

Report title: IPRC Update		PSEG/09/19 AGENDA ITEM 6
Report author: Peter Randall, Senior Democratic Services Officer		
Date: 23/05/19		For: Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee
Enquiries to: Peter Randall, Senior Democratic Services Officer		
County Divisions affected: All Essex		

1. Purpose of Report

At the Meeting of the Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee held on the 18 April 2019 members received an update on the Independent Property Review Commission (IPRC) a year after it's approval at Full Council.

Over the course of the discussion a number of actions were recorded.

Members are asked to approve the actions as set out in this report.

2. Actions

- Members raised concern with progress on recommendations 7 and 12:

***‘Recommendation 7:** ECC should put in place clear arrangements for the provision of ad hoc specialist fire safety advice in connection with relatively complex fire safety issues.’*

***‘Recommendation 12:** ECC should review its approach to ensure that remedial fire safety works recorded as being necessary in fire risk assessment documentation are addressed within a reasonable period.’*

It was agreed that officers should provide written evidence to the committee to more clearly outline how these processes either already exist in policy or are in the process of being implemented.

- Members similarly raised concerns with recommendation 8:

***‘Recommendation 8:** ECC should introduce arrangements for Essex County Fire and Rescue Service to be invited to be involved at an early stage in the building design process for all its ‘upper-tier’ construction projects, i.e. those with a capital value in excess of £2m.’*

It was noted by members that one of the primary reasons for non-compliance with this particular recommendation was lack of resourcing on the part of the fire and rescue service. Members agreed that the Chairman of the PSEG policy and scrutiny committee would write to the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner to draw attention to potential difficulties and urge greater compliance with this recommendation.

- Members agreed that greater scrutiny work in future would be appreciated by the committee. A further review in six months time has been requested. The Chairman will determine whether or not this will simply be a written update or full committee session.

3. Next steps

Members to agree/amend above actions. Officers will then work to ensure that evidence is obtained and a further update session is scheduled.