

Report to Housing Scrutiny Panel

Date of meeting: 25th March 2010

Portfolio: Housing – Cllr D. Stallan

**Subject: Housing Strategy 2009-2012: 6-Month
Progress Report on Key Action Plan**

Officer contact for further information:

Alan Hall – Director of Housing (01992 564004)

Committee Secretary: Mark Jenkins (01992 56 4607)



Recommendations/Decisions Required:

That the 6-Month Progress Report on the Key Action Plan 2009/10, contained within the Housing Strategy 2009-2012 – attached as an Appendix – be considered, with any comments passed to the Housing Portfolio Holder and Director of Housing accordingly.

Report:

1. At its meeting in September 2009, the Council's Cabinet adopted the Housing Strategy 2009-2012. This followed the Housing Scrutiny Panel considering in detail and approving for consultation an earlier "Consultation Draft" Housing Strategy, and a major Consultation Exercise being undertaken with the Council's partners, key stakeholders and the public over a three-month period. The Consultation Exercise included a one-day Housing Strategy Conference, to which all the consultees were invited.
2. The Housing Strategy assesses the District's current and future housing needs - having particular regard to the Strategic Housing Market Assessment produced by six local authorities in the eastern part of the LCB Sub-Region - and sets out the Council's approach to meeting those needs. As well as taking account of national, regional and sub-regional priorities, it also links with other Council and non-Council strategies that both influence, and are influenced by, the Housing Strategy.
3. The Strategy also includes a Key Action Plan, which sets out the proposed actions that will be taken by the Council to contribute towards the achievement of the housing objectives over the 3 years of the Housing Strategy.
4. The Cabinet agreed that progress with the Key Action Plan should be monitored on a 6-monthly basis by the Housing Scrutiny Panel, in accordance with its Terms of Reference.
5. A 6-Month Progress Report is therefore attached as an Appendix, which the Scrutiny Panel is asked to consider, and to provide any comments to the Housing Portfolio Holder and Director of Housing.
6. When adopting the Housing Strategy, the Cabinet also agreed that Key Action Plans be produced and updated on an annual basis for approval by the Cabinet. An updated Key Action Plan will therefore be submitted to the Cabinet in September 2010 for approval.

Reason for decision:

The Housing Strategy includes a Key Action Plan, on which the Cabinet has asked the Housing Scrutiny Panel to monitor progress on a 6-monthly basis.

Options considered and rejected:

None.

Consultation undertaken:

None

Resource implications:

Budget provision: Nil

Personnel: Nil

Land: Nil

Community Plan/BVPP reference: Meeting Housing Need

Relevant statutory powers: N/A

Background papers: None

Environmental/Human Rights Act/Crime and Disorder Act Implications: None

Key Decision reference: N/A