	Councillor Liza Begum Cabinet Member for Housing Services Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing
Work programme	To review the work programme in light of events and recent discussions	n/a – report of Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison, drafted in conjunction with relevant senior officers

ROUND 3 25 October		
Agenda item	Purpose	Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Matt Noble, Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Regeneration and Renters Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing Raj Mistry, Executive Director of Environment and City Management
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Liza Begum Cabinet Member for Housing Services Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing
Climate Emergency Programme Update	Bi-annual programme update	Councillor Matt Noble, Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Regeneration and Renters Raj Mistry, Executive Director of Environment and City Management
Housing repairs improvement progress review	To examine actions taken to improve housing management to deliver more responsive repairs.	Councillor Liza Begum Cabinet Member for Housing Services Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing
Allocations policy	To consider the council's housing allocations policy and approach and identify potential opportunities for improvement	Councillor Liza Begum Cabinet Member for Housing Services Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing Pedro Wrobel, Executive Director of Innovation and Change
Rough sleeping and homelessness	To consider the council's approach to tackling rough sleeping and homelessness	Councillor Liza Begum Cabinet Member for Housing Services Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing

Work programme	To review the work programme in light of events and recent discussions	n/a – report of Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison, drafted in conjunction with relevant senior officers
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ROUND 4 7 December		
Agenda item	Purpose	Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Matt Noble, Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Regeneration and Renters Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing Raj Mistry, Executive Director of Environment and City Management
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Liza Begum Cabinet Member for Housing Services Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing
Regeneration programme review	To consider options and challenges in how the council's regeneration programme can adapt to deliver more social housing.	Councillor Matt Noble, Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Regeneration and Renters Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing
Work programme	To review the work programme in light of events and recent discussions	n/a – report of Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison, drafted in conjunction with relevant senior officers

Budget Task Group gap – January/February

ROUND 5 2 March 2023		
Agenda item	Purpose	Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Matt Noble, Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Regeneration and Renters Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing Raj Mistry, Executive Director of Environment and City Management
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Liza Begum Cabinet Member for Housing Services Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing
Housing retrofitting	To examine ideas emerging on how to accelerate retrofitting housing across the city, in council owned homes, housing association owned homes and those in the private rented sector.	Councillor Matt Noble, Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Regeneration and Renters Councillor Liza Begum Cabinet Member for Housing Services Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing Raj Mistry, Executive Director of Environment and City Management
Work programme	To review the work programme in light of events and recent discussions	n/a – report of Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison, drafted in conjunction with relevant senior officers

ROUND 6 19 April 2023		
Agenda item	Purpose	Responsible Cabinet Member and Executive Director
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Matt Noble, Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Regeneration and Renters Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing Raj Mistry, Executive Director of Environment and City Management
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member's priorities	Councillor Liza Begum Cabinet Member for Housing Services Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth Planning and Housing
Climate Emergency programme update	Bi-annual programme update	Councillor Matt Noble, Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Regeneration and Renters Raj Mistry, Executive Director of Environment and City Management
Future of Westminster Commission Housing Review update	To consider the work undertaken and recommendations emerging as part of the housing workstream of the Future of Westminster Commission	Tbc – lead members of the Commission will be invited to participate along with relevant Members and senior officers
Future of Westminster Commission Energy and Green Transition Review update	To consider the work undertaken and recommendations emerging as part of the energy and green transition workstream of the Future of Westminster Commission	Tbc – lead members of the Commission will be invited to participate along with relevant Members and senior officers
Work programme	To review the work programme in light of events and recent discussions	n/a – report of Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison, drafted in conjunction with relevant senior officers

Unallocated items – this may either be substituted in for a substantive item elsewhere in the year or may be rolled over for future municipal years

Housing Anti-Social Behaviour	An update on the review of housing Anti-Social Behaviour procedures.
Temporary Accommodation Strategy	To consider the council's approach to temporary accommodation and identify areas for improvement
PDHU	To consider the strategic plan for PDHU
Housing Bidding Process	To review the budding process and an update provide to the Committee
Rough Sleeping Commissioning Strategy	To consider the new rough sleeping commissioning strategy
Church Street regeneration	To update on Church Street regeneration
Ebury Bridge regeneration	To update on Ebury Bridge regeneration
Supported Housing	Looking at supported housing to identify what the current provision is, what more can be done and what need will there be in the future.
Empty properties	To examine empty properties across the City and appoint an officer to deal with this.
Fire and Building Safety Bill	To consider the Fire and Building Safety Bill.
Biodiversity	To investigate increasing biodiversity across the City. (A Task Group was agreed at October 2022 meeting).
Out of area housing	To examine advice and support given to residents who are placed out of borough including financial advice, food bank referral, hardship fund, advice on Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support.
Cost of Living Crisis	To consider what support Westminster residents receive who are experiencing fuel poverty etcetera. E.g. are they provided advice on energy efficiency, keeping homes warm and if the Council ensuring major works programmes are maximising opportunities for energy efficiency.
Suitability assessments	As per complaint ref 20013945 which was upheld by the Ombudsman and appeared in the Annual Review Letter 2021/22. The recommendation was to 'Remind relevant staff that all decisions about suitability should be communicated in writing and set out the statutory right to a review.' Cllr Sanquest clarified: <i>I'd like that to cover how suitability decisions are made and communicated, including any work in response to the recommendation from the ombudsman, and to inform those who are refused options for alternatives. There has been a lot of work done around best practice for local government to communicate with residents regarding debt collection, and I think we could learn from this to do similar work on communicating suitability decisions. believe we can improve on how messages are communicated.</i>
Sheltered housing	Review of the policy that states that WCC residents accepted for sheltered housing must accept a studio apartment before becoming eligible to move to a one bed sheltered property after one year. Having to move twice in a short period is an unnecessarily difficult obstacle for frail, elderly and disabled residents.

Homeless
Households

Review of the policy concerning homeless households in the Fairer Westminster strategy, as agreed at the Westminster Scrutiny Commission meeting in October 2022.