

Chichester District Council

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

18 SEPTEMBER 2018

Housing standards and future needs – Report of the Task & Finish Group

1. Contacts

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2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers and endorses the recommendations made by the Task and Finish Group in paragraphs 1.1 to 1.8 of the report of the Task and Finish Group at appendix 1.**

3. Background

- 3.1 On the 13 June 2017 a report on the Review of the Housing Allocation Scheme was presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Concerns were expressed by members of the Overview and Scrutiny committee regarding 1) the lettable standards of the hard to let properties and 2) the suitability of hard to let properties in terms of meeting current housing needs. As a result of these concerns the committee recommended that a Task and Finish Group be set up by the Cabinet Member for Housing services to “review the quality standards of existing affordable housing stock in the district and the overall demand for the type and volume of new affordable housing in rural and urban areas”.
- 3.2 The Task and Finish Group was set up in September 2017 and the terms of reference are included at Appendix 3 of the report. Members of the group have met on nine occasions and also attended a tour of Hyde properties. All members were fully involved in the drafting of the report.
- 3.3 In the wake of the Grenfell Tower disaster, the government announced its intention to bring forward a green paper on social housing to consider:
- The safety of social housing.
 - The way tenants are listened to, their concerns acted up on and their rights
 - The number of homes being built and community cohesion
 - Overall quality of social homes, as many are now aging
 - Service management and how tenants and their homes are taken care of
 - What can be done to ensure their complaints are taken seriously, dealt with properly and clear timely redress when things go wrong.

Many of these issues were discussed by the Task and Finish group.

4. Outcomes to be achieved

4.1 Overview and Scrutiny considers the report and either endorses or makes further recommendations.

5. Proposal

5.1 That Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers the detailed proposals set out in the report at appendix 1.

6. Resource and legal implications

6.1 There is no significant resource or legal implications. All recommendations would be undertaken within existing staffing resources.

7. Consultation

7.1 Members of the Task and Finish Group were fully involved in drafting the report.

7.2 Hyde and registered provider partners provided information.

8. Community impact and corporate risks

8.1 The impact of the proposals will have a positive impact on tenants of affordable housing in the district.

9. Other Implications

	Yes	No
Crime & Disorder:		x
Climate Change and Biodiversity:		x
Human Rights and Equality Impact: Impact should be positive.	x	
Safeguarding and Early Help:		x
General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR):		x

10. Appendices

10.1 Housing Standards and Future Needs – Report of the Task & Finish Group

11. Background Papers

None