

Agenda

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Housing Panel (Panel of the Scrutiny Committee)

Date: **Wednesday 4 February 2015**

Time: **5.00 pm**

Place: **St Aldate's Room, Town Hall**

For any further information please contact:

MeetingContact

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As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record the meeting please let the Contact Officer know how you wish to do this before the start of the meeting.

Housing Panel (Panel of the Scrutiny Committee)

Membership

Chair

Councillor Sam Hollick

Councillor Gill Sanders

Councillor Elizabeth Wade

Linda Hill

Councillor Linda Smith

Co-optee

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AGENDA

	Pages
1 APOLOGIES	
The Quorum for this Panel is three and substitutes are not allowed.	
2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
3 UNLAWFUL DWELLINGS	7 - 24
For the Panel to review the Council's approach to combatting unlawful dwellings.	
Ian Wright, Environmental Health Service Manager and Robert Fowler, Planning Enforcement Officer, have been invited to present this item.	
4 TACKLING UNDER-OCCUPATION	25 - 36
For the Panel to consider the Council's approach to tackling under-occupation within Oxford City Council's housing stock.	
Bill Graves, Landlord Services Manager, has been invited to attend for this item.	
5 HOUSING PANEL WORK PROGRAMME	37 - 38
For the Panel to review and note its work programme.	
6 NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	39 - 40
To note the notes of the meeting held on 22 January 2015.	
7 DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
24 March 2015	
2015/16 dates to be confirmed.	

DECLARING INTERESTS

General duty

You must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests when the meeting reaches the item on the agenda headed "Declarations of Interest" or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.

What is a disclosable pecuniary interest?

Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to your* employment; sponsorship (ie payment for expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a councillor or towards your election expenses); contracts; land in the Council's area; licences for land in the Council's area; corporate tenancies; and securities. These declarations must be recorded in each councillor's Register of Interests which is publicly available on the Council's website.

Declaring an interest

Where any matter disclosed in your Register of Interests is being considered at a meeting, you must declare that you have an interest. You should also disclose the nature as well as the existence of the interest.

If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, after having declared it at the meeting you must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Members' Code of Conduct and public perception

Even if you do not have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter, the Members' Code of Conduct says that a member "must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself" and that "you must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned". What this means is that the matter of interests must be viewed within the context of the Code as a whole and regard should continue to be paid to the perception of the public.

*Disclosable pecuniary interests that must be declared are not only those of the member her or himself but also those of the member's spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.