

# LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

<b>REPORT:</b>	<b>CABINET</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>25 October 2023</b>	
<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>STAGE 1: RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM SCRUTINY</b>	
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	<b>Jane West, Corporate Director for Resources</b>  <b>Adrian May, Interim Head of Democratic Services</b> <b>T: 020 8726 6000 X 62529. Email:</b> <b><a href="mailto:adrian.may@croydon.gov.uk">adrian.may@croydon.gov.uk</a></b>	
<b>LEAD MEMBER:</b>	<b>Councillor Rowenna Davis</b>  <b>Chair, Scrutiny and Overview Committee</b>	
<b>AUTHORITY TO TAKE DECISION:</b>	<p>Recommendations that have been developed from the Scrutiny and Overview Committee and its Sub-Committees since the last Cabinet meeting are provided in the appendices to this report. The constitution requires that an interim or full response is provided within 2 months of this Cabinet meeting.</p>	
<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	<b>No</b>	N/A
<b>CONTAINS EXEMPT INFORMATION?</b>	<b>No</b>	Public
<b>WARDS AFFECTED:</b>	All	

## 1. SUMMARY OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report presents recommendations to the Executive from Scrutiny following meeting of the Homes Sub-Committee held on 24 July 2023.

## 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Mayor in Cabinet is asked to:

- 2.1 Receive the recommendations arising from the meetings of the Homes Sub-Committee held on 24 July 2023 (Appendix 1).
- 2.2 To provide a substantive response to the recommendation (a Scrutiny Stage 2 Report) at the Cabinet meeting on 6 December 2023.

### **3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS/PROPOSED DECISION**

- 3.1 There is a statutory requirement for Cabinet to receive the recommendations made by Scrutiny.

### **4 BACKGROUND AND DETAILS**

#### *Homes Sub-Committee – 24 July 2023*

##### *Item: Housing Transformation Plan Update*

- 4.1 The Sub-Committee welcomed the work being carried out by the new Damp & Mould Response Team and would encourage officers to continue their work with the private sector on addressing the issue.

##### *Item: Update on the Mobilisation of the Responsive Repairs & Heating Contracts*

- 4.2 From its discussion on this item, the Homes Sub-Committee welcomed the establishment of the Strategic Client Team and dedicated senior Social Value officer post, as well as the Council's approach to dealing with the backlog of legacy repairs.

##### *Item: Update on the Housing Strategy 2023-2028*

- 4.3 Following discussion of this item, the Homes Sub-Committee welcomed the work done so far in developing the Housing Strategy and were supportive of the engagement work undertaken through the Vision & Mission sessions with residents, tenants, leaseholders, and staff.
- 4.4 The Sub-Committee was also reassured that work on establishing a Housing Association Forum had already begun and asked that an update be provided to Members once this was completed.

### **5 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 5.1 Scrutiny meetings do not necessarily result in any recommendations to the executive.

### **6 CONSULTATION / PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY**

- 6.1 The recommendations were developed from the deliberations of either the Scrutiny & Overview Committee or one of its Sub-Committees.

### **7 CONTRIBUTION TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

- 7.1 Outcome 1: The Council balances its books, listens to residents and delivers good sustainable services:

Priority 4: Ensure good governance is embedded and adopt best practice The Council must learn the lessons of past failures and embed sound governance

processes to ensure that decision-making is transparent, open and honest. These must ensure effective control of our projects and programmes and encourage meaningful scrutiny and challenge.

## **8 IMPLICATIONS**

### **8.1 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1.1** The Scrutiny recommendations to the Executive may have financial implications. Following the recommendations being received at Cabinet, the Executive will identify and consider any financial implications as part of their response.
- 8.1.2** If any recommendation is subsequently progressed for consideration and decision by the Executive Mayor in Cabinet, full financial (as well as legal, HR and equalities) implications would be presented.

Approved by Allister Bannin, Director of Finance (Deputy S151).

### **8.2 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.2.1** Under Section 9F Local Government Act 2000 (“The Act”), Scrutiny and Overview Committee (SOC) have the powers to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken in connection with the discharge of any executive and non-executive functions and to make reports or recommendations to the executive or to the authority with respect to the discharge of those functions. SOC also has the power to make reports or recommendations to the executive or to the authority on matters, which affect the authority’s area or the inhabitants of its area.
- 8.2.2** Under Section 9FE of the Act, there is a duty on Cabinet to respond to the scrutiny report, indicating what (if any) action Cabinet proposes to take, within 2 months of receiving the report and recommendations.
- 8.2.3** Approved by Sandra Herbert, Head of Litigation & Corporate Law on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance & Deputy Monitoring Officer

### **8.3 HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.3.1** There are no human resource implications arising directly from the contents of this report

### **8.4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.4.1** The Council has a statutory duty, when exercising its functions, to comply with the provisions set out in the Sec 149 of the Equality Act 2010. The Council must in the performance of its functions, therefore, have due regard to:

- i. eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act.
- ii. advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- iii. foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

**8.4.2** The recommendations in the appendices to this report have equality implications and will require an EQIA as part of the development of the proposals. The implications will be explored to identify impact and mitigation utilised to negate any adverse impact where necessary.

**8.4.3** Approved by: Naseer Ahmad for Denise McCausland Equality Programme Manager

## **8.5 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

**8.5.1** There are no environmental implications arising directly from the contents of this report, the report received recommendations from scrutiny, but no decision for recommendation.

## **8.6 CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS**

**8.6.1** There are no crime and disorder implications arising directly from the contents of this report, the report received recommendations from scrutiny, but no decision for recommendation.

## **8.7 DATA PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS**

### **8.7.1 WILL THE SUBJECT OF THE REPORT INVOLVE THE PROCESSING OF 'PERSONAL DATA'?**

There are no Data Protection implications at this stage, but that the situation will be reviewed again at Stage 2 when Cabinet provide their response to the proposed recommendations.

### **HAS A DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT (DPIA) BEEN COMPLETED?**

**NO**

## **9 APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Scrutiny Stage 1: Recommendations from Homes Sub-Committee - 24 July 2023

## **10 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Meeting of the Homes Sub-Committee held on 24 July 2023

<https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=485&MId=3691&Ver=4>