

Report

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Report to:	Housing and Technical Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	25 November 2009
Report by:	Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources)

Subject:	Update on Statutory Inspection of Council Housing Management and Response Repairs, and Homelessness Services by the Scottish Housing Regulator
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ update the Committee on the forthcoming statutory inspection of housing management, asset management and repairs and homelessness services by the Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR).

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that members note the content of this report, in particular that the Scottish Housing Regulator will be 'on site' with the statutory inspection towards the end of January 2010.

3. Background

3.1. A report to this Committee on 16 September 2009 provided an update on the forthcoming statutory inspection of housing and related services. This report provides a further update.

4. Arrangements for inspection

- 4.1. The SHR's Inspection Manager, Lynn Sweeney wrote to the Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources) on 25 September regarding commencement of the inspection. A copy of the inspection submission document was enclosed. The completed submission and other relevant enclosures were to be finalised and would be returned to the Regulator by the due date of Friday 20 November 2009. The completed submission document provides the information needed by SHR to undertake the inspection.
- 4.2. Further to this, the Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources) and his staff met with the SHR Inspection Manager and her staff on 29 October to discuss arrangements for the inspection. SHR expects to be 'on site' with the inspection around mid-late January and for this phase of the inspection to take 2-3 weeks. SHR will have a team of 4-5 staff on site and this will be augmented by four tenant inspectors from other local authorities and RSLs (housing associations).

5. Member and Tenant involvement in the inspection

- 5.1. Tenants have been involved in the inspection planning arrangements to date through the Central Liaison Group. Tenants have also expressed a wish to be involved in the inspection. This has been communicated to the SHR and the Council will be happy to facilitate tenant participation in the inspection process.
- 5.2. A members' briefing session will be arranged prior to commencement of the inspection outlining the arrangements and likely member involvement. Briefing material will be provided to members including an outline of the key elements of the Council's submission.

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. As might be expected, a considerable amount of employee time has been devoted to the inspection and this will continue until completion.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. The costs of preparing for the inspection have been accommodated within existing budgets.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1. None

9. Equalities Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. There is no requirement to carry out an impact assessment in terms of the proposals contained within this report.
- 9.2. Consultation arrangements are as detailed in Section 5.

Jim Hayton

Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources)

9 November 2009

Link(s) to Council Objectives and Values

- ◆ Improve the quality, access and availability of housing
- ◆ Accountable, effective and efficient

Previous References

- ◆ Housing and Technical Resources Committee, 16 September 2009

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Report to Housing and Technical Resources Committee on 16 September 2009

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Jim Hayton, Executive Director

Ext: 4406 (Tel: 01698 454406)

E-mail: jim.hayton@southlanarkshire.gov.uk