

## Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Outstanding Actions and questions

Action to be carried out	Responsibility	Committee Date	Deadline	Comments/officer	
<b>Performance Report</b>					
PI 51	<p><u>CS4 No. of households in temporary accommodation</u></p> <p>Are the people placed in temporary accommodation only from Watford or also from other areas?</p>	Committee and Scrutiny Officer / Interim Housing Section Head	18 November 2015	8 January 2016	<p>According to legislation, there is a test of local connection for homeless households. Households we place in temporary accommodation will usually meet that test, there are a small number of exemptions to this e.g. families fleeing domestic violence.</p> <p>The reported figures relate to the local authorities responsibilities and not to where they are accommodated. Most Councils, including our own, will have families placed within and outside their borough boundaries.</p>

Action to be carried out		Responsibility	Committee Date	Deadline	Comments/officer
PI 52	<p><u>CS4 No. of households in temporary accommodation</u></p> <p>How does Watford compare to similar size authorities?</p>	Committee and Scrutiny Officer / Interim Housing Section Head	18 November 2015	8 January 2016	<p>The size of a local authority is just one factor that will impact on the levels of homelessness in a local authority. Other factors include: (i) the population density and whether the local authority is rural or urban (ii) levels of deprivation (iii) tenure mix in terms of proportions of owner occupation, social housing and private renting (iv) house prices and rents (v) linked with deprivation the impact of welfare reform, particularly with regard to the affordability of the private rented sector for those dependent on housing benefit.</p> <p>In terms of the county Broxbourne has similar levels of temporary accommodation usage as Watford, although less densely populated, less deprived and a significantly smaller private rented sector. When compared to other districts that share similar characteristics to Watford our temporary accommodation usage is comparable.</p>

Action to be carried out		Responsibility	Committee Date	Deadline	Comments/officer
PI 53	<p><u>CS4 No. of households in temporary accommodation</u></p> <p>Considering the decrease in usage by Dacorum, are there any lessons Watford can learn?</p>	Committee and Scrutiny Officer / Interim Housing Section Head	18 November 2015	8 January 2016	<p>Officers remain outwardly focussed in terms of good practice being operated by other local authorities.</p> <p>In terms of Dacorum the most recent statistics indicate that temporary accommodation numbers have risen quite steeply increasing from 44 in June 2015 to 79 in September 2015. Many other Councils have experienced an increase over the previous quarter.</p> <p>Dacorum and Watford are dissimilar across a number of key factors. Dacorum is semi-rural in nature with a population density of 1,676 per sq. mile compared to 10,084 per sq mile in Watford. Dacorum has 13,045 units of social housing compared to 5,987 in Watford. Dacorum has a smaller private rented sector than Watford, much of which remains affordable within housing benefit levels.</p>
<b>Executive Decision Progress Report</b>					
ED 6	Officers to be asked if they monitored the cumulative effect of agreed schemes on Watford.	Committee and Scrutiny Officer	17 September 2014	31 October 2014	<p>The Managing Director and Head of Regeneration and Development have been contacted regarding this enquiry.</p> <p>The Committee and Scrutiny Officer to make further enquiries.</p>

Action to be carried out		Responsibility	Committee Date	Deadline	Comments/officer
ED 8	Forward the report for the Portfolio Holder about the release of covenant for land at Leggatts Campus be forwarded to Councillor Khan.	Committee and Scrutiny Officer	21 January 2016	29 February 2016	<p>The decision was in fact made by the Programme Manager on 30 November 2015. All Councillors were informed of the decision and provided with the reasons. The deadline for call-in was 8 December 2015. The decision was not called in.</p> <p>Following a discussion with the Head of Democracy and Governance, the Committee and Scrutiny Officer emailed Councillor Khan asking him to provide the reasons he wishes to see the report, 'need to know'. Councillor Khan has responded and his request has been forwarded to the Legal and Democracy Section Head for approval.</p>
<b>Hertfordshire County Council's Health Scrutiny Committee</b>					
HSC 6	Report on transportation of people to hospital in West Herts to be circulated to the Scrutiny Committee.	Committee and Scrutiny Officer / Councillor Hastrick	21 January 2016	29 February 2016	Awaiting report.
HSC 7	Report on the East of England Ambulance Service to be circulated to the Scrutiny Committee.	Committee and Scrutiny Officer / Councillor Hastrick	21 January 2016	29 February 2016	Email sent to the Scrutiny Committee with the link to the County Council's website.

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<b>Big Events</b>					
BE 1	Information to be circulated to the Scrutiny Committee on the Big Skate once it is available.	Culture and Play Section Head	21 January 2016	29 February 2016	Email sent to the Culture and Play Section Head for clarification when the information will be available.
<b>Management of Conservation Areas Task Group</b>					
MCA 2	Publicity posters to be provided to those councillors who had not yet received a copy.	Committee and Scrutiny Officer	21 January 2016	23 January 2016	On 23 January 2016 copies of the poster were produced and distributed to all those councillors who had not previously been given a copy.