



# Milton Keynes City Council

## Housing Need Task and Finish Group

**When: 19:00  
29 September 2022**

**Where: Suite 1.05/6, Civic, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes,  
MK9 3EJ,**

**This meeting will not be live streamed, but a recording of the meeting will be available on <https://www.youtube.com/user/MiltonKeynesCouncil> as soon as practical after the event.**

### **Public Speaking**

Persons wishing to speak on an agenda item must give notice by not later than 18:45 on the day of the meeting. Requests to speak can be made by e-mail to [meetings@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:meetings@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

### **Membership**

Councillor Hume (Chair)  
Councillors Balzs, Ferrans, Fuller, Montague and Verma

### **Enquiries on this agenda:**

Please contact Elizabeth Richardson, Overview and Scrutiny Officer on 01908 252629 or [Elizabeth.Richardson@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.Richardson@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

This agenda is available at <https://milton-keynes.cmis.uk.com/milton-keynes/Committees.aspx>

For more information about attending or participating in a meeting please see overleaf.

## **Public Attendance / Participation**

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If you wish to speak on an agenda item, you must give the Council notice by not later than 18:45 on the day of the meeting. The best way to do this is by e-mail to [meetings@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:meetings@milton-keynes.gov.uk).

For those registering or entitled to speak, facilities will be in place to do so in person or via video / audio conferencing, but this is not guaranteed. From time to time there are technical problems which mean we are unable to facilitate remote participation. When this happens our meetings will continue, although we will try to provide alternatives options, for example through a telephone call as opposed to a video call.

If you wish to speak at a meeting, we recommend reading our guide to *Public Participation at Meetings* first to understand the process and technology behind participation. This information is available on: [www.milton-keynes.cmis.uk.com/milton-keynes/](http://www.milton-keynes.cmis.uk.com/milton-keynes/)

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The recording of this meeting (which will include those making representations by video or audio conference) will be retained for a period of six months, for the purpose of webcasting and preparing the minutes of the meeting.

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## AGENDA

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair to welcome members of the committee, officers, any external witnesses, and the public to the meeting and introduce committee members, officers and witnesses who are present.

### 2. Apologies

To receive any apologies.

### 3. Disclosures of Interest

Councillors to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests, or personal interests (including other pecuniary interests), they may have in the business to be transacted, and officers to disclose any interests they may have in any contract to be considered.

### 4. Notes of Previous Meetings

To receive the notes of the meeting of the Task and Finish Group held on 22 August 2022 (Item 4) (**pages 4 to 7**).

### 5. Evidence Gathering

In response to some of the questions raised by the TFG at the meeting held on 22 August 2022, the Revenue and Benefits Team have prepared a presentation on raising the level of the Local Housing Allowance (LHA) (Item 5a) (**pages 8 to 19**).

They have also prepared a written report on the mismatch between the level of Housing Benefit and the level of rents locally, a breakdown of the number of households in receipt of Housing Benefit and the type of properties they rent, as well as some useful information on the level of Discretionary Council Tax Reductions (DCTR) in Milton Keynes and the Local Welfare Provision (LWP) payments (Item 5b) (**pages 20 to 27**).

The presentation references a recent report produced jointly by Crisis and Zoopla titled "Falling Short: Housing Benefit and the Rising Cost of Renting In England" which can be accessed via the following link: ["Falling Short"](#)

### 6. Next Meeting

To be agreed – suggested dates:

- Tuesday 8 November @ 19:00
- Wednesday 9 November @ 19:00
- Thursday 10 November @ 19:00
- Tuesday 15 November @ 19:30