

SUBJECT:	DELIVERING QUALITY HOUSING VISION 2020 PROGRESS REPORT
DIRECTORATE:	HOUSING AND INVESTMENT MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS
REPORT AUTHOR:	DAREN TURNER, DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND INVESTMENT

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide Performance Scrutiny Committee with an update on progress towards the Delivering Quality Housing strategic priority contained in Vision 2020.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 On an annual basis each vision group provides a progress report to Performance Scrutiny Committee. This report provides an update on the progress of the group in delivering Quality Housing and its strategic priority aspirations. The report should be read alongside Cllr Donald Nannestad's annual Portfolio Holder report, also being presented to Performance Scrutiny Committee on 23rd January 2020.

3. Background

- 3.1 Vision 2020 was published in January 2017, and contains four strategic priorities (Reduce Inequality; Economic Growth; Quality Housing; and Remarkable Place), along with an important strand of work focusing on High Performing Services.
- 3.2 As part of the arrangements for managing and monitoring progress of Vision 2020, the council established four Vision Groups along with a High Performing Services Board, each with a Corporate Management Team lead. Each Vision Group reports annually to Performance Scrutiny Committee on progress.
- 3.3 The Quality Housing Vision Group is leading on delivering the following council aspirations under this priority:
- Let's provide housing which meets the varied needs of our residents
 - Let's work together to help reduce homelessness in Lincoln
 - Let's improve housing conditions for all
- 3.4 This report is being submitted alongside the annual report written by Cllr Donald Nannestad, Portfolio Holder for Delivering Quality Housing, providing Performance Scrutiny Committee with the opportunity to undertake an in-depth review of the Quality Housing strategic priority and portfolio. To help avoid duplication, key performance indicators have been included in Cllr Nannestad's report instead of this report.

4. Position Statement (Appendix A)

- 4.1 A Position Statement is attached to this report as Appendix A. It captures the 'day to day' work by the council that is integral to delivering this strategic priority. This was captured to ensure we understand the resource committed across the council, and to recognise how all staff have a role in delivering this priority under Vision 2020.

5. Project Monitoring Table (Appendix B)

5.1 The Project Monitoring Table provides an overview of the current and live projects for this strategic priority. This table is attached to this report as Appendix B.

5.2 There are 10 projects currently being monitored in the work programme for Quality Housing. A summary of the position of these projects is included below. This is split by completed projects, projects flagged as green (meeting their milestones), and projects flagged as amber (monitored closely as a result of being impacted by a number of external factors). There are currently no projects flagged as red (not meeting their milestones).

5.3 Completed projects – The following three projects have been completed during the past year:-

- **Establish Supported Housing Forum and co-ordinate liaison with Lincolnshire County Council.** The forum was established in 2019 and is attended by Lincolnshire County Council, a City of Lincoln Council representative and supported housing providers within Lincolnshire.
- **Ensure compliance with the Homeless Reduction Act.** The City of Lincoln Council are fully compliant with the Homelessness reduction act with an action plan in place.
- **Complete the Supported Housing review and implementation.** In July 2019 the council's Executive Committee gave approval to modernise the Council's Supported Housing Service. Implementation of the service has been complete with amendments to the staffing structure, including amended working practices and an increase in the use of technology.

5.4 Projects flagged as green – The following projects are underway and meeting the set milestones.

- **Bring empty properties back into use**
The Empty Homes Strategy was adopted in 17/18 and delivery throughout 19/20 has focused on working closely with owners of properties that have been empty for more than 2 years to help bring their property back into use. The council's Acquisition Policy was adopted in May 2019 enabling the council to buy back former council properties and purchase empty homes to bring them back into use.
- **Deliver De Wint Court plans**
The Housing Strategy and Investment team secured funding from Homes England and Lincolnshire County Council towards a new 70 unit extra care facility. Planning permission for the scheme was granted in March 2019 and following a full tender exercise the Contractors were appointed in October 2019 and started on site in December 2019.
- **Improve energy efficiency to tackle fuel poverty**
Throughout 2019 the Housing Investment Team have delivered the council housing investment programme which include upgrading old and inefficient boilers. This programme has resulted in an improvement to the EPC rating of council properties.
- **Deliver and facilitate at least 400 new homes by 2020**
The Lincoln Homes Board has been set up to oversee the commissioning

and delivery of new council homes and have secured planning permission and contractors to deliver 123 new homes on 3 sites and are due to start on site in 2020. In addition 30 new homes have been secured through the council's purchase and repair scheme.

- **5 year Housing Land Supply sites annual review**

The annual review of sites was completed in August 2019 and confirm that Central Lincolnshire currently has 5 years' worth of housing land supply in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework. The Central Lincolnshire Local Plan team put out a call for sites in June 2019 and are in the process of reviewing all sites for suitability for housing.

- **Deliver the Housing Health Assistance Policy.**

The policy was approved by Executive Committee in March 2018 and delivery of the policy has been underway throughout 19/20. The policy delivers Disabled Facilities Grant and discretionary assistance schemes to fund adaptations to a person's home as a result of wider health determinants other than disability.

5.5 Projects flagged as amber – The following project was delayed and has been flagged as Amber to ensure this is monitored closely by the Quality Housing Vision Group. Further detail on this action is provided in Appendix B.

- **Delivery of Queen Elizabeth Road development**

In January 2020 Executive approved a proposal to proceed with early demolition of two blocks of flats and to fund the work required to review the masterplan for the site to incorporate the wider area around Trelawney Church and prepare a phasing strategy to RIBA stage 3/4.

6. Performance Indicators

A set of performance indicators have been developed for the Quality Housing strategic priority. These measures have been included within Cllr Donald Nannestad's Portfolio Holder report to this committee.

7. Strategic Priorities

7.1 Let's deliver quality housing

This report captures the progress of the Quality Housing Vision Group, whose remit is to ensure the delivery of this strategic priority.

8. Organisational Impacts

8.1 Finance (including whole life costs where applicable)

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

8.2 Legal Implications including Procurement Rules

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

8.3 Equality, Diversity and Human Rights

The Public Sector Equality Duty means that the Council must consider all individuals when carrying out their day-to-day work, in shaping policy, delivering services and in relation to their own employees.

It requires that public bodies have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination
- Advance equality of opportunity
- Foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities

There are no E&D implications arising from this report.

9. Risk Implications

9.1 Options Explored – Not applicable.

Key risks associated with the preferred approach – Not applicable.

10. Recommendation

10.1 To consider the progress of the Vision Group and this strategic priority.

Is this a key decision?	No
Do the exempt information categories apply?	No
Does Rule 15 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules (call-in and urgency) apply?	No
How many appendices does the report contain?	Two
List of Background Papers:	None

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