

Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee
4 September 2025

CONSULTATION ON A HOMES STRATEGY FOR THE BOROUGH

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

- 1. To consider the Homes Strategy for the Borough which was agreed for consultation at Cabinet on 8 July 2025.

Summary

- 2. A draft Homes Strategy has been prepared, and it was agreed at the Cabinet meeting on 8 July 2025 that the Council would consult on the Strategy. The Cabinet report and Homes Strategy are attached at **APPENDIX 1**.

Recommendation

- (a) It is recommended that Members consider the draft Homes Strategy and make any formal comments as part of the consultation.

Trevor Watson
Executive Director of Economy and Public Protection

Background Papers

Draft Homes Strategy and Cabinet Report.

David Hand : Extension 6294

Council Plan	The strategy supports the core priority of homes that are affordable, secure and meet the current and future needs of residents. There are also a range of indirect benefits for the other priorities of the Council Plan.
Addressing inequalities	The draft strategy considers inequalities around age and disability. It sets priorities and actions to provide positive impacts on these inequalities in relation to housing provision. This will help to ensure opportunities are accessible to everyone for good housing. It is important to note that the strategy brings together a number of existing Council policies and strategies which have been subject to equality impact assessment.

Tackling Climate Change	Includes measures and actions the Council aims to achieve in terms of housing to mitigate climate change and reduce carbon emissions.
Efficient and effective use of resources	A number of the existing policies and strategies referenced in the document support the efficient and effective use of resources.
Health and Wellbeing	High quality homes in the right places supports the health and wellbeing of local residents.
S17 Crime and Disorder	There are benefits in reducing levels of crime through several of the priorities in the strategy. For example, encouraging good design and placemaking, urban regeneration and tackling homelessness.
Wards Affected	All
Groups Affected	All
Budget and Policy Framework	The Homes Strategy will be monitored and reviewed by the planning policy team and other related service areas. There will be no direct impact on the Council's budget. When approved it will form part of the Council's policy framework.
Key Decision	Yes
Urgent Decision	No
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	Positive impacts with regards to the provision of supported and specialist housing.

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

- See Cabinet report APPENDIX 1.

Outcome of Consultation

- Consultation is ongoing.