

Kirklees Council

Scrutiny Lead Member Report

Lead Member: Cllr Rob Walker
Panel: Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel

Period of Update : From June 2018 – August 2018

Panel Highlights

(Include examples of pre decision work, scrutiny getting out and about, etc.)

Lead member briefings with:

- Strategic Director Economy and Infrastructure
- Service Director for Housing
- Strategy and Policy Service Manager

Panel Meetings and follow-up:

- Panel meeting 19 July 2018. Items discussed included: Setting the Work Programme 2018/19; Draft Housing Policy; and Housing Allocations Policy.

Outcomes:

(Summarise the value scrutiny has added by looking at the issue(s) and any recommendations)

The Panel provided feedback on the Housing and Allocations Policy that were aimed at ensuring that the policies were robust and would meet the needs of the residents of Kirklees.

The Panel agreed to participate in the council group that would be undertaking a review of the Open Age Policy and Local Lettings Framework.

The Panel also agreed that it would look at and monitor the implications for the Council following the publication of the Hackitt report “Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety”.

Monitoring Work

(If monitoring previous recommendations please identify what difference Scrutiny has made)

None this period

Looking Ahead

(What are the next issues the Panel plans to look at?)

At the meeting scheduled for 5 September the Panel will consider the development of the Kirklees Economic Strategy which will include: a presentation of the scoping review undertaken by the Council which is a backward looking review that will help to set the baseline for the Strategy; the timeline for the development of the Strategy including looking at the planned work; and assessing how the Strategy will link to inclusive growth and social value.

This theme will continue in the 10 October meeting where the Panel will look more

closely at the developing economic strategy and will have a detailed discussion on the areas covering inclusive growth and social value. There will also be a presentation of the work being undertaken on a Kirklees Skills Strategy.

General Comments

The Panel has continued the scrutiny of housing policy formulation and will continue to look at specialist aspects. A full and challenging work programme has been agreed that covers some very important aspects of policy formulation and operations.