

Housing Strategy Action Plan 2016-21

Priority	Action	Timescale	Resources	Outcome
Increasing housing supply across all tenures				
Delivering Affordable Housing	Work with the Rural Community Council for Essex to develop new rural housing schemes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver 3 new housing needs surveys in identified parishes with the Rural Housing Enabler • Complete a site search in one of the identified parishes 	September 2017 January 2016	Resource identified in Planning and Building Control budget	3 housing needs surveys completed in the District 1 site search completed and site identified for a rural housing scheme.
	Continue to develop LA new build scheme and deliver 15 homes per year.	April 2017	HRA funding	15 new Council homes built per year.
	Review potential development on Council owned land	April 2016	HRA funding	Development review completed and sites identified for sale or Council own development.
	Deliver in partnership with Registered Providers 100 affordable homes per year	April 2016	HCA funding	100 affordable homes delivered per year
	Review best use of commuted sum	September 2016	Within existing resources	Committed sum pot

	pot across the District when re established			spent in the most cost effective way.
	Complete a review of our developing registered providers to ensure that residents are gaining a good service from providers.	December 2016	Within existing resources	Review complete
	Work with Hastoe to deliver the Growth Area Funding project in Newport and deliver 34 affordable homes	April 2017	Growth Area Funding	34 affordable homes delivered
	Work with consultants to look at viability on large scale affordable housing schemes when required	On-going	Within existing resources	Affordable housing maximised.
	Work with Access group and arrange a visit to a new development scheme to look at accessibility of new build bungalows.	July 2016	Within existing resources	Scheme visit complete and findings used to improved future schemes.
	Implement the findings of the SHMA update	January 2016	Within existing resources	SHMA findings implemented
Helping people to live independently				
Delivering Supported Housing	Re-provision of a new Mental Health facility with Metropolitan housing	April 2017	Will require funding for the development	New mental health facility provided.
	Work with partners to deliver a supported unit for people with learning disabilities with Hastoe and East Thames	September 2016	Funding gained from Essex CC	New learning disability scheme provided

	Work with Home Farm Trust (HFT) to identify development opportunities for a new Learning disability scheme in Ugley	January 2017	Funding will be required	New learning disability scheme provided.
	Work with planning policy to identify and deliver new sites for Gypsy and Travellers.	January 2017	Within existing resources.	New sites for gypsy and travellers identified.
	Review the Government's wheelchair standards when published	April 2016	Within existing resources	Wheelchair standards reviewed and used as policy.
	Review Uttlesford's wheelchair policy, look at how many units are in the pipeline, are they meeting our needs, is the % correct	April 2016	Within existing resources	UDC Wheelchair standards reviewed and used as policy.
	Work with Essex CC to investigate the needs of care leavers and progress a scheme if required.	September 2016	Funding would need to be sought	Care leavers housed in Uttlesford.
	Work with key partners and stakeholders to ensure that we understand the specialist housing needs of those living in the District to inform the Local Plan	April 2016	Within existing resources	Fully informed Local Plan
Older People	Deliver an extra care scheme in	September 2017	Funding gained from	Extra care scheme

	Radwinter Road, Saffron Walden		HCA and Essex CC	delivered
	Deliver an extra care scheme in Great Dunmow in partnership.	September 2017	S106 site to be provided by the developer	Extra care scheme delivered
	Investigate and work with a specialist provider to deliver a scheme for dementia sufferers in Uttlesford.	September 2017	Funding will be required	Dementia scheme delivered
	On all new developments, request 5% as one and two bedroom bungalows to meet the needs of the ageing population	April 2016	Within existing resources	5% bungalows delivered.
	Investigate the implications of the Care Act 2014	April 2016	Within existing resources	Implications investigated and policy paper published
	Deliver the sheltered housing upgrade programme ensuring that all schemes are fit for purpose	April 2018	Within existing resources	Sheltered housing upgraded.
	Provide Internet cafes in all our sheltered schemes for silver surfers.	April 2016	Within existing resources	Internet cafes provided in all sheltered schemes.
	Publish key documents in easy read format	March 2016	Within existing resources	Documents published in easy read format
Homelessness	Investigate and deliver in partnership the provision of additional supported accommodation for vulnerable adults	June 2017	Funding will be required	Supported housing scheme for vulnerable adults built.
	Deliver a supported unit in the	April 2017	Funding identified	Domestic violence

	District for those fleeing Domestic Violence in partnership with Safer Places			scheme built
	Write and publish new Homeless Strategy 2015-20	January 2016	Within existing resources	Homeless strategy published
Allocations	Review the new allocations policy and the impact it has had on the Housing register	January 2016	Within existing resources	Allocations policy reviewed.
Ensuring decent, safe and healthy homes				
Private sector	Deliver on the new Climate Local Strategy	April 2016 and moving forwards	Within existing resources	Climate Local Strategy delivered.
	Continue to identify empty homes within the district and take appropriate action to bring them back into use	On-going	£50K allocated for 2015/16 plus additional PLACE scheme funding in place	Empty homes brought back into use
	Organise Landlords forum once a year	April 2016 and yearly after.	Within existing resources	Landlords forum held.
	Take part in a winter campaign with CAB ensuring that residents know how to keep warm, where to seek advice etc.	Winter 2015	Within existing resources	Winter campaign successfully run.
	Continue to administer Disabled Facilities Grants and seek additional funding from Essex County Council	On-going	Within existing resources	Disabled Facilities grants allocated.
	Continue to administer Home Repair Assistance Grants for those	On-going	Within existing resources	Home repair assistance grants allocated.

	in greatest need			
	Continue to investigate complaints alleging poor housing conditions	On-going	Within existing resources	Complaints investigated and dealt with.
	Commission the BRE housing stock modelling service to profile housing within the district	April 2015	Funding allocated in 2014/2015	Survey commissioned and implemented.
	Develop and implement an action plan based on the findings of the stock modelling data	March 2016 and moving forwards	Within existing resources	Implement Action plan
	Develop and implement an action plan for identifying licensed HMOs and take action to ensure that they are legally compliant	February 2015 and moving forwards	Within existing resources	Implement action plan
	Explore funding opportunities to implement projects to improve the condition of private sector housing	April 2016	Within existing resources	Funding gained for improvements to private sector house condition.
	Measure the cost savings to the NHS from the councils intervention	April 2016 and moving forwards	Within existing resources	Cost savings measured.
	Work with Home Improvement Agency to meet local needs	On-going	Within existing resources	
The Council's Housing Stock and other public sector housing	Continue to implement the agreed action plan of new housing improvements and service enhancements, funded from the additional resources made available by HRA self-financing	April 2016	HRA Funding	Housing improvements completed and reviewed at Housing Board
	Publish updated HRA Business Plan	January 2016	Within existing resources	HRA Business Plan published.

	Continue to make energy efficiency improvements to the existing housing stock	On-going	Within existing resources / HRA funding	Energy efficiency improvements complete
	Continue to provide advice to tenants on saving energy	On- going	Within existing resources	Energy saving advice given to tenants
	Work with the Tenant Regulatory Panel to undertake detailed reviews of specific housing services	April 2016	Within existing resources	Tenant Regulatory Panel reports to Housing Board with review findings.
Sustainable Communities	Investigate levels of Black and Minority Ethnic housing need and ensure that current and future housing provision meets these needs.	April 2016	Within existing resources	Data published and a way forward identified.
	Undertake equality impact assessments on new and existing housing policies.	October 2016	Within existing resources	Equality impact assessments completed on new documents.
	Continue to work towards Equality standards	April 2016	Within existing resources	Progress on meetings equality standards.
	Involve service users in shaping the services that they use and that affect their lives. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through tenant forum • Ongoing consultation events with older people, young people, those with specialist needs. • Yearly Housing Strategy 	March 2016	Within existing resources	Service users fully involved in key decisions.

	conference			
	Work with Planning and Health colleagues within the Council to ensure that adequate facilities are provided alongside housing. (Community facilities, health centres and schools)	On-going	Within existing resources	Good facilities provides alongside new development.
	Work with Uttlesford Futures to ensure that the Housing Strategy can inform the West Essex Health and Wellbeing Strategy	April 2016	Within existing resources	Housing Strategy informs the West Essex Health and Wellbeing Strategy
	Publish an easy read executive summary of the Housing Strategy to ensure that all service users can understand and shape our priorities.	December 2015	Voices to be Heard Group providing support.	Easy read executive summary of the Housing Strategy published.
Housing Strategy Review	Organise Housing Strategy conference to review progress, set new targets and celebrate success	October 2015	Within existing resources	Housing Strategy conference held.
	Review action plan twice a year and report to Housing Board.	Six monthly report to Housing Board and Tenant Forum.	Within existing resources	Action plan reviewed.