

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

8 JUNE 2021

Title:

Housing Strategy Action Plan Update: 2020 – 2021

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Anne-Marie Rosoman, Portfolio Holder for Housing, Community Safety & Emergency Planning

Head of Service: Andrew Smith, Head of Housing Delivery and Communities

Key decision: No

Access: Public

1. Purpose and summary

To provide the committee with an update on actions and achievements from the Housing Strategy during 2020/21.

2. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee:

- i. reviews this report and agrees any observations or comments it wishes to pass to the Executive

3. Reason for the recommendation

To support and raise awareness of achievements from the Housing Strategy.

4. Background

The Strategy was due to run from 2018 to 2023 but officers have been tasked with writing a new strategy; work is currently underway.

5. Relationship to the Corporate Strategy and Service Plan

The report reflects the Housing Strategy, Housing Service Plan and the Council's commitment to promote "*Good quality housing for all income levels and age groups*".

6. Implications of decision

6.1 Resource (Finance, procurement, staffing, IT)

Financial support is provided via commuted sums secured in lieu of affordable housing and Community Led Housing Government Grant. The strategy and updates have been carried out by existing staff in the Housing Strategy and Enabling team without incurring any extra costs. Additional costs are set out in the SMART action plan which accompanies the 2018-23 Housing Strategy.

6.2 Risk management

The Housing Strategy sets out our priorities for action and reduces the risk of new developments providing insufficient or the wrong type of affordable housing

6.3 Legal

There are no direct legal implications arising out of this report in addition to the normal activities undertaken by the Council's Legal Services team in relation to securing Section 106 Agreements and Nomination Agreements.

6.4 Equality, diversity and inclusion

Affordable housing actively promotes equality by offering security and opportunity to households in housing need, who often experience inequalities associated with living on a low income. Women, people with disabilities and BME groups are more likely than other groups to access social housing. The development of new affordable housing therefore benefits these groups.

6.5 Climate emergency declaration

New affordable homes will be required to make a positive contribution to the environment and this will be considered as part of the planning and construction process.

7. Consultation and engagement

Not applicable

8. Other options considered

Not applicable

9. Governance journey

Housing O&S as part of Housing O&S minutes/recommendations

Annexes:

Annexe 1 – Housing Strategy Update Covering Report and Action Plan Update

Background Papers

There are no background papers, as defined by Section 100D (5) of the Local Government Act 1972).

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Agreed and signed off by:

Legal Services: DB 20.05.21

Financial Services Manager: RP 18.05.21

Strategic Director: AR 20.05.21

Portfolio Holder: AMR 20.05.21