

Agenda

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Housing Panel (Panel of the Scrutiny Committee)

Date: **Thursday 8 March 2018**

Time: **5.00 pm**

Place: **Plowman Room - Town Hall**

For any further information please contact:

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Housing Panel (Panel of the Scrutiny Committee)

Membership

Chair	Councillor David Henwood
	Councillor Angie Goff
	Councillor Gill Sanders
	Councillor David Thomas
	Councillor Elizabeth Wade
	Councillor Michele Paule
	Geno Humphrey (tenant co-optee)

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AGENDA

Pages

1 APOLOGIES

Substitutes are not allowed.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3 HOUSING PERFORMANCE - QUARTER 3

7 - 10

Background Information
The Housing Panel has a role in monitoring Council performance against housing targets. This report contains outcomes at the end of 2017/18 quarter 3 (December 2017) for a set of housing performance indicators. The Panel has also asked to monitor the numbers of households and children living in temporary accommodation, and this information will be made available separately or reported at the meeting.
Why is it on the agenda?
For the Panel to note and comment on housing performance at the end of 2017/17 quarter 3 and the numbers of families and children in temporary accommodation.
Who has been invited to comment?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Councillor Mike Rowley, Board Member for Housing• Stephen Clarke, Head of Housing Services

4 ALLOCATION OF HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION FUNDS IN 2018/19

Background Information
The City Executive Board on 20 March will be asked to approve the allocation of Homelessness Prevention funds to commission homelessness services in 2018/19.
Why is it on the agenda?
This item offers the Panel the opportunity to consider the report and make recommendations to the City Executive Board. Report to follow.
Who has been invited to comment?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Councillor Mike Rowley, Board Member for Housing;• Stephen Clarke, Head of Housing Services;• Rachel Lawrence, Rough Sleeping & Single Homelessness Manager.

5 OXFORD CITY COUNCIL'S TENANCY STRATEGY & POLICY

11 - 64

Background Information
The City Executive Board on 20 March will be asked to approve the Draft Tenancy Strategy and Tenancy Policy 2018-23 (and associated appendices) as draft documents to be published for a period of public and stakeholder consultation.
Why is it on the agenda?
This item offers the Panel the opportunity to consider the report and make recommendations to the City Executive Board.
Who has been invited to comment?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Councillor Mike Rowley, Board Member for Housing;• Stephen Clarke, Head of Housing Services;• Frances Evans, Strategy & Service Development Manager.

6 HOUSING PANEL WORK PROGRAMME

The Panel may wish to suggest topics for Scrutiny to consider during 2018/19.

The following topics have been on the Housing Panel work plan for 2017/18 but were not considered due to capacity constraints or other reasons (stated below). The Panel may wish to suggest that some or all of these topics are carried forwards on to the next work plan:

- Empty Garages and former garage sites
- Great Estates update
- Tenant satisfaction – *no survey this year*
- Leaseholder relationships – *legal proceedings*
- Building the housing for the future
- Impacts of absent owners on housing availability
- Flexible tenancies – *dependent on proposals from HM Government*

7 NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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For the Panel to agree and note the record of the meeting held on 16 January 2017.

8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This is the last Housing Panel meeting of the current Council year.

Meetings for the 2018/19 Council year are provisionally scheduled as follows:

5 July 2018
11 October 2018
12 November 2018
4 March 2019
8 April 2019

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.