

DECISION-MAKER:	SCRUTINY INQUIRY PANEL
SUBJECT:	INQUIRY TERMS OF REFERENCE
DATE OF DECISION:	16 NOVEMBER 2023
REPORT OF:	SCRUTINY MANAGER

<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director – Corporate Services	
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

None

BRIEF SUMMARY

On 14 September 2023 the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) agreed the terms of reference for a scrutiny inquiry focusing on the Private Rented Sector and getting a better deal for renters in Southampton.

The outline project plan for the inquiry identifies themes for each meeting. This report invites the Panel to note the terms of reference and to amend and approve a final version of the outline inquiry project plan, attached as Appendix 1.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

	(i)	That the terms of reference set out in Appendix 1 be noted.
	(ii)	That the Panel discuss, amend and approve a final version of the attached outline inquiry project plan, allowing for sufficient flexibility and the availability of suitable witnesses.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1.	To enable the Scrutiny Inquiry Panel to commence the evidence gathering process.
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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

2.	There are numerous options that could be included within the draft terms of reference. The version attached reflects the feedback from the OSMC.
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DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

3.	The OSMC agreed the outline terms of reference for a scrutiny inquiry focusing on the Private Rented Sector and getting a better deal for renters in Southampton on 14 September 2023.
4.	Panel members are invited to note the terms of reference and to amend and approve a final version of the attached outline inquiry project plan. The

	approved plan will then provide the structure to the subsequent meetings of this review, allowing for flexibility and the availability of suitable witnesses.
5.	The outline inquiry project plan identifies that the review will be conducted over 6 meetings of the Scrutiny Inquiry Panel with a final report to be considered at the 18 April 2024 meeting.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue/Property/Other</u>	
6.	Resources to support the scrutiny review will come from existing budgets.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
7.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
8.	None
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
9.	None
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
10.	None

KEY DECISION?	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	Terms of Reference and Draft Inquiry Plan

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	None
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Equality Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out?	No
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Data Protection Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?	No
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Other Background Documents

Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential
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1.	None
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