

Rutland County Council

Catmose, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HP

Telephone 01572 722577 Email governance@rutland.gov.uk

Ladies and Gentlemen,

A meeting of the **STRATEGIC OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** will be held in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HP on **Thursday, 9th February, 2023** commencing at **7.00 pm** when it is hoped you will be able to attend.

Yours faithfully

Mark Andrews
Chief Executive

Recording of Council Meetings: Any member of the public may film, audio-record, take photographs and use social media to report the proceedings of any meeting that is open to the public. A protocol on this facility is available at www.rutland.gov.uk/my-council/have-your-say/

Although social distancing requirements have been lifted there is still limited available seating for members of the public. If you would like to reserve a seat, please contact the Governance Team at governance@rutland.gov.uk. The meeting will also be available for listening live on Zoom using the following link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86001879483>

A G E N D A

1) WELCOME AND APOLOGIES RECEIVED

2) RECORD OF MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 26th January 2023 are not yet drafted due to the change in meeting schedule and will be taken to the March meeting for approval.

3) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with the Regulations, Members are invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have and the nature of those interests in respect of items on this Agenda and/or indicate if Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies to them.

4) PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS

To receive any petitions, deputations and questions received from Members of the Public in accordance with the provisions of [Procedure Rules 25 and 159](#).

The total time allowed for this item shall be 30 minutes. Petitions, declarations and questions shall be dealt with in the order in which they are received. Questions may also be submitted at short notice by giving a written copy to the Committee Administrator 15 minutes before the start of the meeting.

The total time allowed for questions at short notice is 15 minutes out of the total time of 30 minutes. Any petitions, deputations and questions that have been submitted with prior formal notice will take precedence over questions submitted at short notice. Any questions that are not considered within the time limit shall receive a written response after the meeting and be the subject of a report to the next meeting.

5) QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS

To consider any questions with notice from Members received in accordance with the provisions of [Procedure Rule No 161 and 162](#).

6) NOTICES OF MOTION FROM MEMBERS

To consider any Notices of Motion from Members submitted in accordance with the provisions of [Procedure Rule No 163](#).

7) CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTER REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE IN RELATION TO THE CALL-IN OF A DECISION

To consider any matter referred to the Committee for a decision in relation to call in of a decision in accordance with [Procedure Rule 149](#).

8) PORTFOLIO HOLDERS' UPDATE

To receive an update from Councillor S Harvey, Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Care on access to GP services.

9) GROUP AND PANEL UPDATES

A. CULTURE / ASSET REVIEW TASK AND FINISH GROUP

To receive an update from Councillor A Walters
(Pages 5 - 6)

B. CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE TASK AND FINISH GROUP

To receive an update from Councillor Begy

C. ECONOMIC STRATEGY TASK AND FINISH GROUP

To receive an update from Councillor A Brown

D. HIGHWAYS AND SPEEDING

To receive an update from Councillor P Browne

E. HOMELESSNESS EVIDENCE PANEL

To receive the final report from the Homelessness Evidence Panel presented by the Chair, Councillor G Waller.
(Pages 7 - 20)

F. MINERALS AUTHORITY CONTRACT EVIDENCE PANEL

To receive a scoping document for the Minerals Authority Contract Evidence Panel from Councillor N Begy.
(Pages 21 - 22)

10) REVIEW OF THE FORWARD PLAN AND ANNUAL WORK PLAN

To consider the current Forward Plan and identify any relevant items for inclusion in the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Work Plan or to request further information.

The Forward Plan is available on the website at:
<https://rutlandcounty.moderngov.co.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=133&RD=0>
(Pages 23 - 30)

11) ANY URGENT BUSINESS

To receive any items of urgent business, which have been previously notified to the person presiding.

12) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 9th March 2022 at 7 pm in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP.

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TO: ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE STRATEGIC OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Name	
1.	Councillor G Waller (Chair)
2.	Councillor P Ainsley
3.	Councillor E Baines
4.	Councillor N Begy (Vice Chair)

5.	Councillor K Bool
6.	Councillor A Brown
7.	Councillor S Lambert
8.	Councillor L Toseland
9.	Councillor R Wilson

STATUTORY CO-OPTED MEMBERS – EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVE:

Name	Title
10. Peter French	Diocesan Deputy Director of Education, Dioceses of Peterborough
11. Andreas Menzies	Roman Catholic Diocese
12. Sian Armstrong	Parent Governor
13. Sarah Stickland	Parent Governor

PORTFOLIO HOLDER:

Name	Title
14. Councillor L Stephenson	Leader and Portfolio Holder for Policy, Strategy, Partnerships and Economy
15. Councillor R Powell	Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Planning, Highways and Transport
16. Councillor S Harvey	Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Care
17. Councillor M Oxley	Portfolio Holder for Communities, Environment and Climate Change
18. Councillor K Payne	Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance and Performance, Change and Transformation
19. Councillor D Wilby	Portfolio Holder for Education and Children's Services

OFFICERS:

Name	Title
20. Mark Andrews	Chief Executive
21. Saverio Della Rocca	Strategic Director Resources S151 Officer
22. Dawn Godfrey	Strategic Director of Children and Families
23. John Morley	Strategic Director of Adults and Health
24. Penny Sharp	Strategic Director of Places
25. Angela Wakefield	Director of Legal and Governance
26. Jane Narey (Clerk)	Scrutiny Officer

FOR INFORMATION:

Name	Title
27. Angela Hillery	Chief Executive, Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust
28. Peter Cantley	Diocesan Director of Education, Diocese of Peterborough

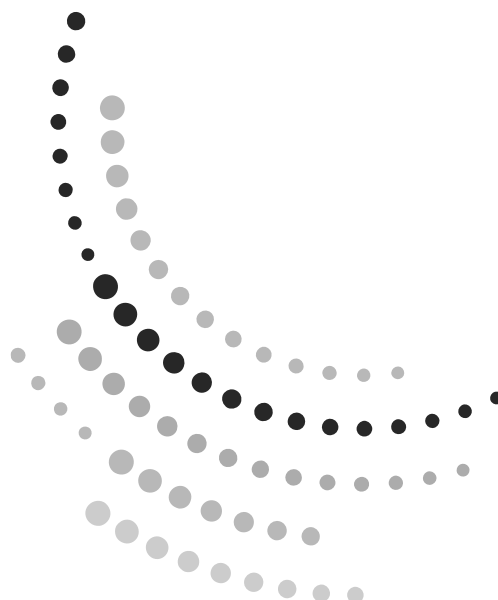
Culture - Asset Review Task and Finish Group 24th January 2022

Present: Councillors Alan Walters, Gale Waller, Ed Baines and Nick Begy.

In Attendance: Councillor Marc Oxley, Portfolio Holder for Communities, Environment and Climate Change

- Marc Oxley had been invited to the first part of the meeting to advise the T&F group on a number of areas within culture where it appeared there was a direction of travel being undertaken, the detail of which the group was not fully aware of.
- Marc was able to confirm ongoing discussions around consultants (specialists might be a better word) working on the Heritage Lottery Funding regarding the roman villa find and a potential 3D virtual attraction.
- Marc was able to confirm the levelling up grant funding which was going through further viability and other considerations.
- Marc confirmed that the latest discovery at Rutland Water was the property of Anglian Water who would likely have some say on its future display arrangements.
- Marc confirmed the potential for third-party display of some existing artifacts. Marc was unable to confirm any consideration of a refreshment facility being provided within the museum.
- Marc suggested that the role of scrutiny would likely “come further down the line”, after officers and consultants had a clearer picture.
- Members were unsure whether to accept this or to suggest that scrutiny should be involved at an earlier stage.
- **Marc was invited to leave the meeting.**

- Consideration was given by members whether to stop the T&F review at this stage, or to continue whilst awaiting further detail.
- On balance it was determined to ask the director of places for further information on the bid details for the levelling up culture grant, and for further details of the asset review relating to the museum and any other culture assets before making a determination on how to proceed.
- Given the current uncertain position with several directions of travel being assessed by officers scrutiny is asked to advise the T&F Group:
 1. Do we stop the T&F review pending further information and then potentially restart with revised terms of reference?
 2. Does the group continue under the same terms of reference but in the knowledge that circumstances have changed?
 3. Regardless of the above should the delegated member (Cllr Baines) continue to seek advice from educational establishments as to how the culture offer can be of most benefit to students, and how they might become more involved?
- Details were requested from the Director on the same evening 24th January with a copy to the portfolio holder and a response is expected in due course.
- There was no clear consensus from group members on the evening, with one member suggesting the group continues and awaits that information before making a recommendation to scrutiny on the way forward but the lead/chair suggests that given the closeness of the elections the group should stand down and a new group with revised and more relevant TOR be appointed after May.



Homelessness Evidence Panel: Final Report

Version & Policy Number	Version 1.2
Guardian	Councillor G Waller, Chair of the Homelessness Evidence Panel
Date Produced	January 2023

Reviewed by Scrutiny	9 February 2023
Reviewed by Cabinet	
Reviewed by Full Council	

Summary of document

To present evidence gathered as part of a study of the homelessness issues in Rutland and to make recommendations to Cabinet/Council on how to improve Rutland's offer regarding homelessness in the context of legislation and budget restraints

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1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Homelessness in Rutland has increased in recent years but it is too early to say if the cost of living crisis will significantly impact on homelessness.¹ As a result of the steady increase in homelessness, the Council's Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting in July 2022, decided to investigate the reasons for the increase and consider what options the Council had to reverse this trend.
- 1.2 Everyone has a right to adequate housing² but to achieve that, in practical terms, housing needs to be the right housing, in the right place and at the right price. Housing markets change over time through a combination of individual preference, technological advance and Government action. Government action has the biggest influence on housing development. For example; green belt legislation in the late 1930s, post-war re-building or the Right to Buy in the 1980s all impacted on availability of housing for new purchasers and tenants. Local Government can influence housing development through its Local Plan, but local government's aspirations are constrained both by central government regulation such as the National Planning Policy Framework and market forces. The availability and affordability of housing are key components in providing for and eradicating homelessness.

2.0 THE LAW AND HOMELESSNESS

- 2.1 There are various pieces of legislation which govern how Rutland County Council (RCC) manages homelessness. The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 confers duties on the Council to both prevent and relieve homelessness and the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 redefined domestic abuse (to include coercive control as abuse, for example) and clarified a local authority's duties in respect of abuse. The Council has a statutory duty to support and advise anyone that is homeless today or within the next 56 days. Officers are required to investigate the reason for someone being homeless and where possible prevent this from happening.
- 2.2 RCC contracts its housing and homeless floating support provision with the charity 'P3', to offer advice to people facing homelessness in a more preventative way and work alongside the Housing Options team to support those that are already threatened with homelessness or are

¹ Evidence from Citizens Advice Rutland (CAR)

² Under international law people have the right to be adequately housed
<https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-housing/human-right-adequate-housing>

homeless today. Citizens Advice Rutland also supports Rutland residents with the provision of independent homeless advice, financial advice for those struggling with debts and managing the Council's Crisis Fund.

- 2.3 The public perception of homelessness is of people living on the streets. Rough Sleepers, as this category of the homeless are known, is rare in Rutland. As at the last government statistical return the Council reported a figure of 'zero.' Homelessness in Rutland is driven primarily by landlords serving notice on their tenants, mainly in Private Sector Housing or the result of family breakdown.
- 2.4 Councils are also facing additional pressure from government resettlement schemes, which can lead to further demand on the housing register and those threatened with homelessness. There is pressure on the demand for temporary housing for those who are eligible for interim housing but, whilst the Council only has one self-contained flat in Rutland, the team have been able to secure additional provision through other means. Some of this is outside of the Rutland area but this means it can better manage the costs associated with having allocated accommodation units that at times will sit empty due to fluctuating demand.
- 2.5 **Table 1** gives a summary of the numbers presenting as homeless from December 2021 to July 2022 broken down by reasons for being homeless.
- 2.6 Tenants privately renting are vulnerable to rent rises and Rutland already has higher rental prices than other neighboring authorities. Private rental properties in Rutland are generally larger, family-type accommodation and there is limited affordable rental properties for younger, single residents or those wishing to live independently away from family for the first time. There is only one House of Multiple Occupation (HIMO) in Rutland which is a more affordable way for single residents to afford to live on their own.
- 2.7 There are 9 Women's Aid properties in Rutland available for women fleeing domestic violence from across the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland region. These are not reserved for Rutland residents but are open to all and, in many cases, it is better for victims of domestic violence to move some distance from the homes they are fleeing.

Table 1

Reason	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July (to 17/7)	Total	%
Friends/relatives no longer able to house	1	4	5	4	4	4	4	5	31	19
End of private rent	4	8	4	6	4	10	5	5	46	28
End of Social Rent	2	1	0	5	3	1	2	0	14	8
Domestic Abuse	1	4	2	1	3	1	5	1	18	11
Relationship breakdown (non-abusive)	3	7	2	3	2	2	5	5	29	17
Other	4	3	4	10	4	0	4	0	29	17
Total	15	27	17	29	20	18	25	16	167	100

- 2.8 Many of the issues surrounding homelessness cross service boundaries and, as a unitary authority, Rutland has an advantage over district councils in that the council is responsible for, and thus in a position to provide, holistic support e.g. social care and education support to individuals and families presenting as homeless. Providing support and advice for the homeless is primarily the responsibility of the Housing Options Team which comprises of a Team Manager, a Senior Officer, two full-time Options Officers and one part-time Options Officer. In addition to this, there is a part-time Housing Options Officer that mainly manages the Housing Register and supports the team with other more generic tasks. There was a period when the roles within the team were supported by agency staff. This was due to staff within the team moving to other permanent roles within the Council or senior promotion externally but all roles within the team are now filled with permanent staff following a successful recruitment process.
- 2.9 The homeless in Rutland are varied as you would expect but a high proportion are in work and using privately rented accommodation. Private rents in Rutland are high compared with similar areas and this reflects the overall housing market. It should be noted that Rutland has a higher proportion of privately owned 4+ bedroomed houses than national or regional averages, which in turn both impacts on average house prices and enables a premium on rents for the smaller properties as there are comparatively fewer of them. For some that are deemed eligible, the Housing Options Team can support clients to access the private rental market by assisting with the deposit and first month's rent. This is more of an option for single male and females due to the lack of single accommodation in the social housing sector. However there have been examples where families have successfully secured private rented accommodation and the Council has supported them financially. It should be noted that any financial assistance through private rentals clients will be required to pay an agreed amount back to the Council based on what is deemed affordable.
- 2.10 Rental rates locally exceed the amount available in Local Housing Allowance (LHA), which is a cause of homelessness as rents rise and prompts house sales where landlords fail to find tenants thus reducing the market. The two-bedroom Local Housing Allowance for Rutland is just under £600 and, as of December 2022, the lowest priced two-bedroom house in Rutland was £725 so meaning that, for those in receipt of housing related benefits, private renting is not an option for them which puts greater pressure on the housing register. In addition, prior to the recent financial crisis, mortgage repayments were often lower than rental costs encouraging many to 'get on the property ladder.' This results in the smaller, less expensive properties, being sold to owner-

occupiers further reducing the availability of affordable rental properties. This also impacts on RCC's ability to help those presenting as homeless as the waiting list for social rented housing is long and the availability of private rented at an affordable price is shrinking.

- 2.11 The lack of suitable and appropriate housing supply impacts both on homelessness and the Council's ability to manage homelessness.

3.0 HOUSING STOCK

- 3.1 RCC, like many local authorities, transferred its housing stock under a Large Scale Voluntary Transfer (LSVT) in 2009. There are 11 social housing providers in Rutland, the largest stock provider being the Longhurst Group.
- 3.2 Rutland has just over 4,000 social properties and the waiting list for social housing is managed by the Council's Housing Options Team. Each social housing provider has a nomination agreement in place for the allocation of properties to residents of Rutland. There is 1 self-contained two-bedroom flat available in Rutland with other options available to the Housing Options Team on a spot purchase basis.
- 3.3 There has been a higher demand for temporary accommodation, including for single people during 2022/23 due to various factors. The team have access to a supported bed and breakfast provision in Leicester and other local options available within Rutland. Clients are placed in accommodation to best suit the needs of that individual where possible, however local authorities are not legally obliged to place clients in the local area. Whilst bed and breakfast accommodation is not ideal and can prove costly for a local authority, this is sometimes the better option than having clients rough sleeping or sofa surfing. Some local authorities, including those who do not own their own housing stock, are investing in units for the homeless in order to save the costs of bed and breakfast accommodation. Market Harborough is an example locally where this has been done and they expect to reduce by 50% the cost of temporary accommodation by the reduced use of bed and breakfast accommodation.
- 3.4 It should be noted that other local neighbouring authorities have a greater number of clients housed temporarily. It should also be noted that for the local authority to invest in its own units, it would need to ensure full occupancy over the year to ensure no financial loss to the Council. The numbers of single applicants needing bed and breakfast

accommodation has dropped over the years; family-type temporary accommodation is the greatest need currently.

- 3.5 Notwithstanding the significant number of 4+ bedroomed houses in Rutland, Citizens Advice Rutland (CAR) feel there is a dearth of these properties to rent at an affordable price. The private sector is unlikely to deliver affordable larger houses and therefore to meet need RCC's Cabinet needs to develop a strategic policy to identify need and work with the housing associations to build to meet need.
- 3.6 CAR has also identified a need for shared accommodation (i.e. shared between friends rather than family members or partners) as two can live as cheaply as one and CAR believe this would reduce the number of single people presenting as homeless. To enable sharing in social housing, RCC's policy would have to change and social housing providers would have to want to adopt this model.

4.0 ALLOCATIONS POLICY

- 4.1 RCC operates a 'points based system' for all those who apply to be on the Council's housing register so, for example, an applicant who does not currently live in Rutland but has a family connection to the county will get 10 points. If they have one or more children aged under 5 and are currently living in a first floor flat, they will be allocated a further 20 points. Homelessness attracts 500 points but only where the Council has a full homelessness duty.
- 4.2 The number of people registered on the housing register fluctuates over time. The Council has a mechanism in place for removing or suspending applicants from the housing register if they no longer meet the criteria to remain on the list or they themselves choose to be removed. Like most Council's, RCC will remove or suspend an applicant from the housing register if they refuse two offers of accommodation. Suspensions last for six months before their application is then reassessed.
- 4.3 Some Council's operate a 'Choice Based Lettings' system which can make their allocations system far more transparent for applicants, for example, by making it clear how, and by whom, assessments are made and for which type of property an applicant would be considered. However, applicants are able to see themselves the number of points their application has, the number of bedrooms they are entitled to and the areas that they wish to live in. A 'Choice Based Lettings' system was previously explored and considered by the RCC in 2010. It was ruled

out at that time but the housing markets have changed since then and a review might be timely.

- 4.4 The 'Housing Register' in Rutland is now digital and it allows applicants to view their application 24/7 and update and amend it at any time. Applicants are offered properties based on their choice of area and size in accordance with the Housing Allocations Policy. Whilst it does not allow for applicants to bid on available properties, the Housing Options Team spend time matching a property to the most eligible and suitable applicant from the register. Applicants are contacted prior to being nominated to a housing provider to discuss the suitability of the property and to ensure that their circumstances have not changed. Where appropriate, an applicant will be overlooked, removed or suspended if they are no longer wanting to move or are not in a position to move.
- 4.5 'Choice Based Lettings' can have its disadvantages in that applicants are often not aware of properties they have bid on, as the local authority will turn on 'auto bid' therefore removing choice and sending a nomination list to a social housing provider that contains applicants that are no longer in need of housing and/or their circumstances have changed and this can lead to a lot of wasted time on the side of the housing provider. However, there is no requirement to turn on the 'auto bid' function within a choice based system.
- 4.6 The Housing Options Team constantly review the 'Housing Register' and each year there is an annual review carried out where applicants, who have been on the register for more than one year, are required to update their circumstances or be removed. Access to the Rutland 'Housing Register' is considered to be in part quite lenient and often more accessible than that of other local authorities. RCC does not means test applicants to the housing register which means someone can have sold a house they owned, and benefitted from the capital that produced, yet still be approved for the housing register. There are other aspects of the policy that could be tightened up on, which would assist on the demand and acceptance to Rutland's register and would be more in line with other bordering authorities.
- 4.7 Social housing in Rutland is owned and managed by a registered social landlord and each has its own lettings policies in addition to the criteria established by RCC for its housing waiting list and this duality can cause difficulties. For example, some housing providers will not house children in flats about the ground floor, whereas Rutland's policy would allow such an allocation and awards points for children living in flats above the ground floor. At present, the over 60's cannot be allocated to 'general need type' properties as defined in the policy. This in itself is a problem

as Rutland's over 60's population continues to grow. Many 60 year olds would be happy and capable of living in flats with stairs but they are overlooked due to the policy. It is important that RCC's housing allocations policy is both clear and that its waiting list is as up to date as possible. Also, in developing any new policy, RCC should work with the housing providers to look at redesignating some of its stock.

5.0 HOUSING REGISTER

- 5.1 Rutland currently has just over 350 applicants on its housing register. Due to the digitalisation of the register which meant all applicants had to re-register and their application reassessed, it dropped to just over 200 in 2021/22. It is now back to the normal levels for Rutland based on previous years but it is anticipated that it will increase as the cost of living starts to impact on households.
- 5.2 Rutland's Housing Options Team (who manage the housing register) works well on a day-to-day basis with the registered social landlords serving Rutland and has better strategic links with some more than others. Both Strategic Housing and Operational Housing at the Council meet regularly with the Longhurst Group due to it being the LSVT landlord. This could be an area of improvement with the other social landlords but many do not have large volumes of stock in Rutland unlike the Longhurst Group.
- 5.3 There is no cabinet member for housing, the role being divided between the portfolio holders for planning and for adults and health. This leads to the potential for a lack of co-ordination. For example, the portfolio holder for adults and health is well aware of the needs of the residents of Rutland for housing options but those needs are not necessarily feeding into the Local Plan process and considering Rutland's strategic housing needs of additional smaller properties and fewer larger ones. Officers across both portfolio areas meet and discuss the needs regularly but this is an area that possibly needs greater oversight by Cabinet.
- 5.4 The Council's understanding of the private rented sector is limited. The Council does have legal duties regarding the private sector but these are undertaken by Peterborough City Council. Peterborough's team have a detailed knowledge of the market in Peterborough but do not collect data for Rutland so we do not know, for example, how many landlords are entering or leaving the market nor, indeed, how many holiday lets there are in Rutland. This information is important for managing homelessness but also for understanding the local economy; specially

where property owners are leaving the rental market in favour of holiday letting.

- 5.5 Internally, RCC has a 'Housing Services Review – Strategy and Operations Group' to co-ordinate housing and homelessness. This group was set up in late 2011 following the transfer of housing stock to Spire Homes (now called the Longhurst Group) in 2009. Following the transfer, Spire Homes ran Rutland's housing options service (this arrangement ceased in 2011) and in 2010 a directorate re-organisation within RCC meant private sector housing, policy and development were in a separate directorate to the Housing Options 'client' role. This situation was further confused when the private sector housing services were outsourced to Peterborough City Council. The Housing Services Review – Strategy and Operations Group does not have written terms of reference but its membership includes the Leader of the Council and other cabinet members as appropriate but it is difficult for the group to have a strategic overview or provide a political steer with no cabinet lead for housing. Furthermore, whilst the Places directorate is represented at Director level, the Adults and Health directorate (within which Housing Options sits) is not so leading to an imbalance.
- 5.6 Housing and homelessness are a people issue as much as a place issue. The group meets quarterly and, amongst other things, reviews private sector housing performance information but, as has been identified elsewhere in this report, this information is scant for Rutland. The recent cost of living increases, and the increases in homelessness, suggest a review of strategy is desirable and this should include reviewing this group.

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 That the Leader of the Council designates one 'Portfolio Holder' to take the lead on housing and for that person to actively engage with his/her colleagues, as appropriate, on housing matters.
- 6.2 That Cabinet (or the Portfolio Holder should one be appointed) monitors the placement of victims of domestic violence on a regular basis to ensure they are safe and their needs are met. [This is met through Children's Social Care who manage the Domestic Violence contract.]
- 6.3 That RCC explores with its registered social landlords the possibility of increasing the number of homes in Rutland available for temporary accommodation.

- 6.4 That Cabinet, as part of the Council's Asset Review, explores the options for developing new temporary accommodation in Rutland to house those who have been made homeless.
- 6.5 That RCC reconsiders the development of a 'Choice Based Lettings Policy', using learning from other councils' policies and in consultation with registered social landlords, to better meet current needs.
- 6.6 That the Housing Allocations Policy be reviewed to so that it is transparent and easy for applicants to use, with a user-friendly 'Customer Guide' and that it takes into consideration aspects highlighted in this report e.g. 'Means Testing' and the needs of the over 60's in the context of an increasing elderly population in Rutland and the type of accommodation they could be considered for.
- 6.7 That Cabinet review the contract with Peterborough City Council for the provision of services in relation to private landlords with a view to improving data collection on the private sector in Rutland.
- 6.8 That Cabinet review the 'Housing Services Review—Strategy and Operations Group' ensuring that it, or any successor group, has clear terms of reference and appropriate membership.

A large print version of this document is available on request



Rutland
County Council

Rutland County Council
Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP

01572 722 577
enquiries@rutland.gov.uk
www.rutland.gov.uk

Rutland County Council Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Scoping Document: Minerals Authority Contract Evidence Panel

1. Topic

- 1.1 Minerals Contract with North Northamptonshire District Council

2. Purpose

- 2.1 With the growing level of quarrying activity within Rutland it is important that these operations are carefully monitored and within the terms of the contract.
- 2.2 Understand any current or future constraints to the contract and its operation such as specialist staffing.

3. Members (Identify Chairperson)

Councillor Gordon Brown

4. Portfolio holders

Various – Councillor Powell

5. Officers

Roger Ranson, Planning Policy and Housing Manager

6. Rationale

- 6.1 **What does the Review hope to achieve?**
To identify if North Northamptonshire DC are operating the contract in line with the agreed terms and RCC are seeing value for this agreement.
- 6.2 **What is the community importance and benefit?**
To ensure the safety and wellbeing of residents in proximity to quarrying operations.
- 6.3 **How does it fit in with the Council's corporate priorities/scrutiny priorities?**
The work of this group will meet the corporate priorities:
 - 1. A Special Place
 - 2. Sustainable Lives
 - 3. Healthy and Well
 - 4. A county for everyone – ensuring everyone has the same opportunity.
 - 5. A modern and effective Council - by improving the way we work to deliver effective and efficient services not just for today but for the future.
- 6.4 **What opportunities are there to make a distinctive impact?**
If the contract is not delivering the protection it was set up to achieve, RCC can take immediate action against NNDC and/or review who operates the contract going forward.

7. Background

7.1 Is the review looking at existing contract?

The review will consider existing minerals contract and make recommendations based on the findings of the report.

7.2 Has the need for the review come about from an issue arising from national or local events?

With the increase in quarrying and new quarry application, it is clear we need robust controls to protect our residents from dust, noise and other matters relating to quarry operations.

7.3 Are there any relevant community views to refer to? (e.g. previous consultations)

There is the Rutland Quarry Forum, as well as liaison groups with Ketton and Barrowden / Wakerley. In addition there has been extensive dialogue with Greetham over the MGL quarry extension and subsequent approval and conditions that need to be monitored.

8. Issues to be Considered

- 8.1 The KPIs laid out in the contract.
- 8.2 Report against KPIs
- 8.3 The ability and staffing of NNDC to carry out the terms of the contract
- 8.4 Recommendations on the future operation of this contract
- 8.5 How can the various resident and parish groups be reassured that the contract is providing the protection they demand
- 8.6 What long term goals does RCC for minerals control as the number of quarries increase within and bordering the council
- 8.7 What evidence do we have that operators are being held accountable for their actions and how is this achieved?
- 8.8 What incidents have been reported since the inception of the contract and what measures have been taken?
- 8.9 What site visits have been carried out and what were the outcomes? How is this information reported and acted upon?
- 8.10 With the learnings from the Greetham application, what aspects of the conditions can be utilised on other sites?
- 8.11 Who at RCC is accountable for the contract?
- 8.12 We would hope Roger Ransom, Ingrid Holey, the Portfolio Holder and a representative of NNDC would attend the relevant report scrutiny meeting.

9. Timetable

- 9.1 **Key deadlines** – As per scrutiny meeting schedule

10. Methodology/Approach

- 10.1 A written report to be supplied in advance to members of the committee to be presented at the relevant scrutiny meeting with the representatives as previously mentioned.

Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Work Plan 2022-23

Standing Agenda Items for Every Meeting	Welcome and Apologies	
	Record of Meeting	
	Actions Arising	
	Declarations of Interest	
	Petitions, Deputations and Questions	
	Questions with Notice from Members	
	Notices of Motion from Members	
	Consideration of Any Matter Referred to the Committee in Relation to the Call-In of a Decision	
	Portfolio Holder's Update	
	Group and Panel Updates:	
	a) Culture / Asset Review Task and Finish Group	Councillor A Walters
	b) Customer Experience Task and Finish Group	Councillor N Begy
	c) Economic Strategy Task and Finish Group	Councillor A Brown
	d) Highways and Speeding	Councillor P Browne
	e) Homelessness Evidence Panel	Councillor G Waller
	Review of the Forward Plan	
	Any Urgent Business	
	Date of Next Meeting	

Meeting Date	Publication Date	Proposed Item	Why	Author
9th June 2022	1 st June 2022	Election of Vice-Chair	Statutory	
		Confirmation of Co-opted Members	Statutory	
		LLR Joint Health Scrutiny Committee: Confirmation of Representation	Statutory	
		DRAFT Improvement Plan		
		Annual Work Plan	Statutory	

24	7th July 2022	29 th June 2022	LLR CCGs' Performance Data	For Info Only	Kate Allardyce Senior Performance Manager
			Waste and Street Cleansing	Report	Strategic Director of Places/Angela Culleton
			Dental Services Update		Rose Lynch, Senior Commissioning Manager – Primary Care Dental Services (East)

		Homelessness Evidence Panel: Scope	Report	Councillors Waller, Toseland & Lambert
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<p>2nd 8th September 2022</p> <p>MEETING ADJOURNED</p>	<p>31st August 2022</p>	Election of New Vice-Chair	Statutory	
		LLR Joint Health Scrutiny Committee: appointment of new substitute representative	Statutory	
		Dental Services Update: Rutland Specific	Report	Rose Lynch, Senior Commissioning Manager – Primary Care Dental Services (East)
		Improvement Plan (Following on from the scrutiny training held on the 21 st July 2022)		Chair
		Scrutiny Review of Public Transport Service Proposals: a) Scoping Document b) Timescale	Briefing	Councillor Waller

		Economic Development Strategy, Devolution & Levelling Up a) Scoping Document		Strategic Director of Places
		Culture Review a) Scoping Document		Councillor G Brown

5th October 2022 RE- SCHEDUL ED MEETING	31 st August 2022	Election of New Vice-Chair	Statutory	
		LLR Joint Health Scrutiny Committee: appointment of new substitute representative	Statutory	
		Dental Services Update: Rutland Specific	Report	Rose Lynch, Senior Commissioning Manager – Primary Care Dental Services (East)
		Improvement Plan (Following on from the scrutiny training held on the 21 st July 2022)		Chair
		Scrutiny Review of Public Transport Service Proposals:	Briefing	Councillor Waller

		c) Scoping Document d) Timescale		
		Economic Development Strategy, Devolution & Levelling Up b) Scoping Document		Strategic Director of Places
		Culture Review b) Scoping Document		Councillor G Brown

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13th October 2022	5 th October 2022	Dental Services Update: Rutland Specific	Report	Rose Lynch, Senior Commissioning Manager – Primary Care Dental Services (East)
		Council Asset Review – how can the SOSC assist with the asset review?		Strategic Director of Places
		Highways Contract – Procurement Outputs		Andy Tatt / Dee Rajput

17 th November 2022	9 th November 2022	LLR ICS Performance Data	For Info Only	Kate Allardyce Senior Performance Manager
		Mid-Year Performance & Corporate Strategy Progress put in link Corporate Strategy		Strategic Director of Resources
		Mid-Year Finance Update (with a focus on the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP))	Statutory	Strategic Director of Resources
		Catmose Sports Leisure Contract		Strategic Director of Places
		Update on the plans for economic development, levelling up and Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs)		Councillor Stephenson

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8 th December 2022	30 th November 2022	Public Health: Update		Councillor Harvey
		Corporate Asset Review and Strategy (Private)	Report	Penny Sharp

13 th December 2022	5 th December 2022	Homelessness Evidence Panel: Report		Councillors Waller, Toseland & Lambert
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		Public Bus Transport Review (Private)	Presentation	Penny Sharp
		Leisure Strategy (Private)	Briefing	Penny Sharp

26th January 2023	18 th January 2023	<u>Scrutiny of the Budget</u> Draft Revenue and Capital Budget 2023/24	Statutory	Strategic Director of Resources
		<u>Scrutiny of the Budget</u> Fees and Charges 2023/24	Statutory	Strategic Director of Resources

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9th February 2023	1 st February 2023	Access to GP Services – Review of Actions		Councillor Harvey
		GROUP & PANEL UPDATE Homelessness Evidence Panel: Report		Councillors Waller, Toseland & Lambert
		GROUP & PANEL UPDATE Minerals Authority Contract Evidence Panel: Scope		Councillor Begy

9th March 2023	1 st March 2023	LLR ICS Performance Data	For Info Only	Kate Allardyce Senior Performance Manager
		Portfolio Holder Briefing: Councillor Wilby – Visions Children Centre (update requested by Councillor Begy)	Presentation	Councillor Wilby

20th April 2023	12 th April 2023	Purdah compliant items only		
		CQC Inspection Framework (Verbal update requested by Cllr Waller 09.01.23)	For Info Only	John Morley

25th May 2023	17 th May 2023			

15th June 2023	7 th June 2023	End of Year Performance & Corporate Plan Progress	Statutory	
		End of Year Finance Management Report	Statutory	Strategic Director of Resources
		LLR ICS Performance Data	For Info Only	Kate Allardyce

				Senior Performance Manager
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