

RECOMMENDATIONS MONITORING REPORT 2018 - 2019

ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Meeting date Recommendations Made	Portfolio Holder / Directorate Responsible	Agenda Item Title	Recommendation Made	Action Taken	Progress Status
13 March 2018	Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development / People and Communities	Homelessness Reduction Strategy	<p>1. The Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development contacts (i) the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, (ii) the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, and (iii) the Local Government Association, seeking their support to amend legislation so that:</p> <p>(a) the Housing Benefit element of welfare benefit payments are paid direct to landlords rather than to tenants, in an attempt to encourage more landlords to offer their properties for homeless households or those at risk of becoming homeless; and,</p>	<p>A letter to the Secretary of State was drafted for the Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development's consideration, with a view to making representation to government on issues of Housing Benefit payment and Section 21 notices identified by the Task and Finish group.</p> <p>The letter has now been sent.</p>	Completed.

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			(b) Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 (<i>Recovery of Possession on Expiry or Termination of Assured Shorthold Tenancy</i>) is reviewed with a view to ending its widespread use, and in its place introduce legislation that provides for greater tenancy security in the private rented sector.		
10 July 2018	Councillor Irene Walsh, Cabinet Member for Communities	9. Environmental Enforcement – Kingdom Review	<p>RECOMMENDATION:</p> <p>The Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee RESOLVED to recommend to Cabinet that those areas of enforcement currently carried out by Kingdom Environmental Services should be brought in-house and operated directly by the Council once the trial period had concluded.</p>	<p>Response from the Cabinet Member for Communities received on 24/08/2018:</p> <p>We have been pleased with the positive impact the pilot contract with Kingdom has had on our city centre and in the Millfield area. We want to ensure this good work continues, by making this kind of proactive enforcement activity a mainstreamed service. Officers are currently reviewing the most appropriate delivery model to achieve this. This includes</p>	Completed

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				<p>considering the benefits of delivering the service in-house. It is too early to update the Committee on the details and outcomes of this work, but we will ensure an update is provided as quickly as possible. Meanwhile, the current arrangement with Kingdom can remain in place until the end of the current financial year if necessary.</p> <p>Members requested further information via a briefing note from the Service Director – Community & Safety at the September meeting. This was sent out on 23/10/2018</p>	
11 September 2018	Councillor Irene Walsh, Cabinet Member for Communities	7. Community Resilience: A Shared Approach	<p>RECOMMENDATION:</p> <p>The Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee considered the report and RESOLVED to recommend the draft of the Think Communities Shared approach to Cabinet for</p>	<p>Recommendation sent to Cabinet Member on 01/10/2018.</p> <p>Approved by Cabinet on 4 February 2019 as follows:</p>	Completed.

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			approval, as set out in Appendix One.	<p>Developing a Think Communities Approach and Delivering the Integrated Communities Strategy - FEB19/CAB/85</p> <p>Cabinet considered the report and RESOLVED to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the Think Communities approach across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. 2. Note the progress to deliver an Integrated Communities pilot programme, incorporating the work on Inclusive Cities 	
12 March 2019	Councillor Walsh, Cabinet Member for Communities	7. Selective Licensing – interim review and outcomes	<p>RECOMMENDATION:</p> <p>The Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee RESOLVED to recommend that Cabinet should consider extending Selective Licensing across the whole city after the current scheme expires in 2021.</p>	<p>Recommendation sent to Councillor Walsh, Cabinet Member for Communities and Jo Bezant, Manager, Housing Enforcement and Selective Licensing on 18/03/2019.</p> <p>Response received and</p>	Ongoing.

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				sent to committee members on 03/04/2019. Please see below:	
<p>Selective Licensing schemes require local councils to demonstrate that certain conditions set by Government are met. In the case of our existing scheme we did this via an extensive analysis of data. To extend the scheme we would need to undertake a similar exercise using the same format as the previous scheme. This data would then identify the areas of the city that meet the government set criteria for a selective licensing scheme to be introduced. Following any decision on proposed areas for a new scheme, a full and comprehensive public consultation of at least 10 weeks would need to take place. In addition, if more than 20% of the city's private rented sector would be affected by any new scheme it would be necessary for approval to be sought from the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).</p> <p>However, MHCLG is currently undertaking a review of selective licensing across the country. The outcome of the review is expected some time this year. This review could affect any future schemes the council may want to introduce, and we have therefore agreed that it would be prudent to wait for this guidance, given the complexities of developing new schemes described above, before we commence any further work.</p>					

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