

MEMBER BRIEFINGS AND COMMUNITY WEBINARS

The following information was presented at Member briefings and community webinars. It focused on the high-level vision, priorities, and objectives.

Everyone who attended was invited to ask questions and provide their feedback either during the briefing or afterwards. They were also directed to the on-line survey and encouraged to ask other potentially interested contacts / constituents to do likewise.

Housing Strategy 2022-2027 Stage 2 Consultation

Member and Community Presentations
26 May 2022 – 27 June 2022

Janice Nuth – Housing Strategy Manager (Interim)

Housing Strategy 2022 – 2027 Consultation:



Proposed vision

To work with the community to create great places where people want to live, and an efficient local housing authority where people want to achieve their aspirations.

What do you like and why ?

What would you change and why?

Housing Strategy 2022 – 2027 Consultation:



Comments

There was general consensus of agreement with the first part of the proposed vision 'To work with the community to create great places where people want to live', and suggestions that this should include 'live and work', and 'safety and recreation facilities.

There was also agreement that the second part 'and an efficient local housing authority where people want to achieve their aspirations' should be disregarded.

Interdependencies: joining the dots



Housing Strategy 2022 – 2027 Consultation:



1. Increase the supply of affordable housing

- a summary of the **Local Plan** for the supply of affordable housing
- the planned growth of 23,000 new homes in **Harlow and Gilston Garden Town**
- the **Councils Housebuilding Programme** and other affordable housing pipeline
- Strengthen the links between all affordable **housing and planning partnerships**
- Continue to work with **Homes England** to maximise funding opportunities
- Consider govt initiatives **First Homes, Shared Ownership, Community Self Build**
- Work with landlords to maximise affordable compliant **private rented housing**
- Achieve value for money in the letting of all **temporary and settled accommodation**

Housing Strategy 2022 – 2027 Consultation:



Comments

Properties should be tenure blind.

The information regarding the Local Plan and the Garden Town should go into the introduction as they are outside of the remit of the housing strategy.

The private rented sector is not at all affordable.

2. Quality and standards

- a) Compliance with the **Building Safety Act**
- b) Achieving **Construction Design and Management** Standards
- c) Delivering the **Charter for Social Housing Residents**,
- d) Increasing **Resident Involvement** and **Tenant Selected Measures**
- e) **Estate Regeneration** creating great places where people want to live
- f) Ensuring properties meet the new **Decent Homes Standard**
- g) Modernising **sheltered housing** and housing for older people

Housing Strategy 2022 – 2027 Consultation:



Comments

Properties should meet or exceed the Decent Homes Standard.

3. Promote health wellbeing & independence

- a) **Health and Care Act** – achieving good outcomes in partnership
- b) Offering **appropriate assistance** to residents in need at the right time
- c) Listening and responding to **lived experiences** and **aspirations**
- d) Promoting **opportunities** to improve health, wellbeing and life-chances
- e) Expanding **Personal Housing Plans** to include social activities
- f) Adopting the housing aspects of the **National Disabilities Strategy**

Housing Strategy 2022 – 2027 Consultation:



Comments

The retrofitting of fire safety measures should not be at the expense of losing the use of outside spaces such as balconies.

The lack of public transport to some areas of the district creates social and economic exclusion.

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4. Economic growth and regeneration

- a) Tackling **fuel poverty** by promoting help that is available
- b) Marketing **employment, training, and apprentice initiatives**
- c) Reviewing the support that is available for households in debt
- d) **Regenerating** Council and mixed tenure estates
- e) Nurturing aspirations to move to **affordable home ownership**
- f) Exploring the feasibility of developing more **key worker housing**

Housing Strategy 2022 – 2027 Consultation:



Comments

Tackling fuel poverty should include promoting and delivering help that is available.

Ideas for community initiatives take too long and which prevents us from securing time limited funds to deliver the initiatives

5. Protect and enhance the environment

- a) Improving the look and feel of **Council/ mixed tenure estates**
- b) Embracing **climate change**, net zero carbon requirements, tree preservation and **sustainable transport**
- c) Tackling **environmental health issues**: pollution anti-social behaviour, private sector stock condition and licencing laws
- d) Reviewing our approach to **bringing empty homes back in to use**
- e) **Raising awareness** of environmental and social issues

Housing Strategy 2022 – 2027 Consultation:



Comments

Are these priorities in order of importance ? I think they are in the right order.

We need the teeth of enforcement to make tackling environmental health issues work

We need to include electric charging points for cars, especially where there are flats.

We should build up a relationship with North Essex Parking Partnership for new developments.