



# Housing and Growth Committee

14 June 2021

## Title

### Member's Items

Councillor Sara Conway - Fourth anniversary of the Grenfell tragedy

Councillor Ross Houston - Lift of eviction ban

Councillor Paul Edwards - Homelessness

## Report of

Head of Governance

## Wards

All Wards

## Status

Public

## Urgent

No

## Key

No

## Enclosures

None

## Officer Contact Details

Faith Mwende, Faith.Mwende@governance.gov.uk

## Summary

The Committee is requested to consider the item and give instruction to Officers.

## Officers Recommendation

That the Housing and Growth Committee's instructions in relation to these Member's Items are requested.

## 1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 Members of the Committee have requested that the item tabled below are submitted to the Housing and Growth Committee for considering and determination. The Housing and Growth Committee are requested to provide instructions to Officers of the Council as recommended.

<b>Sara Conway</b>	<b>Fourth anniversary of the Grenfell tragedy</b>  The June 2021 Housing & Growth Committee meeting falls on the fourth anniversary of the Grenfell tragedy.  I request that the Committee marks the anniversary with a minute silence at the start of the meeting to remember the victims of the tragedy followed by an update on work to #EndTheCladdingScandal in Barnet.
<b>Ross Houston</b>	<b>Lift of eviction ban</b>  With the end of the eviction ban I request that the Committee is updated as to the likely impact of the ban being lifted on tenants and Barnet's housing services, and what the Council and Barnet Homes plan to do to support tenants and those in the borough living in the private rented sector.  According to research by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation about 400,000 renters have now had eviction notices or been told to expect them. As the Joseph Rowntree Foundation state "ending the eviction ban risks "a two-tier recovery" with a risk of "a wave of homelessness coming through"  The findings suggest that, compared with homeowners, renters are more than three times as likely to be behind with rent or bills (6% vs 19%). They were also twice as likely to worry about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• meeting their housing costs (10% vs 20%)</li><li>• and losing their homes within three months (5% vs 11%)</li></ul> Black and minority ethnic households, those on lower incomes and those with children had the highest levels of concern, the research suggests.

<b>Paul Edwards</b>	<p><b>Homelessness</b></p> <p>With the end of the eviction ban and the proposed lifting of lockdown restrictions there is likely to be additional pressure on street homelessness, as well as changes in the type of provision that is allowed. I request that the Committee is updated as to the likely impact on homelessness in Barnet and on the services provided by the council working with Barnet Homes, Together in Barnet and Homeless Action Barnet.</p>
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## **2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 No recommendations have been made. The Committee are therefore requested to give consideration and provide instruction.

## **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED**

- 3.1 N/A

## **4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION**

- 4.1 Post decision implementation will depend on the decision taken by the Committee.

## **5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION**

### **5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance**

- 5.1.1 As and when issues raised through a Member's Item are progressed, they will need to be evaluated against the Corporate Plan and other relevant policies.

### **5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)**

- 5.2.1 None in the context of this report.

### **5.3 Legal and Constitutional References**

- 5.3.1 A Member (including Members appointed as substitutes by Council) will be permitted to have one matter only (with no sub-items) on the agenda for a meeting of a committee or Sub-Committee on which s/he serves. The matter must be relevant to the terms of reference of the committee.

- 5.3.2 The referral of a motion from Full Council to a committee will not count as a Member's Item for the purposes of this rule.

### **5.4 Risk Management**

5.4.1 None in the context of this report.

## 5.5 **Equalities and Diversity**

5.5.1 Members' Items allow Members of a Committee to bring a wide range of issues to the attention of a Committee in accordance with the Council's Constitution. All of these issues must be considered for their equalities and diversity implications.

## 5.6 **Consultation and Engagement**

5.6.1 None in the context of this report.

## 6. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

6.1 Emails received on the 27 May and 2<sup>nd</sup> June from the Members.