

Name of meeting: Cabinet

Date: 29th August 2018

Title of report: Kirklees Housing Strategy 2018 – 2023

Purpose of report: To seek approval from Cabinet to the draft Housing Strategy 2018 - 2023

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?	Yes. The Housing Strategy is applicable across all wards in Kirklees
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	Yes
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by Strategic <u>Director</u> & name	Karl Battersby - 15.08.2018
Is it also signed off by the Acting Service Director - Finance, IT and Transactional Services?	Eamonn Croston – 17.08.2018
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal, Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft – 17.08.2018
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Cathy Scott - Adults and Independence

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.

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.

5. Next steps

Following Cabinet approval, the Housing Strategy will go forward to a meeting of full Council for formal adoption. Prior to this, officers will work with Comms colleagues to prepare a finalised document.

The strategy will be publicly available via the Council’s website following presentation to Council.

6. Officer recommendations and reasons

It is recommended that Cabinet note and approve the draft Housing Strategy and refer to Council for discussion and approval in September

7. Cabinet portfolio holder’s recommendations

The portfolio holder, Councillor Cathy Scott agrees with the approach outlined above in officer recommendations.

8. Contact officer

Karen Oates - Commissioning Manager (access to housing)
karen.oates@kirklees.gov.uk
(014840 221000)

9. Background Papers and History of Decisions

Draft Housing Strategy 2018 - 2023

10. Service Director responsible

Naz Parkar - Director of Housing
naz.parkar@kirklees.gov.uk
(01484) 221000