

Report for: Overview and Scrutiny Committee 15 October 2020

Title: Fire Safety in High Rise Blocks - update

Report

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Lead Officer: Robbie Erbmann, Assistant Director for Housing

Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/

Non Key Decision: **Non-Key Decision**

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee approved recommendations on Fire Safety in High Rise blocks at its meeting on 25 March 2019. Cabinet provided a response at its meeting on 9 July 2019. This report provides a further update on the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2. Recommendations

2.1. To note the report.

3. Background information

3.1. The Overview and Scrutiny Panel produced a report on Fire Safety in High Rise blocks which was approved by Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 25 March 2019. The review project was set up in the aftermath of the Grenfell Tower fire in 2017. The Overview and Scrutiny Panel sought to review the response that was made to the fire in Haringey, as well as looking at how other local authorities had responded for the purpose of learning.

3.2. Cabinet responded at its meeting on 9 July 2019. Further updates to the recommendations are now available and attached at appendix 1.

3.3. In April 2020, the government published its response to the 'Building a Safer Future' consultation from July 2019. This set out how the government intends to deliver the objectives and recommendations from the Dame Judith Hackitt Review, following the Grenfell Tower fire in 2017, as well as the management of fire and structural safety risk in new and existing buildings of more than 18 meters high (6+storeys). The government will legislate for these reforms in new primary legislation through the Building Safety Bill published on 20 July 2020, Fire Safety Bill and further secondary legislation, where necessary.

3.4. A full report on the implications of this legislation on the Council and its partners will be presented to a future meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

4. Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 4.1. The Borough Plan sets out housing as its first priority. Within that priority the third key aim is to 'drive up the quality of housing' and in particular to 'ensure safety in housing of all tenures across the borough, responding to any new regulations as they emerge'.

5. Use of appendices

- 5.1. Appendix 1: Update on recommendations.

6. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Minutes of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 25 March 2019 are available on the Haringey Council website at this [link](#).

Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 9 July 2019 are available on the Haringey Council website at this [link](#).