



Leicester
City Council

MEETING OF THE HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMISSION

DATE: THURSDAY, 10 JULY 2025

TIME: 5:30 pm

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

Members of the Committee

Councillor O'Neill (Chair)

Councillor Bajaj (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Gopal, Gregg, Mahesh, Pickering, Singh Sangha and Zaman

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

For Monitoring Officer

Officer contacts:

Katie Jordan (Governance Services), Governance Services (Governance Services) and Kirsty Wootton (Governance Services)

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Leicester City Council, 3rd Floor, City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ*

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, City Mayor & Executive Public Briefing and Scrutiny Commissions and see copies of agendas and minutes. On occasion however, meetings may, for reasons set out in law, need to consider some items in private.

Dates of meetings and copies of public agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website at www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk, from the Council's Customer Service Centre 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: **Kirsty Wootton** on Kirsty.Wootton@leicester.gov.uk. Alternatively, email governance@leicester.gov.uk, or call in at City Hall.

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

PUBLIC SESSION

AGENDA

NOTE:

This meeting will be webcast live at the following link:-

<http://www.leicester.public-i.tv>

An archive copy of the webcast will normally be available on the Council's website within 48 hours of the meeting taking place at the following link:-

<http://www.leicester.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcasts>

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. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To issue a welcome to those present, and to confirm if there are any apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members will be asked to declare any interests they may have in the business to be discussed.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

APPENDIX A

The minutes of the meeting of the Housing Scrutiny Commission held on 22 April 2025 have been circulated, and Members will be asked to confirm them as a correct record.

4. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION 2025-26

Members will be asked to note the membership of the Housing Scrutiny Commission for 2025/26:

Councillor Molly O'Neill (Chair)
Councillor Deepak Bajaj (Vice Chair)
Councillor Karen Pickering
Councillor Mohinder Singh Sangha
Councillor Syed Zaman
Councillor Jaiantilal Gopal
Councillor Ravi Mahesh
Councillor Mick Gregg

5. DATES OF THE COMMISSION 2025-26

Members are asked to note the commission meeting dates as follows:

- Thursday 10 July 2025
- Tuesday 26 August 2025
- Tuesday 11 November 2025
- Tuesday 13 January 2026
- Tuesday 17 March 2026
- Tuesday 21 April 2026

6. SCRUTINY TERMS OF REFERENCE

APPENDIX B

Members are asked to note the scrutiny terms of reference.

7. CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair is invited to make any announcements as they see fit.

8. QUESTIONS, REPRESENTATIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CASE

Any questions, representations and statements of case submitted in accordance with the Council's procedures will be reported.

9. PETITIONS

Any petitions received in accordance with Council procedures will be reported.

10. HOUSING SCRUTINY OVERVIEW

APPENDIX C

The Director of Housing submits a presentation that provides an overview of the Housing Division. Members will have the opportunity to ask questions and request any necessary clarifications.

11. INCOME COLLECTION ANNUAL UPDATE

APPENDIX D

The Director of Housing submits an update on the progress of rent arrears within the general housing stock for the financial year April 2024 to March

2025.

12. STOCK CONDITION - PROPERTY MOT

APPENDIX E

The Director of Housing submits a report on how the Council manages the condition of its homes, as a social landlord, with a focus on compliance with the new Social Housing Regulation Act 2024. *The report is for information.*

13. FIRE SAFETY

APPENDIX F

The Director of Housing submits a report on how the Housing Division manages fire safety in its residential buildings. *It is for information.*

14. PRS STRATEGY/RENTERS REFORM BILL

APPENDIX G

The Director of Housing submits a report which outlines the implementation of the Renters' Rights Bill, the Supported Housing Act 2023 (regulations), and the introduction of the Private Rented Sector Strategy.

15. WORK PROGRAMME

APPENDIX H

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

16. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS