

Rushcliffe Borough Council – Scrutiny Request

Councillor Request for Scrutiny	
Councillor A Phillips	
Proposed topic of scrutiny ...	Asylum Dispersal and Contingency Accommodation including HMO's
I would like to explore ... It is helpful to include why you feel this topic requires scrutiny, what concerns you, what concerns are being raised with you, and how scrutiny will lead to better outcomes or services to residents.	I would like to explore the impact of the Government's Asylum Seeker Dispersal Policy on the Borough of Rushcliffe and its residents. Residents have raised concerns which I believe need exploring and Councillors would appreciate a better understanding of the legislative framework, current situation, and how residents' concerns can be addressed by the Council leading to better community cohesion within Rushcliffe. I would like to understand and / or scrutinise: - Homes in Multiple Occupation within Rushcliffe including how many we have, what they are used for, what issues they lead to and how these are addressed, and what legislation and regulation the Council has to manage the situation including insight from development management, planning enforcement, licensing, and environmental health perspectives. - Asylum Dispersal including an understanding of previous solutions and new Government policy [SERCO]. - The impact of the new Government policy on Asylum Dispersal on the use of HMOs in Rushcliffe. - Residents' concerns about the use of HMOs for Asylum Dispersal within the Borough. - The process used by the Government (or its representatives) to identify and allocate homes to those seeking asylum including the safeguards and support mechanisms in place for local communities and asylum seekers [SERCO]. - The tools Rushcliffe can use to address issues as they arise (in terms of planning and environmental health enforcement), the extent to which these are used presently, and what alternative options exist for proactive management of HMO development and use.

I think this topic should be scrutinised because ... (please tick)	☐	Poor Performance Identified
	☒	Change in Legislation or Local Policy
	☒	Resident Concern or Interest
	☐	Cabinet Recommendation
	☐	Links to the Corporate Strategy
	☐	Other (please state reason)
What outcomes are you seeking from this scrutiny?	I would like scrutiny to consider whether action is necessary to address the concerns of residents and ensure community cohesion whilst also meeting the needs of asylum seekers and responding to central Government policy.	

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Officer Request for Scrutiny	
Leanne Ashmore, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Planning and Economic Growth	
Proposed topic of scrutiny ...	Asset Management Strategy and Acquisitions and Disposals Policy.
I would like to explore ... It is helpful to include why you feel this topic requires scrutiny, what concerns you, what concerns are being raised with you, and how scrutiny will lead to better outcomes or services to residents.	In December 2019, the Governance Scrutiny Group considered a draft of the Council's Asset Management Strategy and associated documents before formal adoption at Council in July 2020 (following discussion at Cabinet in March 2020). The Asset Management Strategy is in the process of being reviewed and is expected to progress to adoption at Council in 2026. It is considered that pre-decision scrutiny at Growth and Development Scrutiny Group would provide Councillors with the opportunity to learn more about the Council's approach to asset management, how these assets contribute towards the Council's community, financial and environmental objectives, and the proposed direction of travel with regard to assets in the Borough. It is important the Council manages held operational and commercial assets effectively and efficiently. The Asset Management Strategy provides a framework of Aims and Objectives to adhere to. Assets should be: 1. Strategically managed to support corporate aims and objectives. 2. Support service delivery. 3. Provide value for money and secures efficiencies for the future.

	4. Procured and managed to minimise the impact on the environment. 5. Support Growth, Business and Regeneration in Rushcliffe. 6. Support Communities, Partners and 'Quality of Life' A five yearly review of the Asset Management Strategy is currently being undertaken, in addition to a review of the Asset Acquisition and Disposal Policy.	
I think this topic should be scrutinised because ... (please tick)		Poor Performance Identified
		Change in Legislation or Local Policy
		Resident Concern or Interest
		Cabinet Recommendation
		Links to the Corporate Strategy
	X	Other (please state reason) 5 Year Review
What outcomes are you seeking from this scrutiny?	Growth and Development Scrutiny Group to review the draft Asset Management Strategy, and Acquisitions and Disposals Policy, and make suggestions as part of the review ensuring the Strategy is fit for purpose before approval at Council in early 2026.	