

## **Report to the Cabinet**

**Report reference:** C-014-2011/12  
**Date of meeting:** 12 September 2011



**Portfolio:** Housing  
Planning & Technology

**Subject:** Housing Strategy 2009-12 - Key Action Plan 2011/12

**Responsible Officer:** Alan Hall (01992 564004)  
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**Democratic Services Officer:** Gary Woodhall (01992 564470)

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### **Recommendations/Decisions Required:**

(1) That, as recommended by the Housing Scrutiny Panel, the proposed Housing Strategy Key Action Plan 2011/12 – attached at Appendix 1 – be adopted.

### **Executive Summary:**

The Housing Scrutiny Panel has considered, and recommends, an updated Housing Strategy Key Action Plan for 2011/12, attached as Appendix 1.

The Housing Scrutiny Panel has also considered in detail a 12-Month Progress Report on last year's Key Action Plan, which is attached as Appendix 2 for information only.

### **Reasons for Proposed Decision:**

The Housing Strategy 2009-2012 includes a Key Action Plan, which the Cabinet has agreed should be updated each year, for the duration of the Housing Strategy.

### **Other Options for Action:**

- To not agree the latest Key Action Plan; or
- To propose different actions.

### **Report:**

1. At its meeting in September 2009, the Cabinet adopted the Housing Strategy 2009-2012. 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.
2. The Strategy also included a Key Action Plan, which set out the proposed actions that would be taken by the Council to contribute towards the achievement of the housing objectives over the 3 years of the Housing Strategy.
3. 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. Since the adoption of the Housing Strategy, the Housing Scrutiny Panel has received and considered 6-Monthly Progress Reports on the Key Action Plan each March and July, the last being July 2011.

4. When adopting the Housing Strategy, the Cabinet also agreed that Key Action Plans should be produced and updated on an *annual basis* for approval by the Cabinet. An updated Key Action Plan was therefore considered in detail by the Housing Scrutiny Panel at its meeting in July 2011, which it now recommends to the Cabinet for adoption. The recommended Housing Strategy Key Action Plan 2011/12 is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

5. At its meeting in July, the Housing Scrutiny Panel also considered a 12-Month Progress Report on last year's Key Action Plan (2010/11). A copy of which is attached as Appendix 2 for information only.

6. The Housing Strategy will be completely updated during 2012, for adoption by the Cabinet and full Council around September 2012, which will cover a further three-year period, with the Key Action Plan continuing to be updated on an annual basis, with progress continuing to be monitored by the Housing Scrutiny Panel every 6 months.

#### **Resource Implications:**

There are various resource implications, but these have been, or will be, reported to the Cabinet and/or Housing Portfolio Holder as appropriate and when required.

#### **Legal and Governance Implications:**

All proposals comply with the relevant legislations.

#### **Safer, Cleaner and Greener Implications:**

A number of the proposals will result in safer and/or greener outcomes.

#### **Consultation Undertaken:**

There was extensive consultation undertaken prior to the Housing Strategy 2009-2012 being adopted.

The Housing Scrutiny Panel was consulted on this latest Key Action Plan.

#### **Background Papers:**

None.

#### **Impact Assessments:**

##### Risk Management

Any risks associated with the proposed actions will be assessed as part of the individual project proposals.

Equality and Diversity

*Did the initial assessment of the proposals contained in this report for relevance to the Council's general equality duties, reveal any potentially adverse equality implications?* Yes

*Where equality implications were identified through the initial assessment process, has a formal Equality Impact Assessment been undertaken?* Yes

*What equality implications were identified through the Equality Impact Assessment process?*  
A Customer (Equality) Impact Assessment has previously been undertaken on the Council's approach to its Housing Strategy generally, which will be updated later this year. Any Impact Assessments required for individual actions will be undertaken when necessary.

*How have the equality implications identified through the Equality Impact Assessment been addressed in this report in order to avoid discrimination against any particular group?*  
N/A.