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HOUSING SCRUTINY PANEL

**Thursday, 3rd September, 2020 at 7.00 pm in the Virtual meeting/
Remote - Please use links on the Agenda Front Sheet to join the
virtual meeting**

Membership:

Councillors: Elif Erbil (Chair) , Hass Yusuf (Vice Chair), Margaret Greer, Guner Aydin, Susan Erbil, Saray Karakus, Edward Smith and Alessandro Georgiou

AGENDA – PART 1

- 1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members of the Council are invited to identify any disclosable pecuniary, other pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests relevant to the items on the agenda.

- 3. INTRODUCTIONS AND PURPOSE OF EVENING**

The Chair to introduce the purpose of the meeting.

- 4. LOCAL PRIORITIES FOR 2020-21**

The Scrutiny Panel will hear from the following, outlining priorities and areas of challenge:

Cllr Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council
Cllr Gina Needs, Cabinet Member for Social Housing
Joanne Drew, Director of Housing and Regeneration

Cabinet Members and Officers will be asked to leave the meeting at this point.

5. PLANNING THE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2020-21 (Pages 1 - 2)

- To agree and prioritise items for the Housing Scrutiny Work Programme 2020-21

6. TERMS OF REFERENCE

To note the Housing Scrutiny Panel Terms of Reference:

1. To examine and report on the strategies, policies and actions of the Council as they relate to the Council's existing housing stock and services
2. To scrutinise the planning and provision of the Council's housing stock
3. To consider housing matters on request from another standing committees and report its opinion to that standing committee

7. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

To note the dates of future meetings as follows:

Tuesday 1 December 2020

Thursday 11 February 2021

Thursday 15 April 2021

HOUSING SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME 2020-21

The Role of Scrutiny in Meeting the Public Sector Equality Duty

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has a key role to play in ensuring that the Council meets all the statutory duties under the Public Sector Equality Duty of the Equality Act 2010, particularly in ensuring that the authority has due regard to the needs of diverse groups when designing, evaluating and delivering services in order to –

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

In order to do this, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will scrutinise the Council's Equality and Diversity Action Plan and Annual Achievement Report each year to monitor the Authority's performance. The OS Committee will be flexible enough to pick up on issues of inequality, wherever they arise in the Council work programme, or to delegate to individual workstreams for investigation. OSC has a key role in providing a 'critical friend' challenge to the Council's strategic equality objectives and scrutinising performance in delivering those objectives.

In addition, as part of their normal work programme, each workstream will (where relevant and proportionate) -

- request information about the equality impact assessments/analyses that have been undertaken whenever discussing proposals for new policies or future plans, or for current services, to inform their comments on those proposals or services
- examine these assessments/analyses of impact in detail to check if they are robust and have been developed based on strong evidence and appropriate engagement
- question and consider whether appropriate people have been involved and engaged in developing equality objectives and plans, and when assessing the impact of policies and proposals.
- when procurement award criteria and contracts are determined, consider whether or not specific equality stipulations are required
- Scrutiny may also wish to investigate the accessibility of equality and other published documents, asking questions such as –
 - what is done to promote these documents?
 - what languages or formats is the information available in?
 - which documents are most regularly required?
 - how aware are the public of the Authority's equality plans and performance?

HOUSING SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME 2020-21

WORK	Lead Officer	3 September 2020- Planning Session	1 December 2020	11 February 2021	15 April 2021
Date papers to be with Governance and Scrutiny Team		n/a	20 November 2020	1 February 2021	6 April 2021
Specific Topics					
Local Priorities 2020-21	Joanne Drew	Verbal update			
Standing Items					
Monitoring/ update					
Work Programme					
Setting the Housing Scrutiny Work Programme 2020-21	Claire Johnson		Agree Work Programme		