

Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities 22/23				
Date	Item	Recommendation/ Action	Responsible Person	Notes
23 FEB 23	Tree Strategy and Implementation Plan 2023- 2028	Checkpoint reports throughout the first 18 months of the Tree Strategy and Implementation Plan 2023- 2028 are provided to the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board	Matt Huggins	
		Feedback from the survey of trees, to include impact on light to habitable rooms is provided to the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board	Matt Huggins	
26 JAN 23	Launch- Plan of the Sandwell Aquatic Centre	Working group to be established to meet via MS Teams, to support and guide both Operational and Business Planning areas.	Ben Percival/ Democratic Services	Established MAR 23
		What action is being taken to re- open Langley Swimming facilities to the public? (Currently only open for swimming lessons).	Ben Percival	
	Playing Pitch Strategy	Short- life Working group to be established to meet via MS Teams, to support the completion, adoption and implementation of the Playing Pitch Strategy.	Ben Percival/ Democratic Services	Established MAR 23
	Update of Working with the Voluntary and Community Sector to Tackle the Cost of Living Crisis	The Director of Public Health provide a dedicated contact officer to answer queries, share information and support councillors in relation to foodbank coordination as part of the Cost of Living Crisis.	Lisa McNally/ Liann Brookes-Smith	
		That the Director of Public Health explores providing financial support to foodbanks. List to be sent to Directorate of Public Health.	Lisa McNally/ Liann Brookes Smith	List sent 27 JAN 23
		That the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board refer poverty proofing and financial support provision for schools to the Children's Services and education Scrutiny Board.	Democratic Services (Connor Robinson)	
		That the Director of Borough Economy arrange for letter's to be sent to library staff operating warm banks in recognition for their hard work.	Alice Davey	Confirmed as sent 01 FEB 23
		Data on schools accessing financial support for school trips and poverty proofing exercises is cascaded to the board.	Liann Brookes-Smith	
That the distribution of the Sandwell Herald to 'all households in Sandwell' is looked into as part of the corporate contract.	Communications (Matt More)			

		That a list of warm space usage by town is cascaded to the board, providing a statistical breakdown.	Liann Brookes Smith	
10 JAN 23	Housing Revenue Account 30 Year Business Plan	That the Directors of Housing and Regeneration and Growth investigate the feasibility of turning Council owned non- residential properties into residential units.	Gillian Douglas/ Tony McGovern	
		What proactive action, prior to mould being discovered, does the Directorate of Housing take to mould- proof Council owned housing stock?	Gillian Douglas	
24 NOV 22	Draft Housing Strategy 2023- 2028	that the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board supports the implementation of Service Level agreements (SLAs) between the Council and temporary accommodation providers.	Gillian Douglas	Send to Cllr Padda
		that the Director of Housing explores the feasibility of a standardised response time for complaints.	Gillian Douglas	Send to Cllr Padda
		that the Directors of Housing, Borough Economy, and Regeneration and Growth work in collaboration to shape policy around neighbourhood development.	Gillian Douglas/ Alice Davey/ Tony McGovern	Send to Cllr Padda
		the Director of Housing considers Minute No. 47/22 (24 November 2022) as part of any formation of housing strategy and policy.	Gillian Douglas	Send to Cllr Padda
Asset Management and Investment Programme for Housing 2023- 2024	that the Director of Law and Governance arranges training related to procurement exercises and local authority contracts to be offered to all councillors.	Surjit Tour	Update Cllr Allcock	
	the Director of Housing reviews the robustness of the repairs triage process by the service with consideration for household and resident characteristics.	Gillian Douglas		
Report of the Tenant and Leaseholder Scrutiny Group – Housing Hub Review	that the Director of Housing investigates means to reduce the cost of telephone calls to the Housing Hub, including the viability of a call-back service.	Gillian Douglas/ Nigel Collumbell		
	that the customer satisfaction levels of tenants receiving a service from the Housing Hub be monitored by the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board.	Gillian Douglas/ Nigel Collumbell		
	What is the difference in costs between telephone service via Housing Hub and face- to- face service via Neighbourhood Office? Breakdown of costs to be provided.	Nigel Collumbell	Estimated average cost of transactions last year: Locals: £109 per transaction	

				Telephone: £15 per transaction My Sandwell: £0.63 per transaction
01 NOV 22	Working with the Voluntary and Community Sector to Tackle the Cost of Living Crisis.	that Directors ensure that the marketing of support services is strengthened; including making use of multi-media, billboards, communications to parents via schools and a roadshow event.	Lisa McNally/ Leadership team	
		that Directors produce a map of support services via location and geographical coverage and share this through a range of media including print and online.	Lisa McNally/ Leadership team	
		that the Cabinet Member for Children and Education be asked to conduct a review of demand and funding pressures on Youth Services across the borough.	Cllr Hackett/ Michael Jarratt	
		that the Directors of Borough Economy and Regeneration and Growth investigate the options for working with the Six Towns Credit Union to relocate into an empty property in West Bromwich, more central to the town centre and transport links.	Alice Davey/ Tony McGovern	
		that Directors investigate ways to better coordinate the existing foodbank network in Sandwell to ensure best use of available food resources.	Lisa McNally/ Leadership team	
		that the Chair of the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board hold discussions with representatives from the Directorate of Public Health to discuss period poverty and access to sanitary products.	Lisa McNally/ Liann Brookes Smith	
30 SEPT 22	Update on Review of Voluntary and Community Sector Grants	the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board supports the development and introduction of an open and transparent Council funding process.	Gillian Douglas	
		the Director of Housing considers Minute No. 29/22 (30 September 2022) as part of any redesign of grant making processes.	Gillian Douglas	
		Working Group comprised of the members of the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board be established to support and review the Council's approach to the cost of living crisis.		

