

Committee(s): Housing Management and Almshouses Sub (Community and Children's Services) Committee	Dated: 17/04/2023
Subject: Independent Review of the Security of our Social Housing Estates	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1, 2, 12
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
Report author: Paul Murtagh Assistant Director Barbican & Property Services	

Summary

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the outcome of the independent review into the security of our social housing estates and to seek guidance from Members as to the priorities that should be given to the recommendations emanating from the review.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the recommendations emanating from the independent review into the security of our social housing estates and to give guidance to officers on the priorities for improvements and how these priorities should be taken forward.

Main Report

Background

1. SGW Safety and Security (SGW) was appointed to carry out a security review across the City of London Corporation's (the Corporation) 12 social housing estates. The purpose of the review was to assess the existing environment and identify current assets, threats, vulnerabilities, likelihood, and consequences in relation to the existing security measures, processes, policies, and procedures on site.
2. The review process was divided into two stages: a physical visual audit and survey of the 12 estates and a security threat and risk assessment report, which provided

a review of each estate, the pertinent assets, threats, vulnerabilities, likelihood, and consequences, as well as mitigation options that can help reduce the level of risk on each estate.

Considerations

3. SGW has completed its work and has submitted detailed and comprehensive Security Risk Assessment Reports for all the Corporation's social housing estates. Each report contains recommendations for improving the security of the estate, which include:
 - installation of video surveillance systems (VSS) across the estates.
 - operational security enhancement.
 - centralised concierge service.
 - door access monitoring.
 - vehicle control and enforcement.
 - door security enhancement.
 - improved/upgraded fob/key control management.
 - review of parking services.
 - improved contractor security management.
 - improved communal lighting.
4. It is the view of officers, that several of the recommendations made by SGW are disproportionate to the location and nature of the estates and, the perceived, potential, and real risks to them. Others, however, do have merit and, subject to the views of this Sub-Committee, may warrant further analysis.
5. Attached at Appendix 1 to this report is a summary of the recommendations made by SGW and officers views on their respective merits and relevance. Members will note that some of the recommendations are included in current workstreams such as the Major Works Improvement Programme and the City of London Police Project at the Middlesex Street Estate.
6. Members will also note that several recommendations are referenced for inclusion in Phase 2 of the Housing Major Works Programme. Members will have seen from the report entitled 'Housing Major Works Programme – Progress Report', included in the agenda for this meeting that Phase 2 of the Housing Major Works Programme ('Future Programme') includes nearly £30million of new projects that are currently '**unfunded**'. Therefore, although several recommendations made by SGW are referenced for inclusion in Phase 2, there is no current timescale for when these works can be funded.
7. For reference purposes, the current and 'future' Housing Major Works Programmes referred to in this report are attached as Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 to the report entitled 'Housing Major Works Programme – Progress Report', included in the agenda for this meeting.
8. Members will also be aware that we have recently undertaken an 'access audit' across the whole of our social housing estates. It is intended that the outcome of

this review will be presented to the next meeting of the Housing Management and Almshouses Sub Committee along with the recommendations for improvements. Whilst it is not expected that there will be any 'conflict' between the access audit and this security review, it is likely that there will be some complementary recommendations from the access report and, the two will need to be considered in parallel.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Security Review – Summary Recommendations

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