

Housing & Regeneration Policy and Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme 2024/25

Round 2 30th September 2024				
Item	Type*	Purpose	Responsible Cabinet Member/s	Senior Responsible Officer/s
Scrutiny of HMO Licensing (three-years on) and the proposal for a public consultation on selective property licensing	Pre-Decision and Post-decision	The Committee to assess the impact Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) licensing has had three years on from implementation and developing challenges. The Committee will also scrutinise the proposal to go out for a public consultation on selective property licensing.	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Renters	Executive Director of Environment, Climate and Public Protection
Vulnerability and Domestic Abuse Work within Housing Services	Oversight	The Committee to review how the Housing Service works with the vulnerable and victims of domestic abuse.	Cabinet Member for Housing Services	Strategic Director for Housing and Commercial Partnerships
Oxford Street Programme	Oversight	Ongoing quarterly scrutiny of the Oxford Street Programme. The specific scope for this update is to be agreed in the build up to the meeting date.	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development	Deputy Chief Executive, Executive Director for Adult Social Care and Health

*pre-decision scrutiny, post-decision scrutiny or general oversight

Round 3 5th December 2024				
Item	Type*	Purpose	Responsible Cabinet Member/s	Senior Responsible Officer/s
<i>Housing complaints</i>	<i>Oversight</i>	<i>Following on from an action of the Audit and Performance Cttee (27.02.24), concerning an increase in housing complaints, the Committee could look to assess how this is being managed and can be improved. The</i>	<i>Cabinet Member for Housing Services</i>	<i>Strategic Director for Housing and Commercial Partnerships</i>

		<i>Annual Corporate Complaints Report, due at the A&P Cttee meeting (22.10.24), will provide an indicator as to whether this remains a priority for scrutiny.</i>		
<i>Regeneration Schemes</i>	<i>The purpose will be dependent on the scope</i>	<i>The Committee to receive a briefing on a summary of regeneration schemes in September. The Committee to then decide if this is to be an item for 5 Dec. Contract management could be included in the scope.</i>	<i>Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Renters</i>	<i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i>
Oxford Street Programme	Oversight	Ongoing quarterly scrutiny of the Oxford Street Programme. The specific scope for this update is to be agreed in the build up to the meeting date.	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development	Deputy Chief Executive, Executive Director for Adult Social Care and Health

*pre-decision scrutiny, post-decision scrutiny or general oversight. Items in italics are to be confirmed.

Round 4 12th March 2025				
Item	Type*	Purpose	Responsible Cabinet Member/s	Senior Responsible Officer/s
Housing Repairs	Post-Decision and Oversight	The Committee to assess what has been learned and implemented from the renewed housing repairs policy and highlight where further improvements could be made.	Cabinet Member for Housing Services	Strategic Director for Housing and Commercial Partnerships
Oxford Street Programme	Oversight	Ongoing quarterly scrutiny of the Oxford Street Programme. The specific scope for this update is to be agreed in the build up to the meeting date.	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development	Deputy Chief Executive, Executive Director for Adult Social Care and Health

*pre-decision scrutiny, post-decision scrutiny or general oversight

Unallocated items				
Item	Type*	Purpose and timeframe	Responsible Cabinet Member/s	Senior Responsible Officer/s
Private Rented Sector Support and Charter	Pre-Decision	The Committee could input on proposals to implement a Private Rented Sector Charter. As part of this, the Committee could also scrutinise the support the Council provides.	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Renters	Executive Director of Environment, Climate and Public Protection
Short Term Lets	Pre-Decision/Oversight	Westminster is believed to host more than 10,500 properties being used as short-term/holiday lets. WCC is investigating 2,400 of these suspected of flaunting the current rules. With impending changes to the law and planning permission rules, the local authority may get increased control of managing this situation. This could present the Committee with a good opportunity to scrutinise these efforts.	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Renters	Executive Director of Environment, Climate and Public Protection
Selective Licensing	Pre-Decision	Selective licensing can be used by local authorities to obligate landlords to obtain a licence where the property meets conditions (such as being within a certain area and rented out to a single household). This gives the authority powers to take enforcement action against those in breach. The Committee could consider scrutinising how Westminster could adopt this practice most effectively.	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Renters	Executive Director of Environment, Climate and Public Protection
Housing Compact Development -and working with providers	Oversight/ Possible Pre-Decision	The purpose can be developed following fuller conversations with officers, if Members wish to explore this further.	Cabinet Member for Housing Services	Strategic Director for Housing and Commercial Partnerships
Placeshaping schemes - how the Council engages residents	Oversight	The purpose will be developed following fuller conversations with officers and members. The scope could look at how the Council engages with residents and considers their views with regards to placeshaping schemes.	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development	Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning

The Council's efforts to increase housing supply through regeneration schemes - tenure mixes	Oversight	The Committee is set to receive a briefing on the pipeline of regeneration schemes in September 2024. After this, the Committee may wish to look at specific schemes or elements of the overall strategy in terms of housing delivery. This can be explored further once Members have had this briefing.	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Renters	Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning
Allocations Policy	Post-Decision	The Allocations Policy, which came to Committee, prior to consultation, in December 2023, will take effect from September 2024. The Committee may want to consider the impact this has had, once data and feedback is available. Suggested earliest time, nine months after it takes effect (June 2025).	Cabinet Member for Housing Services	Strategic Director for Housing and Commercial Partnerships