SCRUTINY REVIEW: THE ACCOUNTABILITY OF SOCIAL HOUSING PROVIDERS TO THE COUNCIL AND RESIDENTS OF STOCKPORT: SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION November 2024

Comparative Performance Data

Members of the Scrutiny Review Group asked for information relating to two comparative ALMOs, and specifically referenced Blackpool and Barnet.

Officers have collated performance information data (see separate spreadsheet) using the new measures set/assessed by the Regulator of Social Housing. The Regulator of Social Housing has significantly changed its approach during the last couple of years to become far more proactive. This not only includes setting these measures but also proactively inspecting all RPs: inspections started in April 2024 with the aim to complete first inspections within two years.

Although it is the RP that collects most of the data, a great deal of guidance/analysis is undertaken to look at and check methodology by the Regulator to ensure results are comparable.

The comparative analysis was undertaken by Housemark – Housemark is a national organisation set up/owned by Inside Housing/Chartered Institute of Housing with the vast majority of RPs (Councils/Almos/Housing Associations) being Members of Housemark and inputting data.

The analysis selected by officers includes Stockport Homes, the 2 ALMOs originally referenced by Members (Blackpool & Barnet) and 2 North West based RPs with recent G1 ratings, along with the Housemark median figures. All figures are for 2023/4 (the most recent results).

To confirm, G1 is the highest judgement (following inspection) for an RP – any RP with less than a G1 rating following inspection would be expected to develop an improvement plan to achieve G1. Relevant definitions of gradings by the Regulator of Social Housing are set out below:

Grading Description G1 Our judgement is that the landlord meets our governance requirements. G2 Our judgement is that the landlord meets our governance requirements but needs to improve some aspects of its governance arrangements to support continued compliance.

Grading Description G3 Our judgement is that the landlord does not meet our governance requirements. There are issues of serious regulatory concern and in agreement with us the landlord is working to improve its position. G4 Our judgement is that the landlord does not meet our governance requirements. There are issues of serious regulatory concern, and the landlord is subject to regulatory intervention or enforcement action.