



Leicester
City Council

MEETING OF THE HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMISSION

DATE: MONDAY, 9 JANUARY 2023

TIME: 5:30 pm

PLACE: Meeting Room G.01, Ground Floor, City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ

Members of the Scrutiny Commission

Councillor Westley (Chair)

Councillor Chamund (Vice Chair)

Councillors Ali, Aqbany, Fonseca, Gee, Modhwadia and Pantling

Members of the Scrutiny Commission are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business listed overleaf.

For Monitoring Officer

Officer contacts:

Anita James, Senior Democratic Support Officer Tel: 0116 4546358 Email anita.james2@leicester.gov.uk

Jerry Connolly, Scrutiny Policy Officer Tel: 0116 4546343 Email jerry.connolly@leicester.gov.uk

Information for members of the public

Attending meetings and access to information

You have the right to attend formal meetings such as Full Council, committee meetings, and Scrutiny Commissions and see copies of agendas and minutes. However, on occasion, meetings may, for reasons set out in law, need to consider some items in private.

Due to Covid we recognise that some members of the public may not feel comfortable viewing a meeting in person because of the infection risk. Anyone attending in person is very welcome to wear a face covering and we encourage people to follow good hand hygiene and hand sanitiser is provided for that purpose. If you are displaying any symptoms of Coronavirus: a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste, and/or have taken a recent test which has been positive we would ask that you do NOT attend the meeting in person please.

Dates of meetings and copies of public agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website at www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk or by contacting us using the details below.

Making meetings accessible to all

Wheelchair access – Public meeting rooms at the City Hall are accessible to wheelchair users. Wheelchair access to City Hall is from the middle entrance door on Charles Street - press the plate on the right hand side of the door to open the door automatically.

Braille/audio tape/translation - If you require this, please contact the Democratic Support Officer (production times will depend upon equipment/facility availability).

Induction loops - There are induction loop facilities in City Hall meeting rooms. Please speak to the Democratic Support Officer using the details below.

Filming and Recording the Meeting - The Council is committed to transparency and supports efforts to record and share reports of proceedings of public meetings through a variety of means, including social media. In accordance with government regulations and the Council's policy, persons and press attending any meeting of the Council open to the public (except Licensing Sub Committees and where the public have been formally excluded) are allowed to record and/or report all or part of that meeting. Details of the Council's policy are available at www.leicester.gov.uk or from Democratic Support.

If you intend to film or make an audio recording of a meeting you are asked to notify the relevant Democratic Support Officer in advance of the meeting to ensure that participants can be notified in advance and consideration given to practicalities such as allocating appropriate space in the public gallery etc.

The aim of the Regulations and of the Council's policy is to encourage public interest and engagement so in recording or reporting on proceedings members of the public are asked:

- ✓ to respect the right of others to view and hear debates without interruption;
- ✓ to ensure that the sound on any device is fully muted and intrusive lighting avoided;
- ✓ where filming, to only focus on those people actively participating in the meeting;
- ✓ where filming, to (via the Chair of the meeting) ensure that those present are aware that they may be filmed and respect any requests to not be filmed.

Further information

If you have any queries about any of the above or the business to be discussed, please contact: committees@leicester.gov.uk or call in at City Hall.

For Press Enquiries - please phone the **Communications Unit on 0116 454 4151**.

PUBLIC SESSION

AGENDA

FIRE/EMERGENCY EVACUATION

If the emergency alarm sounds, you must evacuate the building immediately by the nearest available fire exit and proceed to the area outside the Ramada Encore Hotel on Charles Street as directed by Democratic Services staff. Further instructions will then be given.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare any pecuniary or other interests they may have in the business to be discussed.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Appendix A

The minutes of the meeting of the Housing Scrutiny Commission held on 7th November 2022 have been circulated, and Members are asked to confirm them as a correct record.

4. PETITIONS

The Monitoring Officer to report on the receipt of any petitions received in accordance with Council procedures.

5. QUESTIONS, REPRESENTATIONS OR STATEMENTS OF CASE

The Monitoring Officer to report on the receipt of any questions, representations or statements of case received in accordance with Council procedures.

6. TENANCY MANAGEMENT VISION AND SUPPORT REPORT

Appendix B

The Director of Housing submits a report setting out the new vision and priorities for the tenancy management service including details of the support provided to sustain tenancies and prevent homelessness.

Members of the Commission will be asked to note the vision and priorities for the service and to provide any comments as feedback.

7. EMPTY HOMES (PRIVATE SECTOR) REPORT

Appendix C

The Director of Housing submits a report providing an update on the work of the Empty Homes Team to bring long term empty private sector homes back into use.

Members of the Commission will be asked to note the contents of the report and provide any comments as feedback.

8. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair has agreed to include a District Heating Update report to this meeting which will be taken as urgent business on basis that there needs to be further scrutiny consideration before any decision is taken around any increase in district heating charges.

9. DISTRICT HEATING UPDATE REPORT

Report to follow as soon as possible.

Due to the Christmas and New Year bank holidays impacting on statutory timelines for publication the finalised report will be circulated as a second despatch as soon as it is available.

10. WORK PROGRAMME

Appendix D

Members of the Commission will be asked to consider the work programme and make suggestions for additional items as it considers necessary.