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Bolsover District Council

Meeting of the Tenant Participation Review and Development Group on 16th July 2024

Agenda Item 10: Housing Strategy 2024-2029 – planned consultation

Classification:	This report is Public
Report By:	Assistant Director of Housing Management and Enforcement Housing Strategy and Development Officer

The Council’s current Housing Strategy 2021-24 is due to expire in 2024 and as such a revised strategy is required. Officers propose to run the incoming strategy from 2024-2029 to ensure that it covers the Council Plan 2024-28 but also takes the Council beyond this point, allowing the incoming Council in 2027 to formulate their new Council Plan. Furthermore, having a plan that covers a longer period will allow us to align with existing district and countywide strategies.

The Strategy forms a plan on how the Council will work with partners in the public, private and voluntary sectors to enable housing growth across all sectors, and the quality and range of housing to meet the resident’s needs of the district, including housing and support for the most vulnerable.

The strategy will also have a key role in helping to secure potential external funding for housing related projects across the district.

The Council’s outgoing Housing Strategy 2021-2024 identifies the following key strategic housing priorities to address the challenges highlighted by national and local policy and data:

- Key Priority 1 – Providing Good Quality Housing
- Key Priority 2 – Enabling Housing Growth
- Key Priority 3 – Supporting Vulnerable and Disadvantaged People.

Following the last report in April 2024, the teams have been working on the draft content based on the existing wider policy framework, gathering district profile data and have commissioned the Local Housing Needs Study jointly with Chesterfield Borough Council.

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Attached at Appendix 1 is an outline structure for the new strategy based on the recently approved council plan Bolsover District The Future 2024-2028, and our wider policy framework at national and local level.

The revised proposed timeframes for the development and implementation of the new strategy allows for a longer public consultation period and takes account of the revised timescales for completion of the Housing Needs Study.

During the live window for the public consultation, the survey will be circulated to the following stakeholders and will feature as a main link on the Council website:

- Circulation to tenant email addresses, where held
- Circulation to Parishes – to include a poster with QR code
- Poster with QR code in contact centres and hard copy for viewing
- Poster with QR code in the following libraries and hard copy for viewing:
 - Bolsover
 - Clowne
 - Creswell
 - Pinxton
 - Shirebrook
 - South Normanton
 - Whitwell
- Circulation to Citizen’s Panel mailing list
- Circulation to Communications email lists
- Circulation to Private Registered Providers with properties within the district
- Circulation to private landlords contact list
- Circulation to neighbouring councils
- Circulation to Derbyshire County Council/NHS partners.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That members of the Group note the proposed outline structure of the new strategy and provide comment on the proposals, revised timetable for development and the planned consultation.

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Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy, Environment and Housing

The Strategy links to all the corporate aims:

- Our Customers by providing excellent and accessible services
- Our Economy by driving growth, promoting the District and being business and visitor friendly
- Our Environment by protecting the quality of life for residents and businesses, meeting environmental challenges and enhancing biodiversity
- Our Housing by delivering social and private sector housing growth

Priorities:

- Enabling housing growth by increasing the supply, quality, and range of housing to meet the needs of the growing population.
- Building more, good quality, affordable housing, and being a decent landlord
- Maintaining and improving property and housing management standards and ensuring that standards and living conditions in the district contribute towards better health outcomes for all
- Maximising our influence and opportunities within the East Midlands Combined County Authority to create affordable, good quality housing options and to retrofit existing homes to be more environmentally sustainable.

Target HOU01: Prepare and adopt new Council Housing Strategy by October 2024

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
1.	Housing Strategy 2024-2029 – initial strategy outline 150724