

Mayor and Cabinet			
Report Title	Comments of the Housing Select Committee on the Private Rented Sector and Discretionary Licensing Schemes		
Key Decision	No	Item No.	
Ward	All		
Contributors	Housing Select Committee		
Class	Part 1	Date	19 February 2014

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report informs the Mayor and Cabinet of the comments and views of the Housing Select Committee, arising from discussions held on an officer report and presentation on the private rented sector in Lewisham and a presentation from the London Borough of Newham on property licensing, considered at a meeting held on 3 February 2014.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The Mayor is recommended to note the views of the Housing Select Committee as set out in section three of this referral and agree that the Executive Director for Customer Services be asked to respond.

3. Housing Select Committee views

- 3.1 On 3 February 2014, the Housing Select Committee considered an officer report and presentation on the private rented sector in Lewisham; and a presentation from the London Borough of Newham on property licensing in that borough.
- 3.2 The Committee commended Newham's borough wide mandatory licensing scheme and recommended that officers carry out a feasibility study to assess whether a discretionary licensing scheme would be suitable for application in Lewisham. The study should include an investigation of borough wide schemes such as Newham's and other, more targeted, schemes such as those proposed by the London Boroughs of Southwark, Brent and Greenwich.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this report per se; but there are financial implications arising from carrying out the actions proposed by the Committee.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Constitution provides for Select Committees to refer reports to the Mayor and Cabinet, who are obliged to consider the report and the proposed response from

the relevant Executive Director; and report back to the Committee within two months (not including recess).

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Private Rented Sector Review– Officer Report to Housing Select Committee (03.02.14)
Presentation from the London Borough of Newham on property licensing (available on request)

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Charlotte Dale, Scrutiny Manager (ext. 49534), or Kevin Flaherty, Head of Business & Committee (0208 3149327).