

### **Burnley Borough Council**

### **Scrutiny Work Programme Proposal**

### For completion by Members and Consideration by Scrutiny Committee

Getting the right topics for scrutiny reviews is the first step in making sure scrutiny adds value to the work of the Council and the community it serves.

The proposal form has been designed to assist members in developing their scrutiny review ideas so that the Committee can have an informed discussion on the work that it will carry out over the year.

In order to be effective, each scrutiny review needs to be properly project managed; should have set of objectives and an initial view on the outcomes that the review will seek to achieve. Any review group should be guided by SMART objectives (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-bound) where possible.

Wen considering whether an item should be included in the work programme the kind of questions the Scrutiny Committee should consider might include:

- Do we understand the benefits scrutiny would bring to this issue?
- How could we best carry out work on this subject?
- What would be the best outcome of this work?
- How would this work engage with the activity of the executive and other decisionmakers, including partners?

The Committee should be able to justify how and why a decision has been taken to include certain issues and not others.

Scrutiny Committees have finite resources and deciding how these are best allocated can be difficult and it should be recognised that there may well be issues that they want to look at but that nonetheless are not selected.

## 1. Proposed Title for the Scrutiny Review

What will the scrutiny review be about?
Review of the current process of resolving housing disrepair issues for residents in Social Housing as compared to Private Rented Sector (PRS), particularly upon intervention of the Housing Needs service.

Proposed by Councillor(s) Ann Royle / Lian Pate

# 2. Objectives of the Review

What is the review aiming to do?
Ensure that the process is clear and comparable between the two sectors
Clarify the role of those who advocate for residents and how they keep informed
To establish clear communication pathways with social landlords so that there is a two way communication process
Ensure that social housing tenants are receiving the same support from
Councillors and Council Officers as they would if they were living in PRS
To understand the legal rights of tenants to access support when they feel that
lasting repairs are not being undertaken, or repairs not being completed in time
To understand how the Council communicates their rights to Social Housing
Tenants as compared to how they are communicated with PRS Tenants.

### 3. Anticipated Outcomes of the Review

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What do you anticipate scrutiny will achieve/recommend as a result of conducting the review?
Clear and robust pathways for communication between the relevant departments in Social Housing Providers and Council Housing related services
A clear understanding of the process so that Councillors and others that advocate or give advice to tenants are able to give sound advice and expedite resolutions
Tenants / Advisors should have a clear understanding on where to get advice and be clear on how and what needs to be logged, with whom and when and how to follow up or get support if they are unsatisfied with the outcome
To feel confidence that there is a fair and transparent process for resolving these issues via the Council for both PRS and social housing tenants