

**REPORT FOR: OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Date of Meeting: 8 November 2016

Subject: Homelessness Scrutiny Review
Challenge Panel

Responsible Officer: Lynne Pennington (Divisional Director
of Housing Services)

**Scrutiny Lead
Member area:** Councillor Jeff Anderson (Environment
and Enterprise – Policy Lead)

Councillor Manjibhai Kara
(Environment and Enterprise –
Performance Lead)

Exempt: No

Wards affected: All

Enclosures: Report of the Homelessness Scrutiny
Review Challenge Panel (Appendix 1)

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out the findings and recommendations of the Homelessness Scrutiny Review Challenge Panel which met on Wednesday 12 October 2016.

Recommendations:

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- 1) Consider and endorse the report from the Homelessness Scrutiny Review Challenge Panel
- 2) Forward the Challenge Panel's report and recommendations to Cabinet for consideration.

Section 2 – Report

Introductory paragraph

The Homelessness Scrutiny Review Challenge Panel was established to scrutinise the issue of homelessness. The aim of the Challenge Panel was to understand the drivers of homelessness in the local area and examine whether or not the solutions currently being implemented effectively address these drivers; and to scrutinise the local land and supply issues.

Key themes emerged in terms of the issues faced and potential solutions; and the group formed recommendations around these themes: housing supply, registered providers, finance, staffing, local impact and strategy.

The Recommendations are based on evidence from national and local data, and from officers on the evening of the Challenge Panel. It is that hoped by investing in the right areas, homelessness can be tackled in the most efficient and effective manner, with the service user at the heart of any decisions taken.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report. However, if the report's recommendations are accepted by Cabinet, the services affected will need to provide detail of any costs likely to be incurred.

Performance Issues

There are no specific performance issues associated with this report at this stage.

Environmental Impact

There are no specific environmental impacts associated with this report.

Risk Management Implications

There are none specific to this report.

Risk included on Directorate risk register? Yes

Equalities implications

No; equality implications may have to be considered on implementation of the recommendations.

Council Priorities

The Council's vision:

Working Together to Make a Difference for Harrow

This review relates to the corporate priorities of:

- Making a difference for the vulnerable
- Making a difference for families

Ward Councillors notified:	NO
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Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

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Background Papers: None