

## HOUSING STRATEGY – PRIORITIES FOR ACTION 2016-2021

Priority	Action	Timescale	Resources	Update Q3 2017-2018
<b>1. Increasing housing supply across all tenures</b>				
<b>Delivering Affordable Housing</b>	<p>Work with the Rural Community Council for Essex to develop new rural housing schemes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver 3 new housing needs surveys in identified parishes with the Rural Housing Enabler</li> <li>• Complete a site search in one of the identified parishes</li> </ul>	<p>September 2017</p> <p>January 2016</p>	Resource identified in Planning and Building Control budget	Wimbish phase 2 complete, Chrishall complete, Newport and Little Hallingbury onsite.
	Continue to develop LA new build scheme and deliver 15 homes per year.	April 2017	HRA funding	Reynolds Court phase 1 complete.
	Review potential development on Council owned land	April 2016	HRA funding	Sites identified. 2 garage sites on site with development. Planning permission on two further sites obtained
	Deliver in partnership with Registered Providers 100 affordable homes per year	April 2016	HCA funding	On target for over 150 in 2017/18
	Review best use of commuted sum pot across the District when re established	September 2016	Within existing resources	Policy was put on hold due to change in Government agenda. Officers investigating new policy as part of the new Local Plan.
	Complete a review of our developing registered providers to	December 2016	Within existing resources	Review completed, another scheduled for 2017/18.6 monthly meetings with

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	ensure that residents are gaining a good service from providers.			partners as well as a review event
	Work with Hastoe to deliver the Growth Area Funding project in Newport and deliver 34 affordable homes	April 2017	Growth Area Funding	34 properties have been delivered
	Work with consultants to look at viability on large scale affordable housing schemes when required	Ongoing	Within existing resources	Viability assessments completed when required
	Implement the findings of the SHMA update	January 2016	Within existing resources	SHMA findings implemented
<b>2 Helping people to live independently</b>				
<b>Delivering Supported Housing</b>	Re-provision of a new Mental Health facility with Metropolitan housing	April 2017	Will require funding for the development	Scheme no longer required in Uttlesford.
	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	Scheme due to complete Jul 2018
	Work with Home Farm Trust (HFT) to identify development opportunities for a new Learning disability scheme in Ugley	January 2017	Funding will be required	Discussions ongoing with HFT looking for suitable sites that they might be able to access.
	Work with planning policy to identify and deliver new sites for Gypsy and Travellers.	January 2017	Within existing resources.	Government policy has changed definition, new research has been completed and findings will be published as part of the new Local Plan
	Review the Government's	April 2016	Within existing	Wheelchair standards

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	wheelchair standards when published		resources	reviewed and used as policy by Building Control.
	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	Review being carried out as part of new Local Plan
	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	ECC have procured new services for care leavers
	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	Working with Planning on the draft Local Plan
<b>Older People</b>	Deliver an extra care scheme in Radwinter Road, Saffron Walden	September 2017	Funding gained from HCA and Essex CC	Extra care scheme on site due to be delivered Oct 2018
	Deliver an extra care scheme in Great Dunmow in partnership.	September 2017	S106 site to be provided by the developer	Extra care scheme still in discussion with RSL, ECC and developer
	Investigate and work with a specialist provider to deliver a scheme for dementia sufferers in Uttlesford.	September 2017	Funding will be required	Currently no plans for delivery of a specialised scheme. Extra care schemes will provide dementia friendly accommodation

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	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	Reynolds Court phase 1 complete, phase 2 due Sept 2018. Upgrade of Hatherley due to complete Dec 2018. .
	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
<b>Homelessness</b>	Investigate and deliver in partnership the provision of additional supported accommodation for vulnerable adults	June 2017	Funding will be required	No current plans for this scheme, awaiting government plans on funding for supported accommodation
	Deliver a supported unit in the District for those fleeing Domestic Violence in partnership with Safer Places	April 2017	Funding identified	Scheme no longer considered following ECC review of DV accommodation requirements across county and tendering of new contract
	Write and publish new Homeless Strategy 2016-21	January 2016	Within existing resources	Homeless strategy published and reviewed and updated annually

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<b>Allocations</b>	Review the new allocations policy and the impact it has had on the Housing register	January 2016	Within existing resources	Allocations policy reviewed
<b>3. Ensuring decent, safe and healthy homes</b>				
<b>Private sector</b>	Deliver on the new Climate Local Strategy	April 2016 and ongoing moving forwards	Within existing resources	Climate Local Strategy actions delivered. Many of these actions are covered by the actions below. Others private sector actions include successful delivery of energy switching scheme, domestic insulation scheme, boiler replacement scheme all to tackle fuel poverty and reduce carbon emissions
	Continue to identify empty homes within the district and take appropriate action to bring them back into use	Ongoing	£50K allocated for 2015/16 plus additional PLACE scheme funding in place	In 2017 the service successfully completed on a compulsory purchase order to bring a long term property back into use. The work of the service. Following a recent FOI, UDC is reported to have one of the lowest numbers of empty homes in the Country In 2017 the service contributed to 186 empty properties being brought back into use
	Organise Landlords forum once a year	April 2016 and yearly after	Within existing resources	Successful Landlords forum held Nov 2017

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	Take part in a winter campaign with CAB ensuring that residents know how to keep warm, where to seek advice etc.	Winter 2016 and ongoing	Within existing resources	Winter resilience campaign delivered. New Home Repairs Assistance Policy agreed in 2017 to assist with Winter resilience projects
	Continue to administer Disabled Facilities Grants and seek additional funding from Essex County Council	Ongoing	Within existing resources	Additional funding sought. The service is now being delivered in house. In house control of DFG has resulted in reduced waiting times for customers
	Continue to administer Home Repair Assistance Grants for those in greatest need	Ongoing	Within existing resources	The range of Home repair assistance grants has been extended. Grants & loans continue to be made to improve poor housing conditions for eligible persons
	Continue to investigate complaints alleging poor housing conditions	Ongoing	Within existing resources	Complaints investigated followed through with enforcement action. In 2017 the Council successfully prosecuted a poor landlord following a fire in a HMO
	Commission the BRE housing stock modelling service to profile housing within the district	April 2016	Within existing resources	Survey commissioned and implemented.
	Develop and implement an action plan based on the findings of the stock modelling data	March 2016 and ongoing moving forwards	Within existing resources	Action plan to tackle poor housing is ongoing

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	Develop and implement an action plan for identifying licensed HMOs and take action to ensure that they are legally compliant	February 2016 and ongoing moving forwards	Within existing resources	Licensing HMOs have been identified. Plans are being made for amendments in the definition of HMOs that will result in more licensed premises
	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	Ongoing	Within existing resources	Housing intervention measures are now being assessed using a health cost calculator.
	Work with Home Improvement Agency to meet local needs	Ongoing	Within existing resources	Work is now carried out in-house
<b>The Councils Housing Stock</b>	Publish updated HRA Business Plan and review annually	Ongoing	HRA Funding	5 year HRA Business Plan published Jan 2016. Reviewed, updated and reported to tenants and members annually
<b>Sustainable Communities</b>	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. Local PI for numbers on Housing Register and CORE data submitted
	Undertake equality impact assessments on new and existing housing policies	October 2016	Within existing resources	Equality impact assessments completed on all new documents
	Continue to work towards Equality standards	April 2016	Within existing resources	Equality objectives reviewed. Revised

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				objectives support the council in meeting the requirements of the general Equality Duty
	<p>Involve service users in shaping the services that they use and that affect their lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through tenant forum</li> <li>• Ongoing consultation events with older people, young people, those with specialist needs.</li> <li>• Yearly Housing Strategy conference</li> </ul>	March 2016	Within existing resources	<p>Tenant Forum and residents meetings held throughout 2017</p> <p>Housing Strategy Conference postponed due to ongoing events around Draft Local Plan.</p>
	<p>Work with Planning and Health colleagues within the Council to ensure that adequate facilities are provided alongside housing. (Community facilities, health centres and schools)</p>	Ongoing	Within existing resources	<p>Health and Wellbeing represented at regular meetings between housing and planning. This has resulted in input into Local Plan re air quality, housing type use of green spaces, health facilities</p>
	<p>Work with Uttlesford Futures to ensure that the Housing Strategy can inform the Health and Wellbeing Strategy</p>	April 2016	Within existing resources	<p>Housing Strategy informs new Uttlesford Health and Wellbeing Strategy which feeds into the Essex Strategy</p>
	<p>Publish an easy read executive summary of the Housing Strategy to ensure that all service users can</p>	December 2015	Voices to be Heard Group providing support.	<p>Easy read executive summary of the Housing Strategy published.</p>



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	understand and shape our priorities.			
<b>Housing Strategy Review</b>	Organise Housing Strategy conference to review progress, set new targets and celebrate success	October 2015	Within existing resources	Housing Strategy Conference postponed due to ongoing events around Draft Local Plan
	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. Next due at Housing Board Spring 2018