Report to Communities Select Committee

Date of meeting: 27 June 2016

Portfolio: Housing – Cllr S. Stavrou

Subject: Housing Strategy: 6-Month Progress Report on Key Action Plan 2016

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Committee Secretary: Mark Jenkins (01992 56 4607)



Recommendations:

That the 6-Month Progress Report on the Housing Strategy Key Action Plan 2016, attached as an Appendix, be considered, with any comments passed to the Housing Portfolio Holder and Director of Communities accordingly.

Report:

1. The Council has adopted a Housing Strategy, that assesses the District's current and future housing needs and sets out the Council's approach to meeting those needs.

2. The Strategy also included a Key Action Plan, which set out the proposed actions that would be taken by the Council to contribute towards the achievement of the housing objectives over the first year of the Housing Strategy. When adopting the Housing Strategy, the Cabinet also agreed that Key Action Plans for the Housing Strategy should be produced and updated on an annual basis.

3. The latest Key Action Plan was agreed in January 2016 and the Cabinet has previously agreed that progress with the Key Action Plans should be monitored on a 6-monthly basis by the Communities Select Committee (previously the Housing Select Committee). Therefore, the 6-Month Progress Report for the current Key Action Plan for 2016 is attached as an Appendix, which the Select Committee is asked to consider and to provide any comments to the Housing Portfolio Holder and Director of Communities.

4. It should be noted that the formulation of a new Housing Strategy has been delayed, as a result of delays with the formulation of a new Local Plan. The previous Housing Portfolio Holder determined that, due to the Housing Strategy having so much reliance on the Local Plan, a new Housing Strategy should be drafted once the Council's Draft Local Plan (Preferred Approach) has been agreed and published. However, in the meantime, annual Key Action Plans have been produced, progressed and monitored.