



## Housing Scrutiny Panel Annual Report 2019/2020

### Background

This report summaries the main activities and projects undertaken by the Housing Scrutiny Panel during 2019 / 2020.

### Meetings

The panel held regularly monthly meetings to look at issues affecting tenants and leaseholders, look at evidence for scrutiny and make recommendations for service improvements.

We have held;

- 12 Business meetings
- 1 Away day
- Hosted TPAS scrutiny training for tenants and leaseholders
- Held 2 recruitment events

### Projects and activities

We have continued to work with the council to help develop the housing service to tenants and leaseholders. The panel has been involved with a number of activities and projects throughout the year including;

- Housing Landlord Service visioning project '**Moving Forward Together**' – Panel members met with consultants to help design a survey for residents to identify housing priorities and made suggestion on how the survey should be promoted to tenants and leaseholders.
- Reviewed and made suggestions on tenant participation communications for Local Housing Forums to help ensure information is promoted widely to tenants and leaseholders.
- Requested regular updates and monitored tenant and leaseholder engagement with Local Housing Forums.
- Requested updates and provided feedback on Housing and Landlord Services projects and services including; review of

social housing lettings, voids and empty homes project, Support to older people update.

- Reviewed the recruitment process for new members to the scrutiny panel and successfully held two information and recruitment days. Resulting in three new members joining the panel.
- Followed and received regular progress updates from Service User Groups and Housing Management Board.
- Monitored and discussed hot topics and issues for tenants and leaseholders for potential future scrutiny projects.

### **Team building and Training**

- Panel members attended charring skills training April 2019.
- Planned and organised an away day for panel members in July 2019 at Kingsweston House.
- Hosted scrutiny panel training, for new and existing members to develop skills and learn about different scrutiny models.
- Panel members attending Local Housing Forums and Service User Groups.

### **Chair nominated for national award**

The chair of the panel Peter Edwards was shortlisted as a finalist for the TPAS Tenant of the Year Award. The results are expected in the autumn 2020.

### **Plans for 2020/2021**

Due to coronavirus (Covid 19) face to face panel meetings have been suspended since March 2020 and we are working with Tenant Participation on plans to restart in the autumn 2020.