

Report to Housing Scrutiny Panel

Date of meeting: 22 January 2014

Portfolio: Housing – Cllr D. Stallan

**Subject: Housing Strategy: 6-Month Progress
Report on Key Action Plan 2013/14**

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Committee Secretary: Mark Jenkins (01992 56 4607)



Recommendations:

That the 6-Month Progress Report on the Housing Strategy Key Action Plan 2013/14, 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. The Housing Strategy assesses the District's current and future housing needs 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 first year of the Housing Strategy.
3. When adopting the Housing Strategy, the Cabinet also agreed that Key Action Plans for the Housing Strategy should be produced and updated on an annual basis for approval by the Cabinet.
4. The Housing Strategy itself was due to be updated last year, for a further three-year period. However, the Housing Portfolio Holder agreed that the production of the next Housing Strategy should be deferred until the completion of the Preferred Options for the Council's new Local Plan, since much of the Housing Strategy is dependent on the Local Plan. In the meantime, the Housing Portfolio Holder agreed a further Housing Strategy Key Action Plan for 2013/14.
5. The Cabinet has previously agreed that progress with the Key Action Plans should be monitored on a 6-monthly basis by the Housing Scrutiny Panel, in accordance with its Terms of Reference. Therefore, the 6-Month Progress Report for the current Key Action Plan for 2013/14 is 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.