

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 23 SEPTEMBER 2014

REPORT BY THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HEALTH HOUSING  
AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

MONITORING AND REVIEW OF THE HOUSING STRATEGY ACTION  
PLAN 2013-2016

WARD(S) AFFECTED: All

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**Purpose/Summary of Report**

- To report on the progress on the delivery of the Housing Strategy Action Plan 2013-2016 for consideration and comment.

**RECOMMENDATION FOR COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:**

**That:**

(A)	Members consider and comment on the progress made on the Housing Strategy Action Plan 2013-2016.
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1.0 Background

1.1 The Housing Strategy 2013-2016 was published in 2013 and since then the Council and its partners have been working to deliver the associated Action Plan.

1.2 The Housing Strategy 2013-2016 is a high level strategy and the action plan looks to aid the Strategic Objectives to:

- Maximise the delivery of new affordable homes, whilst ensuring the best use of existing housing
- Meeting the needs of a growing elderly population.
- Meeting the needs of vulnerable people and stronger communities.

## 2.0 Report

2.1 This report highlights progress for each of the Strategic Objectives. So, firstly, progress on Strategic Objective 1: Maximise the delivery of new affordable homes, whilst ensuring the best use of existing housing.

2.2 The Housing and Planning teams have worked closely on ensuring that new affordable housing is delivered effectively in the District. Successes include:

- Updated Affordable Housing Policy in the draft District Plan.
- Publication of the Strategic Land Availability Assessment (SLAA), Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) and Annual Monitoring Report.
- Supporting the Rural Housing Enabler based at the Community Development Agency (CDA) for Hertfordshire.
- Delivering a strong pipeline of new affordable housing units.
- Empty Homes target achieved.

2.3 Strategic Objective 2: Meeting the needs of a growing elderly population.

- Good liaison with Hertfordshire County Council to discuss older persons needs.
- The opening of Calton Court flexicare scheme.
- Swifter joint working on delivery of adaptations through the Disabled Facilities Grant.

2.4 Strategic Objective 3: Meeting the needs for vulnerable people and stronger communities.

- Equality Impact Assessments have been carried out on the Housing Register and Allocations Policy and the Housing

Strategy.

- The Baker Street Young Persons Project, now known as Rose Court opened in September 2013.

**2.5** The full Action Plan is attached for information as **Essential Reference Paper “B”**.

**2.6** The Housing Strategy 2013-2016 will be revised and updated throughout next year for endorsement in 2016.

**3.0** Implications/Consultations

**3.1** Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper ‘A’**.

**4.0** Conclusion

**4.1** Members are asked to consider and comment on the progress made to date.

Background Papers - None

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