

BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cabinet Executive Response to Scrutiny Recommendations – Affordable Housing

Date submitted to Cabinet Executive: 7 November 2022

Cabinet Member responsible for compliance with notice of requirement: **Cllr. Les Phillimore – Housing, Community and Environmental Services.**

	Recommendation	Agreed YES/NO/ IN PART	Cabinet Response including proposed action	Responsible Officer	Action by date
R1	That Members continue to respond robustly to consultation in respect of the National Planning Policy Framework, where policies are proposed which encourage the increase of Affordable Home Ownership and where this is at the expense of other tenures which are needed in the Blaby District.	Yes	This is an on-going recommendation which should be considered in line with appropriate planning applications that include new affordable housing in the District.	Ian Jones – Housing Services Manager	On-going
R2	That Blaby District Council continue to support and grow relationships with housing providers and strategic partners and to continue to research and identify funding opportunities that will help Affordable Housing projects increase across the District.	Yes	The Council's Strategic Housing Team continue to strengthen relationships with affordable housing providers and in particular with Registered Providers that have a Strategic Partnership agreement with Homes England. This will allow us to maximise the amount of Government funding that is attributed to the District whilst also remaining agile and opportunistic to any new funding streams that may arise.	Ian Jones – Housing Services Manager	On-going
R3	That Blaby District Council work with housing providers to investigate new forms of housing		The Strategic Housing Team regularly discuss all forms of housing including modular and	Ian Jones – Housing	On-going

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	such as passivhaus that are also sustainable and contribute towards the green agenda.		passivhaus with our Registered Provider partners. All partners have an interest in modular homes and some have developed schemes in other areas, we will monitor the success of these schemes whilst looking to enable future modular schemes within the District.	Services Manager	
R4	That Scrutiny Commission is updated every 6-12 months on the need of Affordable Housing and new ways in which Affordable Housing sites can be achieved through different types of methods e.g. Modular Homes.		<p>The need for affordable housing in the District has never been greater. The latest Housing and Economic Needs Assessment points towards an acute need for rented tenures of affordable housing and an overall District need of 534 new affordable homes per annum.</p> <p>The majority of affordable homes continue to come from major schemes where 25% of all homes on all major developments are affordable homes.</p> <p>Due to an overall development downturn over the last 3 years only 158 affordable homes were built in the District. However there are a number of all affordable sites currently in development through our Strategic Partnerships with Registered Providers. Many of which will be completed during the current financial year resulting in over 175 new affordable homes. These will include homes for singles, families and specific schemes for those needing housing related support.</p>	Ian Jones – Housing Services Manager	On-going

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R5	That all Members receive in depth training on the topic of Affordable Housing from relevant Officers.		<p>The Housing Services Team carried out training with Members in October 2022 which was well attended and well received.</p> <p>A further training session will take place towards the end of June / early July which will be a refresher for some members and also providing new information for new members. The session will be more focussed on affordable housing.</p>	Ian Jones – Housing Services Manager	On-going
R6	That Members note the increasing need for temporary accommodation due to the growing number of families and single households becoming homeless and the pressures and demands that this puts on the service.		A number of temporary accommodation options are currently being considered and these options will be discussed with Members in due course.	Ian Jones – Housing Services Manager	On-going