

Officer Executive Decisions

Housing Strategy

Delegation from Leader and Cabinet:

On 16 December 2014, the Cabinet considered the Housing Strategy 2015-2018, which set out Medway's strategic approach for housing services and detailed how the Council would enable the delivery of these services.

The strategy, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, provided a comprehensive picture of current housing needs and demands in Medway and set out how the Council and its partners would respond to existing and anticipated challenges. It was designed around four strategic priorities:

- Increase the supply of suitable and affordable homes;
- Improve the quality of homes, environment and people's lives;
- Promote sustainability by supporting people within their community;
- Improve the flexibility of accommodation.

It was noted that the strategy had been developed based upon a comprehensive review and consideration of the national and local context; achievements and progress of the 2011-14 Housing Strategy; and, consultation and needs analysis.

A copy of the report is available via the following link:

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=115&MId=2960&Ver=4>

The Cabinet approved the Draft Housing Strategy 2015-2018 (decision 200/2014) and agreed to delegate authority to the Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Services, to make any necessary minor changes prior to publishing the strategy.

Decision: The strategy was published on 22 July 2015. The delegated authority was used to ensure consistency between the action points contained within the strategy and the action plan and to correct of a number of minor typographical errors.

A copy of the revised Housing Strategy is available on the Council's website: <http://www.medway.gov.uk/housing/housingpublications/housingstrategies.aspx>

Reasons for Decision:

The use of the delegated authority ensures the accuracy of the document approved by Cabinet.

The Housing Strategy ensures compliance with the requirement of Section 87 of the Local Government Act 2003 and provides a common understanding of Medway's housing market and how gaps in housing and/or housing related support can be addressed.

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Date of Decision: 22 July 2015

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Details of any other options considered and rejected: None.

Conflicts of Interest: None.