

MATTERS REQUESTED TO BE RAISED BY A MEMBER UNDER COMMITTEE STANDING ORDER NO. 18

Committee name	Social Care, Housing and Public Health Policy Overview Committee
Officer reporting	Lloyd White, Head of Democratic Services
Papers with report	N/A
Ward	N/A

HEADLINES

In accordance with Committee Standing Order 18 in the Council's Constitution, any Member may raise a matter at a meeting of any Committee, subject to the provisions set out and advance written notice being given to the Head of Democratic Services.

Councillor Tony Eginton has requested that two matters be raised under this provision which fall under the Committee's remit. The Committee will need to then determine whether to include these matters in its multi-year work programme going forward.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee consider the two matters raised and decide whether to include them in the Committee's Work Programme.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Committee Standing Order 18, is set out below:

(1) Any member wishing to raise a matter at a meeting of any Committee shall give written notice of the matter together with written information about the matter to the Head of Democratic Services at least eight clear days before the date of the meeting.

(2) Any matter so raised shall involve an issue of policy falling under the references and delegations of the body concerned and shall not concern an individual case where there is a right of appeal to the Council's Appeals Committee.

(3) Where the subject is delegated to an officer, the Member shall raise the matter at that level provided that where the Member is dissatisfied with the decision taken he or she may raise it with the Committee in accordance with paragraphs (1) and (2) above.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) above a member may raise a matter where less than eight clear days notice has been given if, by reason of special circumstances, which shall be specified in the minutes, the Chairman is of the opinion that the matter should be considered as one of urgency.'

On 17 September 2018, Councillor Eginton raised two matters in compliance with the above provision, as follows:

1. **‘Corporate Parenting** – I would like to propose the establishment of a working group/panel of three councillors with officer support to provide support for the oversight of this area. The change made to the Constitution in May 2018 reduced the oversight by elected councillors from the highest quality (as noted by Ofsted) to a level which does not provide the sort of oversight which children in care are due.
2. **Major Housing Works** – Under section 20, Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 (amended by section 151 of the Commonhold and Leasehold Reform Act 2002), most expensive work to maintain properties which include leasehold interests must be notified to leaseholders. It would be helpful for all leaseholders (and indeed, for tenants) to be made aware of planned works well in advance of the work being undertaken. A report by officers on this matter to Committee plus a commitment to publish details of planned works well in advance of the issue of section 20 notices would help inform our residents and leaseholders.’

The first matter raised is directly within the Committee’s remit as set out in the Constitution. On the second matter (if agreed to come forward), Members should note that the Committee has no executive decision-making powers, so any commitment to publish details of planned housing works in advance would need to be referred by the Committee to the Cabinet, Leader or relevant Cabinet Member for consideration, as appropriate.

Procedure - consideration of this is the same as a recommendation / motion tabled at a planning committee or Council meeting:

1. Under this agenda item, Councillor Eginton is invited to move and speak on the two matters he has raised above;
2. These will need to be seconded by another Member during any wider Committee discussion on them;
3. Following discussion, the Chairman will then call for a vote on whether to add these two matters to the Committee’s Work Programme for a future meeting and receive reports on them. This is required because the Policy Overview, Scrutiny and Select and Committee Procedure Rules, also set out in the Constitution, only allow business to be considered at meetings as determined either by the Committee’s Work Programme or the Chairman.

Financial Implications

None at this stage.

Legal Implications

None. This matter is in compliance with the rules set out in the Council’s Constitution.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.