

Chichester District Council

The Cabinet

3 March 2020

Housing Strategy 2020-25

1. Contacts

Report Author

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2. Recommendation

2.1 That the Cabinet approves the Housing Strategy 2020-25 and recommends its adoption by the Council

2.2 That the Director of Housing and Communities is granted delegated authority to make modifications to the Strategy in order to align with the emerging Local Plan Review

3. Background

3.1 The Council has previously published separate strategies covering Affordable Housing, Homelessness, Private Sector Renewal and the type of tenancies our registered provider partners may grant. Each of these documents has covered different periods but all are now due for review.

3.2 The intention going forward is to adopt a single Housing Strategy which takes a holistic view of the Council's role as a strategic housing authority thus avoiding a degree of duplication that has existed in the past.

4. Outcomes to be Achieved

4.1 The Strategy sets out a vision and a set of priorities which will guide our approach to affordable housing, homelessness and private sector renewal over the next five years. The priorities build directly on the Council's Corporate Plan Objectives.

4.2 The Strategy incorporates broad strategic objectives, benchmark measures as well as specific goals. These will be monitored and reviewed through annual Service Plans.

4.3 At the time of writing some of the evidence on which the strategy is based is subject to review and finalisation through the Local Plan Review. In view of this it is suggested that minor modifications to the strategy may be required to ensure consistency in due course. It is suggested that the Director of Housing and

Communities be authorised to approve such modifications.

5. Proposal

That the Cabinet approves the draft Housing Strategy 2020-25 and recommend its adoption by the Full Council.

6. Alternatives Considered

- 6.1 The Council has a statutory duty to publish strategies in relation to housing, private sector renewal and homelessness.

7. Resource and Legal Implications

- 7.1 Finance: there are no specific financial implications arising directly from the Housing Strategy. Subsequent initiatives and actions which have resource implications will be subject to appropriate governance arrangements as required.
- 7.2 There are no specific property implications arising from the strategy. Specific initiatives which relate to the acquisition or disposal of Council property will be subject to separate governance as required.

8 Consultation

- 8.1 a) Internal consultation has involved staff briefings and team meetings focussing on specific elements of the strategy
- b) External consultation has involved:
- An initial public survey via the 'Let's Talk' channel, this was used to collate public views of the priorities which the Housing Strategy should address
 - Presentations at various stakeholder fora
 - Individual meetings with key stakeholders and partners
 - Dissemination of an earlier draft summary to a wide range of partners and stakeholders inviting feedback. The draft strategy has been favourably received by a number of respondents representing West Sussex County Council, the NHS and voluntary sector.
- c) Consultation with Members took place as part of a half day seminar on 20th November, further information was provided through the Members Briefing and dissemination of an earlier draft summary. Members were also offered the opportunity to discuss the strategy at individual 'surgeries' during early December.
- d) The strategy was considered by Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 21st January 2020.

9 Community Impact and Corporate Risks

- 9.1 The Strategy sets out a practical vision for the implementation of key objectives defined in the Corporate Plan. In order to optimise the value of our contribution to housing in the District it is necessary to have a Strategy which is up to date and

relevant. Without one there is a risk that opportunities to meet residents' needs will not be fulfilled.

10 Other Implications

Are there any implications for the following?		
	Yes	No
Crime and Disorder <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The incidence of rough sleeping, which is addressed within the strategy, presents a risk to community cohesion, with rough sleepers are disproportionately likely to be either victims or perpetrators of anti-social behaviour. 	x	
Climate Change and Biodiversity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The second theme of the strategy is concerned with ensuring local housing is fit for purpose. Improving energy efficiency and reducing fuel poverty is a key element of this. Since housing is a major source of carbon emissions this work compliments the Council's approach to the risks of Climate Change. 	x	
Human Rights and Equality Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An equality impact assessment is provided as a background document 	x	
Safeguarding and Early Help <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Council's housing role plays a fundamental role in protecting the welfare of vulnerable adults and families with children. 	x	
General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)		x
Health and Wellbeing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Housing has a fundamental influence on residents' health and wellbeing. Improving the quality and supply of housing will benefit this. 	x	

11 Appendices

11.1 Appendix 1 Draft Housing Strategy 2020-25

12 Background Papers

12.1 Housing Strategy Impact Assessment

12.2 Chichester District Council Homelessness Review 2020

12.3 Chichester District Council Tenancy Strategy 2020-25