

LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

REFERENCE TO COUNCIL – 18TH SEPTEMBER 2023

FROM THE HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 11TH SEPTEMBER 2023

BUILDING SAFETY ACT & REGULATORY STANDARDS

At its meeting on 11th September 2023, the Housing Scrutiny Committee considered the above report from the Director of Property Management, in respect of the Fire and Building Safety.

This report sets out how the Council had secured resources, had implemented change and was meeting the requirements of the Fire Safety Act 2021 and the Building Safety Act 2022 as they took effect. The report also described the changes and investment the Council had already made in relation to Fire and Building Safety and how the Council would be taking additional action to respond to the Regulatory Notice issued in July 2023.

Following a discussion on the report, it was **RESOLVED:**

- i) THAT the report be referred to full Council at its meeting 18 September 2023 for discussion and noting;
- ii) THAT it be recommended that the London Fire Brigade (LFB) Borough Commander and the current and/or past resident chair of the Fire Safety and Compliance Advisory Panel be invited to speak at Full Council at the meeting on 18th September 23 about their experience;
- iii) THAT the fire safety and regulatory standard be a standing item on the agenda for the scrutiny committee for the rest of the municipal year;
- iv) THAT members of the scrutiny committee receive a monthly update on performance of fire safety actions and any progress made and possible risk. This will also include updates on all areas of compliance (repairs/estate service/landlord service and capital works); the installation of hard wired smoke and carbon monoxide detectors; whether all buildings have had the FRAEW test; the BS9997 third party audit (evidence to be provided that this has been undertaken); the outstanding high risk actions; the Building Safety Case reports on the Council's high rise blocks; and on the clearing of combustible items with a focus on how the Council would support vulnerable residents to achieve this;
- v) THAT a report be submitted to the scrutiny committee on the tenant satisfaction regulatory survey when completed;
- vi) THAT officers provide updates to members of the scrutiny committee on the council's work to meet the new consumer standard; and with regards to self-assessment against the consumer standards, an update on the compliance against each of the standards and any action needed; and
- vii) THAT a report be submitted to the next meeting of the scrutiny committee regarding the Decent Homes Standard and an update on the 2023 stock conditions survey.

RECOMMENDATION:

- i) THAT Council agrees to hear the views of the LFB Borough Commander and the current and/or past resident chair of the Fire Safety and Compliance Advisory Panel about their experiences; and
- ii) THAT Council note the report.

Councillor Kemi Atolagbe
Chair, Housing Scrutiny Committee