

Annex A

Extract Minutes of Corporate Scrutiny Committee – 13 March 2025

40. HOUSING REPAIRS PERFORMANCE ANNUAL UPDATE

The Strategic Director (Housing and Communities) presented the report to Members. A discussion was had on the progress made to date to the Housing Repairs Service and in response to a question relating to the amount of time expected to address all the areas needing improvement, it was reported that a likely timescale was 12 to 18 months.

In relation to recruitment issues, a Member suggested that fixed term seasonal contracts be used for certain jobs rather than permanent in-house team, it was felt this may be more successful in a competitive market. The Strategic Director acknowledged the comments made and confirmed some seasonal work was already carried out in this way.

In relation to the stock survey recently undertaken assessing the condition of all Council homes, a Member questioned when a decent standard for 100 percent of stock was expected to be achieved. The Strategic Director assured members that all work currently required to reach 100 percent was programmed in for the next financial year.

Assurances were also given on compliance, particularly gas, electric and asbestos, and Members were assured that all areas below 100 percent had action plans in place.

A discussion was had on trends over a period of time for newly undertaken work, it was agreed for the information reported to the Housing Improvement Board on the subject be shared with the Committee.

The update was noted. The Chair thanked the Members for their comments which would be presented to Cabinet at its meeting on 22 April 2025.