

Report to Planning Committee

Subject: Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) in the Netherfield Ward

Date: 14 July 2022

Author: Mike Avery, Head of Development and Place

Wards Affected:

Netherfield

Purpose:

To note Cabinet's resolution on the suitability of implementing an Article 4 direction to introduce a requirement for planning permission to change from a C3 Dwellinghouse (family dwelling) to a C4 HMO (3-6 unrelated people who share facilities) in the Netherfield Ward.

Recommendation(s)

THAT Planning Committee note the resolution of Cabinet to :

- 1) Share residents' concerns about a potential increase in the number of HMOs in the Netherfield Ward, notes actions already taken by the Council to implement HMO Licensing across the borough and introduce Selective Licensing in Netherfield in 2018.**
- 2) Endorse the Leader of the Council writing to government calling for a reversal of legislation introduced in October 2010 which removed the requirement for planning permission for HMOs and opened up the risk of proliferation of HMOs without adequate input from local communities; and**
- 3) Requests officers to report back to Cabinet within six months with a further update to allow Cabinet to further consider and determine if there is sufficient evidence to demonstrate an Article 4 Direction and/or other measures local amenity or well-being of the Netherfield ward.**

The attached cover report and appendices 1 and 2 were considered by Cabinet on 16 June 2022. Cllr Payne proposed an amended motion, seconded by Cllr Hollingsworth as detailed above.