

Scrutiny Committee

17 September 2019

Report of:

**CHAIRMAN OF SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

UPDATE ON TASK AND FINISH GROUP - HOUSING VOIDS MANAGEMENT AND TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

1.0 Summary:

- 1.1 Report to update the Scrutiny Committee on the progress of the Task and Finish Group for Housing Voids Management and Temporary Accommodation.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That Scrutiny Committee note the update from the Task and Finish Group for Housing Voids Management and Temporary Accommodation.
- 2.2 That Scrutiny Committee note the Scoping Document (Appendix A) and approve the timetable for completion of the review and the corresponding revisions to the Terms of Reference (Appendix B).

3.0 Report Detail

- 3.1 On 23 July 2019 the Scrutiny Committee approved the establishment of a Task and Finish Group to review Housing Voids Management and Temporary Accommodation.
- 3.2 On 28 August 2019 the Task and finish Group met for their preliminary scoping meeting. At that meeting the Group were provided with some background information and performance measures on Voids Management and Temporary Accommodation processes. The Group identified issues and areas that they would like to explore further and also discussed the timetable for the review. The discussion at the meeting on 28 August 2019 is reflected in the Scoping Document (Appendix A)
- 3.3 The Group felt that the original timeline to present to Cabinet in November was unachievable and agreed that it was important that the review was thorough and the Group had ample time to complete their enquiries and deliberations; as such a completion date of January 2020 was agreed to be more realistic. Minor revisions have been made to the Terms of Reference agreed by Scrutiny Committee on 23 July 2019 (Appendix B) to reflect changes to frequency of meetings and the completion date.
- 3.4 The Group will commence the review by establishing an evidence base which will include performance statistics, review of current policy and process and draw on the experiences of customers, officers and other stakeholders. Evaluation of this evidence base will clarify the issues and will also lead to the identification of the underlying causes. The Group, with Officer support, will then move on to consider options for improvement, feasibility of options for future delivery and the way in

which outcomes could be measured and monitored. This will be translated into a set of recommendations which will be presented to Scrutiny Committee for approval and following review by the Chief Executive, further recommendation to Cabinet in January 2020.

3.5 Scrutiny Committee will be kept updated as the review progresses and may contact any member of the group for an update between meetings.

4.0 Consultation and Feedback

4.1 A list of stakeholders and expert witnesses have been identified in the scoping document and the group are keen to hear the views of any other individuals/organisations who would like to feed into the review.

5.0 Next Steps

5.1 Meetings of the Task and Finish Group will continue in accordance with the timetable in the Scoping Document.

6.0 Financial Implications

6.1 Support for the Task and Finish Group will be contained within existing resources.

7.0 Legal and Governance Implications:

7.1 The Task and Finish Group will operate and report to the Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet within the rules set out in Section 8 and 9 of Chapter 2, Part 10 of the MBC Constitution.

8.0 Equality and Safeguarding Implications:

8.1 There are no equalities implications in this report.

9.0 Community Safety Implications:

9.1 There are no community safety implications in this report.

10.0 Other Implications

10.1 There are no other implications.

11.0 Risk & Mitigation:

11.1 There are no implications associated with this update report.

Background Papers:

Report to Scrutiny Committee 23 July 2019

Appendices

Appendix A – Task and Finish Scoping Document
Appendix B – Task and Finish Group Housing voids Management and Temporary Accommodation Terms of Reference (Revised)

Report Timeline:

Equalities Check & Challenge	N/A
SLT Sign off	N/A
Previously Considered by Cabinet	N/A
Director Approval	06.09.19
Chief Finance Officer Sign Off	N/A
Monitoring Officer Sign Off	09.09.19

Report Author & Job Title
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