

**Name of meeting: Council**

**Date: 12 September 2018**

**Title of report: Kirklees Housing Strategy 2018 – 2023**

**Purpose of report:**

The Council's Housing Strategy 2018 – 2023 is in article 4 of the Kirklees constitution and as such, requires full Council approval.

The Housing Strategy sets out the Council's ambitions for housing and housing services in Kirklees over the next 5 years and supports the key Kirklees outcomes. The Strategy focuses on the three priorities of addressing housing need, improving housing quality and enabling housing growth.

Following the recommendation of Cabinet on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2018, this report seeks approval of Kirklees Council's Housing Strategy 2018 – 2023.

<b>Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?</b>	<b>Yes. The Housing Strategy is applicable across all wards in Kirklees</b>
<b>Key Decision - Is it in the <a href="#">Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)</a></b>	<b>Decision of Council on 12 September 2018</b>
<b>The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Date signed off by Strategic <u>Director</u> &amp; name</b>	<b>Karl Battersby - 15.08.2018</b>
<b>Is it also signed off by the Acting Service Director - Finance, IT and Transactional Services?</b>	<b>Eamonn Croston - 17.08.2018</b>
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal, Governance and Commissioning?</b>	<b>Julie Muscroft - 17.08.2018</b>
<b>Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a></b>	<b>Cllr Cathy Scott - Adults and Independence</b>

**Electoral wards affected: All**

**Ward councillors consulted: None**

**Public or private: Public**

**1. Summary**

- 1.1 The draft Housing Strategy 2018 – 2023 has been developed over recent months and has been shaped and influenced by a wide range of internal and external stakeholders.
- 1.2 The strategy sets out the Council's key issues, challenges, and ambitions for housing and housing services in Kirklees over the next 5 years and supports the key Kirklees outcomes.
- 1.3 The strategy focusses on three priorities. These are, addressing housing need, improving housing quality and enabling housing growth. The draft strategy is attached to this report.

- 1.4 A high level Year One Action Plan has been developed which prioritises actions and identifies the outcomes to be achieved. The action plan forms part of the Housing Strategy.
- 1.5 Following the recommendation of Cabinet on 29 August 2018, this report seeks Council approval of the Kirklees Housing Strategy 2018 – 2023.

## **2. Information required to take a decision**

- 2.1 The Council's previous Housing Strategy expired in 2017. Whilst it is not a statutory obligation for the Council to have a housing strategy, clearly it is crucial that the strategic plans for how the Council will continue to address housing need for Kirklees district and its residents are set out.
- 2.2 The strategy describes the overarching ambition for housing in Kirklees;  
*"Kirklees offers a greater range of good quality mixed tenure housing, where people live in suitable, warm, safe and affordable homes in attractive and prosperous places throughout their lives".*
- 2.3 The strategy sets out under each priority of the housing strategy what we and our partners will do in addressing the challenges and enabling our ambitions to be realised.
- 2.4 The progress made in meeting our priorities will be monitored and measured via the Action Plan. This will be reviewed on an annual basis throughout the period covered by the strategy. Outcomes from this review process will drive revisions to both the strategy and action plan, as necessary.

## **3. Implications for the Council**

### **3.1 Early Intervention and Prevention (EIP)**

There are positive implications through the housing strategy's focus on supporting people's overall health and wellbeing and enabling people to live more independently, for longer, in a suitable home of their own.

### **3.2 Economic Resilience (ER)**

The housing strategy has a clear focus on enabling economic growth and resilience, through the strategic ambition for the delivery of new homes and longer term housing supply. The economic impact of new housing development generates direct employment, supply chain benefits and training initiatives for local people, delivering economic resilience at both an individual and wider Place based level.

### **3.3 Improving Outcomes for Children**

There are positive implications for children and young people in improving the quality standards of housing that families live in, and for vulnerable young people who need specialist and supported accommodation in order to achieve and maintain settled and successful independent living.

### **3.4 Reducing demand of services**

The housing strategy is focussed on enabling people to access and maintain a settled, secure, affordable and good quality home that supports their independence and life chances. Doing so reduces people's reliance on services and increases their ability to do and achieve more for themselves.

### **3.5 Legal/Financial or Human Resources**

There are no direct legal/financial or human resources implications arising from the housing strategy.

In line with the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED), an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been carried out and published. It is clear that the Strategy has been drafted to reduce inequality and in doing so to promote and discharge the PSED. The strategy for example recognises the need to take steps to meet the needs of those with protected characteristics (e.g. older people and disabled people including those with learning disabilities) and also the need to take steps to meet the needs of others who may not have protected characteristics (such as ex- offenders, people with drug and / or alcohol dependencies and others who are generally described as being "socially excluded") but who face prejudice when it comes to housing

## **4. Consultees and their opinions**

Wide engagement has taken place in developing and shaping the housing strategy. This includes engagement with internal council services, colleagues from Health and the Clinical Commissioning Groups, Public Health, Housing Associations and developers, Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing (KNH), specialist and supported housing forums including the Kirklees Preventing Homelessness forum, and other voluntary sector groups representing vulnerable groups.

A number of discussions have been held with the Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel during 2017 /18, around housing issues and the emerging Housing Strategy.

Cabinet recommended the Housing Strategy for approval on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2018.

## **5. Next steps**

As part of the Policy Framework for Kirklees Council, the Council's Housing Strategy requires formal approval by Council.

Subject to Council approval, the strategy will be publicly available via the Council's website.

## **6. Officer recommendations and reasons**

To recommend approval of the Housing Strategy 2018 – 2023 to full Council, in line with the policy framework requirements.

## **7. Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations**

Following the decision of Cabinet on 29 August 2018, the Cabinet portfolio holder, Councillor Cathy Scott recommends that full Council approve the Housing Strategy.

## **8. Contact officer**

Karen Oates - Commissioning Manager (access to housing)

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## **9. Background Papers and History of Decisions**

Cabinet recommended the Housing Strategy 2018 – 2023 for approval on 29 August

Appendix 1: Housing Strategy 2018 - 2023

## **10. Service Director responsible**

Naz Parkar - Director of Housing

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