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Please ask for Emily Taylor
Direct Line: 01246 345236
Email democratic.services@chesterfield.gov.uk

The Chair and Members of Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee

1 February 2023

Dear Councillor,

Please attend a meeting of the ENTERPRISE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE to be held on THURSDAY, 9 FEBRUARY 2023 at 5.00 pm in Town Hall, Rose Hill, Chesterfield, the agenda for which is set out below.

AGENDA

Part 1(Public Information)

- Declarations of Members' And Officers' Interests Relating To Items On The Agenda
- 2. Apologies for Absence
- 3. Parks and Open Spaces and Play Strategy Update (Pages 3 10)
- 4. Scrutiny Monitoring (Pages 11 16)
- 5. Forward Plan

The latest version of the Forward Plan of Key Decisions 1 February, 2023 to 31 May, 2023 is available via the link below;

Forward Plan

Chesterfield Borough Council, Town Hall, Rose Hill, Chesterfield S40 1LP Telephone: 01246 345 345, Text: 07960 910 264, Email: info@chesterfield.gov.uk

- 6. Work Programme for the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee (Pages 17 20)
- 7. Minutes (Pages 21 26)

Yours sincerely,

Head of Regulatory Law and Monitoring Officer

For publication

Parks and Open Space and Play Strategies update.

Meeting:	Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee
Date:	9 February 2023
Cabinet portfolio:	Health and Wellbeing
Directorate:	Leisure, Culture and Community Wellbeing

1.0 Reason for inclusion on the work programme

- 1.1 Purpose of reviewing the topic: To support the development of the Parks and Open Spaces and Play Strategy.
- 1.2 What are the objectives of the review: To ensure that the strategy provides the context, vision and strategic direction for the provision, management and improvement of green spaces across the Borough.
- 1.3 Progress to date: The Enterprise & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee provided feedback on the draft strategy as part of the consultation process in late 2021. The strategy was approved in February 2022 and a progress update was requested for early 2023.

2.0 Summary

2.1 This report sets out an overview of the approach taken regarding strategy development and the actions and activities to date in relation to the Councils Parks and Open Spaces and Play strategies.

3.0 Report details

- 3.1 The Parks and Open Spaces and Play Strategies establish an understanding and ambition for the borough until 2030. A robust evidence base has been drawn from national policies and initiatives, local consultation and analysis of existing provision. This has enabled the development of local standards and policies, which provide a framework for delivery of the strategies.
- 3.2 The Parks and Open Spaces and Play Strategies were considered at the Cabinet meeting on 6 July 2021 where it was resolved that the strategies be approved for wider consultation.

Consultation

- 3.3 The consultation programme took place between August and October 2021. This programme, in addition to ongoing internal officer engagement, included:
 - An online survey for members of the public to respond.
 - A session with the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.
 - An online survey for stakeholder groups such as 'Friends' groups.
 - A presentation and online survey for the Councils Equalities and Diversity Group.
- 3.4 Initially the consultation was held over a four-week period; this was subsequently extended to six weeks to enable further engagement of stakeholders in the consultation process.
- 3.5 Feedback from the consultation was positive and supportive of the strategies including their key themes and direction of travel.
- 3.6 Due to the overall positive and supportive nature of the feedback there were no significant changes to the strategies following the consultation.
- 3.7 Following consultation, the final Parks and Open Space and Play strategies were approved at cabinet and Council in February 2022.

Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2022 - 2030

3.12 The vision for the parks and open spaces across the borough is:

'For every park and open space to offer a high quality and fulfilling experience; supporting biodiversity, promoting health, well-being and enjoyment, and improving the quality of life for residents and visitors to the borough.'

3.13 The aims of the strategy are:

- To provide clear and transparent guidance and priorities for improving parks and open spaces.
- To reduce inequality in those areas of highest deprivation according to the index multiple deprivation by providing good quality and accessible parks and open spaces.
- To enhance local leadership and commitment to improving and investing in parks and open spaces.
- To provide high quality evidence to underpin and support funding bids to improve parks and open spaces including community engagement opportunities.

- To feed into and maximise visibility within the Council's key strategy documents the Council Plan and Local Plan.
- To enhance our contribution to key agenda's including the climate emergency, nature recovery, improving accessibility and responding the borough's challenging health and wellbeing profile.
- To support negotiation with developers for 'planning gain and support' for open space investment / provision across the Borough.
- To develop parks and open spaces using local standards, evidence base and policies to provide a framework for prioritisation and resource allocation for management and improvement.
- 3.14 The key themes that set the delivery context for the strategy are focussed on:
 - Using a clear approach for investment in parks and open spaces
 - Using our resources effectively and sustainably
 - Increasing the use of our parks and open spaces
 - Engaging with our community and partners effectively

Play Strategy 2022 – 2030

3.15 The vision for play across the borough is:

'For every play space to be a destination, by creating a variety of sustainable play experiences that offer children and young people of all ages and abilities accessible, quality, challenging and fun opportunities for play.'

- 3.16 The aims of the strategy are:
 - To increase play experiences for children, young people and families.
 - To reduce inequality in those areas of highest deprivation according to the index multiple deprivation by providing good quality and accessible play experiences.
 - To raise the standard, quality and experience of play opportunities across Chesterfield borough.
 - To widen the concept of play and enable innovation.
 - To improve play accessibility for our children, young people and diverse communities.
 - To facilitate play experiences that are inclusive and accessible to all children and young people.
 - To ensure that play experiences are properly resourced and sustainable.
- 3.17 The key themes that set the delivery context for the strategy are focussed on:
 - Raising awareness of play
 - Raising the quality of play

- Improving the range and accessibility of play
- Informal and natural play opportunities
- Maximising resources to improve and develop play
- Strategic Management and Growth Sites
- 3.18 The strategies will guide the Council's management of and investment in its parks and open spaces until 2030. Through the adoption and delivery of these strategies the Council will have:
 - Clear and transparent guidance and priorities for improving its parks, open and play spaces to meet the needs of community.
 - Evidence of local leadership on and commitment to parks, open and play spaces, to underpin bids for funding their development.
 - Clear co-ordination with the Council Plan and the adopted Local Plan.
 - An evidence base and local standards to underpin the negotiation of 'planning gain' for investment / provision across the Borough.
 - Improved accessibility, opportunities and experiences.

Actions and activities to date

- 3.19 Following the adoption of the strategies the Environmental Services team have been working through a legacy delivery programme in accordance with the aims and the themes of the strategies.
- 3.20 The following areas provide an overview of activities, projects and programmes that have taken place since the adoption of the strategies.
 - Safer streets funding has been secured for investment to support diversionary activities for children and young people to include a new concrete skate park and a new concrete skate park and multi-use games area. Expected to be delivered by March/April 2023.
 - 1 x skate park, funding envelope secured and repairs and maintenance completed.
 - 2 x play spaces, funding envelope secured and full refurbishment programme completed
 - 2 x play spaces, land fill tax credit funding applications submitted (match funding in place) with decisions due in March 2023.
 - 1 x play space, funding envelope secured, orders placed and work on site expected March/April 2023.
 - 15 x play spaces have undergone a full painting planned preventative maintenance programme.
 - 1 x new Green Flag submission for a park following a series of improvement works, with further work being completed in the coming months.

- Funding envelope secured from the Lawn Tennis Association to bring back into use 2No. tennis courts. Anticipated start date for the contract works is the end of March 2023.
- Funding envelope secured from landfill tax credits to support 1 x Bowls
 Club to develop their activities. This includes the extension of a
 canopy area around the existing bowls pavilion to give protection from
 the weather; to swap the existing metal halide lamps on the
 floodlighting units to LED lamps, reducing energy consumption and
 finally, to purchase a new ride on Dennis mower to enable the club to
 undertake an enhanced grass cutting regime.
- Safely delivered the Stand Road Fireworks event.
- Delivered in partnership with Derbyshire County Cricket Club the cricket festival.
- 1 x Petanque court (piste) funding envelope secured to enable an extension to the existing court (piste) to facilitate more space for a growing participant base, project completed.
- 1 x Petanque court (piste) funding envelope secured to extend the existing court (piste) to facilitate more space for a growing participant base. Work anticipated to be completed in the next few months.
- The service enabled the successful Chesterfield in Bloom campaign for schools, local businesses, community groups and private individuals culminating in an awards ceremony in late September.
- The Service entered the East Midlands In Bloom competition show casing the towns green infrastructure and community projects. We were awarded the gold award winning the Small City category for the first time.
- The service continued to exceed the Councils Climate Change action plan tree planting target of a minimum of 1000 trees per year; the year's programme will see in excess of 2500 trees being planted.
- To aid capacity building within our communities the Service has successfully promoted and implemented a tree warden scheme and now have 12 tree wardens. They have supported a range of activities over the year. This has included the Services work as part of national tree week and the Queen's Green Canopy activity.
- The Service supported the Councils Biodiversity Net Gain protocols as approved at Cabinet on 19 July 2022 and will actively enable this programme to be delivered.
- The Service is holding a `Friends of Groups` meeting in March 2023
 (the first full Borough wide meeting since the programme of meetings
 was disrupted due to the Covid-19 pandemic) to continue to build
 capacity in our community groups, to share good practice and to help
 further the excellent work these groups have undertaken to date.
- 3.21 The above areas do not include the business-as-usual activity around the general open space maintenance programme, club, group, volunteer engagement, sports pitch activity and programming, tree work and wider landscape management activities all of which support the vision of both the play and parks and open space strategies.

3.22 The breadth of the areas of activity outlined above reflects the commitment of the Environmental Services staff to enhancing the Councils parks, open and play spaces across the Borough.

4.0 Potential barriers

- 4.1 The activities outlined have been achieved at a time of major challenge including cost inflation, supply chain and capacity issues. Despite this it is pleasing to note the extent of project and programme success which is set to continue as the service moves into the next stages of developing delivering plans for both strategies.
- 4.2 Resource does present potential barriers, however, to date the service has in the last five years enabled the investment of over £770,000 in play infrastructure and £1.6m in parks and open space infrastructure in addition to the Parks and Open Space services core general fund resource allocation. This successful approach to securing grant funding has continued through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund that will see additional resource allocation for parks, play and sports pitch development.

5.0 Future plans and areas for further scrutiny involvement

5.1 The service is currently working on the transition from a legacy programme of work to a five year programme of work in the form of a delivery plan for the Play and for Parks and Open Spaces strategies in accordance with Cabinet / Council approval of the strategies. The delivery plan will be costed and will reflect the aims and the themes of the strategies to ensure the effective and efficient allocation of resource.

6.0 Implications for consideration

- 6.1 To maintain the quality and the desired levels of positive customer experience across our parks, open and play spaces the Council, in addition to its general fund resource will continue its highly successful approach to securing external funding to enable the progressive development of the strategies. This includes:
 - Council funding: capital and revenue funding allocated to deliver facilities and improvements within the Council's ownership.
 - CIL and Section 106 developer contributions.
 - Grant funding such as UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Landfill Tax Credits.
- 6.2 The strategies positively contribute to the following council plan objectives:
 - Improving quality of life for local people.

- Improving our environment and enhance community safety for all our communities and future generations.
- Helping our communities to improve their health and wellbeing.
- 6.3 Outdoor recreational opportunities provided through parks, open and play spaces can be beneficial to mental health and wellbeing by providing important opportunities to interact with nature and other people. The Council will, through the strategies, continue to work with partners to maximise the benefits to physical and mental health that arise from utilising our parks, open and play spaces.
- 6.4 Providing good quality parks open and play spaces will support the Councils wider ambitions regarding making Chesterfield a thriving borough by actively contributing to making Chesterfield a great place to live, work and visit.
- 6.5 Both strategies as a result of the aims, themes and overall approach to parks, play and open space management positively support the Councils ambitions pertaining to climate change.

Document information

Report author	Report author						
Ian Waller – Service	Director Leisure, Culture and Community Wellbeing						
Background docur These are unpublished the report was prepared	ed works which have been relied on to a material extent when						
This must be made a	This must be made available to the public for up to 4 years.						
Appendices to the	report						
Appendix 1							
Appendix 2							



Agenda Item 4

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS - IMPLEMENTATION MONITORING SCHEDULE

Ref No	Item (Scrutiny Issue or Topic. SPG = Scrutiny Project Group work)	Decision Dates (Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet, Council & its Committees)	Scrutiny Committee Recommendations and/or Decision making body resolution (italics = Agreed by Scrutiny Committee but not yet considered by decision making body) *	Completion Date for Actions	Action / Response Completed	Further Action Required by Scrutiny (6 monthly progress reports)
CC Page 11	Statutory Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Ctte	CCO 29.09.11 (Min. No. 44)	Progress report on sharing information re alcohol related health problems and hospital admissions.	6 monthly wef 29/09/11.	Statistics requested for each 6 monthly meeting	Agreed on 08.01.15 that statistics on alcohol related health problems / hospital admissions be reported to each 6 monthly meeting.
CCO2	Visitor Economy	CCO 03.02.22 (Min. No.	 Visitor Economy SPG report approved by CCO 03.02.22, recommending: That the findings of the scrutiny project group be considered by Cabinet alongside consideration of the visitor economy strategy and action plan. That subject to the approval of the strategy and action plan by full council on 23 February, 2022, an update on the delivery of the action plan be reported to the CC&O 	12 months wef. 03.02.22	Update requested in line with recommendations in February 2023	

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Item (Scrutiny Issue or Topic. SPG = Scrutiny Project Group work)	Decision Dates (Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet, Council & its Committees)	Scrutiny Committee Recommendations and/or Decision making body resolution (italics = Agreed by Scrutiny Committee but not yet considered by decision making body) *	Completion Date for Actions	Action / Response Completed	Further Action Required by Scrutiny (6 monthly progress reports)
		Scrutiny Committee after the strategy has been in place for 12 months to allow scrutiny to review the progress made.			
Skills	EW 05.02.19 (Min. No 48)	Skills SPG report approved by Enterprise and Wellbeing 05.02.19 Cabinet Response: 1. That the Cabinet thanks the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee for the report which highlights an important area of work for the Council and reflects our commitment to driving skills development in the Borough through our support of the Skills Action Plan and continued engagement with key partners and stakeholders. 2. That the Cabinet notes and endorses the recommendations, and acknowledges that the recommendations can be	Monitoring Action is being developed in consultation with senior officers to identify target dates for completion.	Progress reported to E&W – 4.02.21.	Monitoring Action is being developed in consultation with senior officers to identify target dates for completion. Update due Sept 2022
	(Scrutiny Issue or Topic. SPG = Scrutiny Project Group work)	(Scrutiny Issue or Topic. SPG = Scrutiny Project Group work) Skills Dates (Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet, Council & its Committees)	(Scrutiny Issue or Topic. SPG = Scrutiny Project Group work) Skills EW 05.02.19 (Min. No 48) EW 05.02.19 (Min. No 48) EW 05.02.19 (Min. No 48) Cabinet Response: 1. That the Cabinet thanks the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee for the report which highlights an important area of work for the Council and reflects our commitment to driving skills development in the Borough through our support of the Skills Action Plan and continued engagement with key partners and sakeholders. 2. That the Cabinet notes and endorses the recommendations, and acknowledges that the	Cacrotiny Issue or Topic. SPG	Committee Cabinet, Council & its Committees

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Ref No	Item (Scrutiny Issue or Topic. SPG = Scrutiny Project Group work)	Decision Dates (Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet, Council & its Committees)	Scrutiny Committee Recommendations and/or Decision making body resolution (italics = Agreed by Scrutiny Committee but not yet considered by decision making body) *	Completion Date for Actions	Action / Response Completed	Further Action Required by Scrutiny (6 monthly progress reports)
Page 13			3. That the decision to co-fund the Enterprise Co-ordinator post be deferred for consideration as a growth request as part of the budget setting process for 2020/21. The Cabinet recognises the positive impact of the Enterprise Co-ordinator for Chesterfield and that this is currently co-funded for 2 years until 2019/20. See SPG Report for recommendations.			
EW8	Parks and Open Spaces and Play Strategies	EW 14.10.21 (Min. No. 16)	Committee Resolutions: 1.That the feedback provided by the committee be submitted as part of the public consultation process 2.That a further update be brought to the committee to demonstrate how the consultation feedback has influenced the final versions of the strategies. 3.That the committee undertake a monitoring role, particularly at the implementation stage of the process.	Ongoing	The final strategies were presented to Cabinet 22.02.22 and then to council 23.04.22	Update report on implementation due February 2023

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Ref No	Item (Scrutiny Issue or Topic. SPG = Scrutiny Project Group work)	Decision Dates (Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet, Council & its Committees)	Scrutiny Committee Recommendations and/or Decision making body resolution (italics = Agreed by Scrutiny Committee but not yet considered by decision making body) *	Completion Date for Actions	Action / Response Completed	Further Action Required by Scrutiny (6 monthly progress reports)
OP Page 14	HS2	OPSF 11.09.18 Cabinet 23.10.18 (Min. No. 48)	Cabinet Response: 1. That the Cabinet thanks the Overview and Performance Scrutiny Forum for the first class work that has been taken forward in looking at how the Council is preparing for HS2 and, in particular, for the Forum's efforts in broadening and deepening the understanding of Council Members of the subject matter. 2. That Cabinet notes and endorses the recommendations of the Overview and Performance Scrutiny Forum. 3. That Cabinet endorses, in particular, the Forum's recommendation to establish a new Skills Scrutiny Project group and resolves to defer to the Overview and Performance Scrutiny Forum	Following Parliament's consideration of the Hybrid Bill	Recommendati ons approved by Cabinet 23.10.18 Monitoring update considered by OPSF - 19.03.19 and 27.02.22.	Monitor after Hybrid Bill has been taken to Parliament. Update from the Leader requested for second half of 2022/23 OSC work programme.

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Ref No	Item (Scrutiny Issue or Topic. SPG = Scrutiny Project Group work)	Decision Dates (Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet, Council & its Committees)	Scrutiny Committee Recommendations and/or Decision making body resolution (italics = Agreed by Scrutiny Committee but not yet considered by decision making body) *	Completion Date for Actions	Action / Response Completed	Further Action Required by Scrutiny (6 monthly progress reports)
Page 15			further consideration of the merit of establishing new Scrutiny Project Groups to look at particular aspects of HS2 as part of the future work programming discussions. See SPG Report for recommendations.			

Abbreviations Key: OP = Overview and Performance Scrutiny Forum. CCO = Community, Customer and Organisational Development Scrutiny Committee. EW = Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee). TBA (to be agreed).

* Note recommendation wording may be abridged.

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WORK PROGRAMME: ENTERPRISE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON 1 DECEMBER 2022

	Scrutiny Committee Date:	Business Item :	Status :	Raised by :	Cabinet Member Responsibility
1	24.05.22	Private Sector Housing – to review a number of policies in development	Policies were presented for review and feedback provided.	Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2022	Housing
2	14.07.22	Consultation Exercise on Revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield and Recycling Communications Plan	Feedback was submitted to the Economic Development Team as part of the Revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield consultation. Discussion took place around the Recycling Communications Plan and common queries from residents.	Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2022	Town Centres & Visitor Economy, Health & Wellbeing
3	22.09.22	Skills Action Plan Update & Measuring success of the town centre – scrutiny focus group on developing a set of measures by which to measure the success of the town centre.	Emily Williams presented an update on the Skills Action plan and will come back with a draft action plan once ready. Economic Development Team to provide update in 6 months' time on Town Centre progress.	Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2022	Economic Growth, Town Centres & Visitor Economy

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	Scrutiny Committee Date:	Business Item :	Status :	Raised by :	Cabinet Member Responsibility
4.	01.12.22	CBC Housing – decent homes standard (Government consultation – awaiting further announcement), turning round a vacant property and the impact of Covid on the backlog of repairs.	Jane Davies and Vanessa Watson presented an update on three topics within the Housing sector; - Decent Home Standards - Voids - Impact of Covid-19 on the backlog of repairs. Committee members asked for more information to be made available to them in which the officers said they would provide at a later date.	Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2022	Housing
5	09.02.23	Play and Open Spaces and Play Strategy Update		Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2022	Health & Well- being
6	30.03.23	Communications plan for town centre developments – how are the public being kept informed of progress/disruption, how can members be kept informed to		Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2022	Town Centres & Visitor Economy

Scrutiny Committee Date:	Business Item :	Status :	Raised by :	Cabinet Member Responsibility	
	respond effectively to resident's queries.				
		Scrutiny Project Groups (SPG) :			
Items Pending Reschedule or Removal:					
New Business Items Proposed:					

Note: Items for monitoring (from scrutiny reviews and/or recommendations) are not included above but are listed in the Scrutiny Monitoring Form a separate item on the agenda. Items from the Forward Plan and Scrutiny Monitoring Form can be included in the work programme. [KEY to abbreviations: O&P = Overview and Performance Scrutiny Forum. CCO = Community, Customer and Organisational Development Scrutiny Committee. E&W = Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee. TBC = to be confirmed. KD = Forward Plan Key Decision].

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ENTERPRISE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 1st December, 2022

Present:-

Councillor Flood (Chair)

Councillors Dyke Coy Councillors Hollingworth Snowdon

Emily Taylor, Democratic and Scrutiny Officer Amanda Clayton, Democratic and Scrutiny Officer Jane Davies, Service Director for Housing + Vanessa Watson, Interim Head of Investment, Assets and Property Operations +

Attended for Minute No. 30 +

28 <u>DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' AND OFFICERS' INTERESTS</u> <u>RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA</u>

No declarations of interest were received.

29 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Brittain.

30 <u>CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING - DECENT HOMES STANDARDS</u> UPDATE

The Service Director for Housing presented a report to the Committee on the three topics requested in the work programme.

- 1. Decent Homes Standards (DHS)
- 2. Turning around a vacant residential property (voids)
- 3. The impact of Covid-19 on the backlog of repairs
- 1. The Decent Homes Standards was a target set by the Government to ensure all homes met the standards of decency. It launched in 2004, with a set timetable that required the council to assess and

improve its housing stock. The DHS arose from the Government's Housing Green Paper – 'Quality and Choice: A Decent Home for All' first published in 2002. It was expected that all stock would attain the appropriate standard by 2010.

Chesterfield Borough Council's target was for 100% of its homes to reach the required level. Currently 99.7% were considered decent. The council hoped to have the percentage back to 100% in 2023. Once the homes were up to the decency standards, the ambition was to excel beyond the legal requirements.

- During the pandemic, the work on voids had to be put on hold, due to prioritisation of emergency repairs. 278 council homes were empty as of November 2022 and 52 of those were part of a wider refurbishment scheme. The Service Director for Housing explained that;
 - 13 were new voids where no work had commenced
 - 24 were complete and back with the Allocations Team ready for letting
 - 9 needed major structural works
 - 57 awaited electrical and gas works
 - 19 were complete and awaiting cleaning and gas recommissioning
 - 104 were in various stages of inspection with the Voids Team

The most recent annual report to tenants included the performance average for turning round a voids property of 94.7 days.

3. Between March 2020 and June 2021, the Responsive Repairs Team were only able to deliver emergency repairs do to measures put in place to help reduce the spread of Covid-19. By April 2021, the backlog on non-urgent repairs had reached 1,591; as of November 2022, this figure had reduced significantly to 556 awaiting repairs.

Committee members heard how the Housing Service hoped to engage with tenants in the New Year by starting a programme of home visits with tenants to find out more about people's experiences and identify where additional support may be needed.

Discussion:

Repairs;

- Housing Property Services (HPS) had looked to improve the advice given to tenants at the point of reporting repairs, with all call handlers provided with training on the most common repairs.
- A new housing contact list had been circulated to members, along with guidance on how to log complaints and service requests via the online system.
- There were no particular areas or trades where HPS had struggled to recruit new staff.
- The most common repair requests related to damp and mould, electrical faults, heating and hot water, leaks and blockages.

Decent homes

- Once the government had confirmed the new definition of decency, officers would include these in reports, explaining the implications for the HRA Capital Programme. The report would also include information about the causes of damp and mould in council homes, and planned improvements.
- HPS would consider more apprenticeships and training opportunities.
- HPS would consider member feedback on the following, to help people facing or at risk of fuel poverty:
 - Location of radiator valves
 - Location of thermostats
 - Installation of extractor fans where these are not present

Voids

- Officers would provide clearer information to customers regarding the repairs that would be completed after they have moved in, and timescales, to improve the overall customer experience.
- The process for mutual exchanges was to be reviewed.
- CBC's average relet time was 95 days in 2021/22, compared to 63 days in 2019/20 (pre-pandemic). A review of benchmarking data from other local authorities with similar-sized housing stock shows that median performance was 54 days (2021/22) and 33 days (2019/20). The improvements being made to the voids process would help to reduce the average relet times.

RESOLVED -

- 1. That the update be noted.
- 2. That a further update be brought to the committee as part of the 2023 work programme.

31 **SCRUTINY MONITORING**

The Committee considered the Scrutiny recommendations monitoring schedule.

RESOLVED -

That the Scrutiny monitoring schedule be noted.

32 FORWARD PLAN

The Forward Plan for the four month period 1 December, 2023 to 31 March, 2023 was presented for information.

RESOLVED -

That the Forward Plan be noted.

33 WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE ENTERPRISE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The 2022/23 Work Programme for the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee was reported for information.

RESOLVED -

That the work programme be noted and updated to include the decisions of the current meeting

34 MINUTES

RESOLVED -

The Minutes of the meeting of the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee held on 22 September, 2022 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

