

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	SCRUTINY INQUIRY PANEL
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	HOW DO WE GET A BETTER DEAL FOR PRIVATE SECTOR RENTERS IN SOUTHAMPTON? - INQUIRY DRAFT FINAL REPORT
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	18 APRIL 2024
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	SCRUTINY MANAGER

<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
<b>Executive Director</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Executive Director – Corporate Services</b>	
	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Mel Creighton</b>	<b>Tel:</b> <b>023 8083 3528</b>
	<b>E-mail</b>	<b>Mel.creighton@southampton.gov.uk</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Scrutiny Manager</b>	
	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Mark Pirnie</b>	<b>Tel:</b> <b>023 8083 3886</b>
	<b>E-mail</b>	<b>Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk</b>	

<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>
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None
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<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>
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At the concluding meeting of the ‘How do we get a better deal for private sector renters in Southampton Inquiry’, the Panel are requested to discuss, amend and approve a final version of the draft report attached as Appendix 1.
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<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>
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	(i)	That the Panel discuss, amend and agree a final version of the draft final report attached as Appendix 1.
	(ii)	That, to enable the comments made by Panel members at the meeting to be incorporated into the final report, authority be delegated to the Scrutiny Manager to amend the final report, following consultation with the Chair of the Panel.

<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
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| 1. | To enable a final report to be presented to the Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) for consideration. |
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<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>
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| 2. | None. |
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<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>
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| 3. | The Scrutiny Inquiry Panel undertook the inquiry over 4 evidence gathering meetings and received information from a wide variety of organisations. This included Generation Rent, Southampton Tenants Union, iHOWZ Landlords Association, The National Residential Landlords Association (NRLA), Bristol City Council, London Borough of Newham, the Environment Centre, Citizen’s Advice |
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	Southampton, the University of Southampton, Southampton Solent University and officers from Southampton City Council.
4.	The draft final report, attached as Appendix 1, has been sent to those who provided evidence to the Inquiry. Where comments have been received prior to publication of the draft report they have been reflected in the final report. Comments received after publication will be presented to the Panel at the meeting.
5.	The Panel is now invited to consider the attached draft final report, and summary of the draft conclusions and recommendations, and approve a final report for submission to the OSMC and then to Cabinet in the new municipal year.

### **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

#### **Capital/Revenue/Property/Other**

6.	In practice any future resource implications arising from this review will be dependent upon whether, and how, each individual recommendation within the inquiry report is progressed by the Executive. More detailed work will need to be undertaken by the Executive in considering its response to each of the recommendations set out in the Inquiry report.
7.	During the inquiry a number of potential sources of funding were identified that could help to deliver certain recommendations. These were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New burdens funding anticipated from Government from the Renters (Reform) Bill</li> <li>• Funding from the utilisation of the full range of enforcement powers available to the Council.</li> </ul>

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

#### **Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:**

8.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.
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#### **Other Legal Implications:**

9.	None
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### **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

10.	None
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### **POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS**

11.	None
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<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	No
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<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>	None
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### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

#### **Appendices**

1.	How do we get a better deal for private sector renters in Southampton? – Draft final report
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2.	How do we get a better deal for private sector renters in Southampton? – Draft conclusions and recommendations
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**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 available for inspection at:**

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