

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 7**

**ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO AND DECISION OF CABINET  
ON 10 DECEMBER 2018**

**PART A : REPORT**

**SUBJECT: Housing and Homelessness Strategy 2019-2021**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Judy Knapp – Housing Services Manager, Satnam Kaur, Group Head of Residential Services

**DATE:** 17 October 2018

**EXTN:** 37740

**PORTFOLIO AREA:** Residential Services

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Council's Housing and Homelessness Strategy 2019-2021 is a single over-arching document covering Arun's primary strategic housing functions of homelessness prevention, private sector housing renewal, housing development and enabling as well as the landlord duties. The accompanying action plan contains the specific actions which will be undertaken to deliver the objectives set out in the strategy.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- It is recommended to Full Council that the Housing and Homelessness Strategy 2019-2021 and its supporting action plan are approved.
- Delegated authority is given to the Group Head of Residential Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Residential Services to make appropriate changes to the Strategy during its life span.

**1. BACKGROUND:**

- 1.1 The Council's Housing and Homelessness strategy sets out the way in which the Council and its partners are working towards a balanced housing market for the Arun District and ensuring the provision of safe and healthy homes for Arun's resident.
- 1.2 The main purpose of the strategy is to provide a framework for the Council's housing vision and an evidence base for all the strategic housing work undertaken by the Council and its partners. The strategy and its accompanying action plan are both designed to make a positive contribution to the health of the local economy.
- 1.3 The Council is required to develop and publish a Strategy to prevent homelessness in the District every five years, under Section 1 of the Homelessness Act 2002. The Housing Strategy and Homelessness Strategy have been combined into one

document. Activities to prevent homelessness are dependent on the availability of additional housing, an improvement in the management and quality of existing housing, and the advice and support available to people who need it to successfully maintain their home. This approach means that the Homelessness Strategy can be read as ‘part of the bigger picture’ within Arun’s wider Housing Strategy and is not seen in isolation from the range of other housing factors that influence homelessness.

1.4 This strategy for the period 2019-2021 has four main objectives:

- To increase housing supply and improve access to affordable housing
- Prevent and relieve homelessness;
- Improve the housing conditions across all tenures
- Create sustainable communities to meet the needs of all residents

1.5 The strategy includes functions of the following areas:

- Housing options & homelessness;
- Housing enabling and development;
- Private sector housing team;
- Social housing allocations;
- Community Safety

1.6 The strategy will be delivered through an action plan, covering 2019-2021. Progress will be reported annually to the Housing and Customer Services Working Group.

**2. PROPOSAL(S):**

To agree the Housing and Homelessness Strategy 2019 – 2021 and action plan

**3. OPTIONS:**

- a) To adopt the Housing and Homelessness Strategy 2019 – 2021 and action plan.
- b) To not adopt the Housing and Homelessness Strategy 2019 – 2021 and action plan.
- c) To amend the Housing and Homelessness Strategy 2019-2021 and action plan.

**4. CONSULTATION:**

The Housing & Customer Services Working Group received a presentation on the Strategy at its meeting on 20 September 2018.

Has consultation been undertaken with:	YES	NO
Relevant Town/Parish Council		✓
Relevant District Ward Councillors		✓

Other groups/persons: Stonepillow; Turning Tides (formerly Worthing Churches Homeless Project); Bognor Housing Trust; Change, Grow, Live (CGL); Sanctuary Housing; Home Group; Citizens' Advice Bureau, Sussex Police; National Probation Service; WSCC Commissioning and Housing; Chichester DC; Crawley BC; Worthing & Adur; Mid Sussex DC; Horsham DC; Worthing Homes.	✓	
<b>5. ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL POLICIES: (Explain in more detail at 6 below)</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Financial	✓	
Legal	✓	
Human Rights/Equality Impact Assessment	✓	
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act	✓	
Sustainability		✓
Asset Management/Property/Land	✓	
Technology	✓	
Other (please explain)	✓	
<b>6. IMPLICATIONS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Housing and Homelessness strategy provides an evidence base which describes the dynamics of the Arun housing market. The strategy will be used to help produce future funding bids for all the housing related functions undertaken by the authority.</li> </ul>		

<b>7. REASON FOR THE DECISION:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To meet the statutory requirement to have a Homelessness Strategy.</li> <li>To set out the objectives and actions to meet Arun's housing and homelessness duties and obligations.</li> </ul>
<b>8. EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE DECISION:</b> 10 January 2019

<b>9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:</b>
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