

Report for: **Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Panel - 14th March 2019**

Title: Social Housing - Scrutiny Review update

Report authorised by: Dan Hawthorn, Director of Housing Regeneration & Planning

Lead Officer: Alan Benson, Head of Housing

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 The report sets out an updated response to the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on social housing as proposed by the Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel, attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction (Cllr Ibrahim, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing & Estate Renewal)

N/A

3. Recommendations

Scrutiny Panel is asked:

- 3.1 To note the updated responses to the Overview and Scrutiny report recommendations (attached as Appendix 1).

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1 On 26 March 2018, Overview and Scrutiny Committee approved the report of the Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel (HRSP) on social housing.
- 4.2 In developing its report, the HRSP held a number of evidence gathering sessions and took evidence from Council officers as well as a range of experts and local stakeholders. The HRSP then made a number of recommendations, which were adopted by Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 26 March 2018.
- 4.3 On 17 July 2018 Cabinet made a formal response to the recommendations. This report updates that response.

5. Alternative options considered

5.1 None.

6. Background information

6.1 The provision of social housing is a significant issue facing both local and national government. For the purposes of the Social Housing Scrutiny Report, the HRSP defined social housing as housing at social rent levels. In carrying out a scrutiny review on social housing, the HRSP felt that delivering more social housing was a crucial factor in addressing the current housing crisis. With this in mind, the panel undertook a high level review of social housing, focusing on national, regional and local issues.

7. Contribution to strategic outcomes

7.1 The recommendations and responses made will guide the Council's actions towards achieving the strategic outcomes set out in the Borough Plan with its strong commitment to increasing the supply of housing, but in particular Council homes at Council rents.

8. Statutory Officers comments

8.1 Where there are financial, legal, procurement or equalities implications of implementing the recommendations within the Scrutiny Report, these will be, or will have been, considered as the proposals to deliver on these recommendations come forward to Cabinet for decision.

9. Use of Appendices

Appendix 1: Updated response to the recommendations

10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 Minutes of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 26 March 2018 are available on the Haringey Council website at [this link](#).

10.2 Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 17 July 2018 are available on the Haringey Council website at [this link](#).