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| **THEME 1: Enabling the delivery of new homes that people can afford and meeting different types of need in our communities.** | **What we will do** | **When will we do it?** | **Who will deliver this?** | **Resources** | **Milestones** | **Target/Outcome** | **What would success look like?** | **Progress update January 2025** |
| **Deliver 1000 high quality, suitable and affordable homes throughout the borough between 2020 and 2025.** | Negotiate through the planning system to maximise new affordable housing delivery. | Ongoing | Housing Development Team | Staff time | Regular review of delivery at staff 1:1s and appraisals. Quarterly performance monitoring and reporting. Year end performance monitoring, analysis and reporting. | At least 200 new affordable homes per annum that meet a range of needs including (and particularly) those on the housing register. | 200+ new affordable homes delivered per annum that are of adequate size and design to meet both current and future needs of occupants. | Delivery in 2023/24 remained below target due to a range of external factors. |
|  | Actively work with partners to ensure new Affordable Homes meet required space standards | Ongoing | Housing Development Team | Staff time | Review policy position on space standards as part of Review of Local Plan | 200+ new affordable homes delivered per annum that are of adequate size and design to meet both current and future needs of occupants. | New affordable homes support households’ changing needs and enable larger households to have better prospects of securing affordable homes. | RP partners continue to take a more robust approach to requiring better space standards, with requirements to meet at least 85% of Nationally Described Space Standards and often full NDSS. Emerging Local Plan policies will include proposals for full NDSS. |
|  | Empower local communities to become involved in considering how to resolve their housing issues, and to identify their housing needs and aspirations to ensure the right homes are delivered. Focus on work with Parish Councils and Community Land Trusts to help bring forward housing opportunities. | Ongoing | Housing Development Team/Hampshire Homes Hub | Staff time / external resources | Linking in with Community Engagement Officers to keep residents informed on affordable housing topics, and providing an opportunity for them to have input on new housing developments. Partnership working with Hampshire Homes Hub | Increased delivery in rural affordable housing during the life of the strategy. Increased sense of ownership and inclusion within the community so that they can influence development in their area. |  | Working with local communities/Parish Councils to identify affordable housing needs and to support proposals for community led development. |
|  | Explore new and innovative models of affordable housing delivery to meet a range of needs | Apr 23 | Housing Development Team | Staff time | Respond to government consultations on proposed new affordable housing products. Consider forms of modular housing. Consider use of Merlion Local Authority Enhanced Shared Equity Partnership Scheme. Monitor progress of town centre projects and use of Council owned land to ensure potential opportunities are explored (including any arising from the One Public Estate approach). | Increased options for affordable housing delivery. | Provision of new affordable housing products to meet a range of needs. | Exploring the Rent to Buy model as an alternative model of affordable housing where other tenures cannot be achieved.  Exploring other methods of affordable housing delivery to address the current issues regarding S106 sites. |
|  | Implement satisfaction surveys for occupants of new affordable homes to learn from their experience, from allocation of the home, to living in the property – to include paper and online survey. | Apr 21 | Housing Development Team/Housing Options Team | Staff time | Review of current survey practices.  Development and rollout of survey. Results of survey responses used to inform future changes to service delivery in partnership with RPs. | Feedback from customers to be incorporated into internal practices, including allocations processes, and design of new homes. | High satisfaction rates on the customers’ experience of the allocations process and the standard, quality and energy efficiency of new build affordable housing. | After discussions with RP partners it was agreed that this would be a duplication of their satisfaction surveys. RPs provide feedback to TVBC on any specific issues that are raised in their survey responses. This has resulted in the Housing Development Team making recommendations for policy changes in the Local Plan, particularly with regards to space standards. |
|  | Make best use of grant funding held by the Council to deliver additional affordable homes which are over and above S106 requirements whilst also exploring potential to increase delivery of social rented homes across affordable housing delivery more generally. | Ongoing | Housing Development Team | Staff time | Review and monitoring of funds already received / committed. Review funding opportunities at staff 1:1s.  Allocating funds and monitoring spend | Less reliance on grant funding for S106 schemes. Better use of funds for non-S106 schemes and/or additionality. | Increased delivery of affordable housing and better use of public subsidy. Clear records of funds available for use. Opportunities to target grant funding to enable additional / increased delivery of rented units at social rent identified and supported. | All S106 funds have been checked for conditions of use / timeframe for spend and are regularly monitored and reconciled with Finance team to ensure use and compliance.  Some S106 funding has recently been used to help fund new affordable homes for refugees, and a further sum has been identified to help deliver a rural affordable housing scheme.  Further work is underway to identify other potential options for spending S106 funds. |
|  | Adopt an updated Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document to complement existing Local Plan policies and set out clear expectations and parameters to deliver the aims of the Housing Strategy. | June 20 | Housing Development Team and Planning Policy Team | Staff time / external consultant | Review of current draft Feb 20.  Preparation of final document March 20. | Adoption of SPD | Publication of a completed SPD which gives clear guidance to developers on the policy requirements in Test Valley. | SPD adopted by Full Council in September 2020. |
|  | Work with planning teams to negotiate delivery of new affordable homes as part of the Andover Town Centre project and in support of the Romsey South of Town Centre project as may be appropriate and linking in with the Council’s Corporate Plan objectives. | Ongoing | Housing Development team / Planning teams | Staff time | Commencement of initial planning discussions during 2021.  Identify housing needs. | Delivery of new affordable homes to contribute towards a vibrant and sustainable town centre. | A range of affordable homes delivered in the town centre, creating a mixed and sustainable community, providing residents with easy access to local amenities. | To be considered where appropriate. |
| **Ensure that affordable housing meets identified local needs in the** **context of property type, costs and tenure.** | Use evidence from housing register and needs surveys to negotiate a range of affordable housing types, including social rented for those in greatest need, and a range of affordable home ownership options for those who wish to own their own home. | Ongoing | Housing Development Team / Housing Options team | Staff time | Ongoing analysis of housing register, needs surveys, and Help to Buy South register to inform planning consultation responses. | Delivery of new affordable homes to meet identified needs | Local people having the opportunity to live in accommodation that meets their needs within their local community without having to move to another area. | Ongoing. Continuing to secure a higher proportion of social rented homes (within policy limits) for areas where affordability is an issue particularly for larger homes.  Monitoring outcomes of new National Planning Policy Framework in relation to increased focus on delivering social rented homes. |
|  | Review definitions and clauses within S106 agreements to ensure that all new agreements are fit for purpose and meet the aims of the affordable housing policies and the Housing Strategy. | Commenced March 2020 | Housing Development Team / Legal Team / Planning | Staff time | Review of current document to identify any areas for improvement. Consultation between internal teams on proposed changes. Agreement on standard template. | A standard S106 template which will increase efficiency. | Clear understanding between Planning / Legal / Housing on standard affordable housing definitions and clauses. A consistent approach to S106 delivery, eliminating any ambiguity and ensuring that the council secures its affordable housing requirements. | New template now in use, and clauses reviewed on a regular basis to address any required changes. |
|  | Continue to monitor the affordability of rented homes in Test Valley. | Annually from April 2020 | Housing Development team / Housing Options team | Staff time | Consult with RP partners. Initiate resident surveys to assess affordability of new homes. Analyse evidence from Hampshire Home choice and RP partners on affordability issues at offer stage. Information from RP partners regarding rent arrears and evictions. Produce an Options Paper to address any specific issues. | Reduction in number of applicants being rejected for a property on affordability grounds. Delivery of homes which are affordable to those on lower incomes and/or benefits. | A clear approach to negotiating new affordable homes that meet a wide range of needs based on affordability. | Continuing to negotiate social rent on larger homes where affordability is known to be an issue.  Monitoring outcomes of new National Planning Policy Framework in relation to increased focus on delivering social rented homes. |
|  | Work creatively with Registered Providers, including government Strategic Housing Partners and Homes England, to draw down investment to deliver more affordable homes including more social rented homes. | Quarterly reviews from April 2020 | Housing Development team / Registered Providers | Staff time | Re-introduction of RP forum to build effective working relationships to maximise delivery. Re-introduction of strategic 1:1 meetings with RP partners to discuss scheme specific opportunities. | Maximising funding opportunities for affordable housing delivery in Test Valley. | Achieving the delivery of at least 200 homes per annum, to include social rented homes for those in greatest need. | Strategic 1:1 meetings with RP partners are held on a quarterly basis. This is in lieu of a full RP forum. |
|  | In conjunction with delivering the Preventing Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy, review temporary accommodation provision to ensure availability of wheelchair accessible units in the local area wherever possible and required. | Ongoing | Housing Manager / Registered Providers | Staff time / potential future funding requirements | Temporary accommodation profile kept under review | Adequate temporary accommodation provision for all eligible households presenting for homelessness support. | Suitable interim and longer-term temporary accommodation placements for all households presenting to ensure homelessness can be suitable relieved through offers of temporary accommodation where required. | Ongoing review of emergency accommodation options to ensure the meets the needs of wheelchair users. |
| **Maximise delivery of rural affordable housing to meet identified local need.** | Engage with the Hampshire Rural Housing Partnership / Hampshire Homes Hub, and actively work with parishes to help them identify local needs and bring forward sites for development. | Quarterly reviews from April 2020 | Housing Development Team | Staff time | New partnership to take effect April 2020.  Effectiveness of partnership to be reviewed with team at team meetings. | To have a one stop shop for rural housing delivery and promotion. | Increased delivery of rural affordable housing. | Our in-house housing needs survey continues to be well received and used by a number of parish councils to help support Neighbourhood Plans and to identify their rural affordable housing needs.  We continue to work closely with RP partners and Parish Councils/ local communities to help facilitate rural affordable housing development, including provision of grant funding where appropriate. |
|  | Work with planning policy colleagues to identify opportunities for affordable housing delivery through Neighbourhood Plans. | Quarterly reviews from April 2020 | Housing Development team / Planning Policy team | Staff time | Review of Neighbourhood Plans in progress.  Ensure key messages being given to Neighbourhood Plan groups on affordable housing options.  Assist Neighbourhood Plan groups to bring forward affordable housing schemes. | All parishes completing Neighbourhood Plans have a clear understanding of affordable housing issues and the needs in their areas | Increased delivery of affordable housing in rural areas | Ongoing partnership working with Planning Policy colleagues to consider affordable housing opportunities alongside Neighbourhood Planning processes and to ensure that N Plans enable delivery. |
|  | Review the approach taken for enabling the delivery of rural affordable housing and the methods for assessing housing needs in rural areas. | Apr 21 | Housing Development Team / Planning Policy team | Staff time / potential increased staff resource | Review current processes and costs. Consider more effective methods of providing an enabling service and producing needs evidence. | A comprehensive and cost-effective method of assessing local housing needs and enabling the delivery of rural affordable housing. | A facility to determine the needs in any given area, which is robust and cost effective, that will help inform planning policy, and encourage more rural affordable housing delivery to meet local needs. | Completed. New in-house rural housing needs survey process is now well established. |
|  | Utilise other council networks to promote affordable housing to parish councils and local communities, ie. through local community events (Comms Team) and the Test Valley Association of Town and Parish Councils. Consider use of social media and other media channels to promote AH and gain wider understanding of its benefits. | Oct 20 | Housing Development team / Communications team | Staff time | Development of a Communications Plan to identify opportunities to promote affordable housing, eg. Rural Housing Week, Shared Ownership Week, Test Valley News. | Regular promotion of newly completed affordable housing schemes and other related topics to raise awareness of affordable housing opportunities. | A better understanding and more proactive approach by local communities/Parish Councils in bringing forward opportunities for affordable housing development. Increased interest from households who would qualify for low cost home ownership. | Continuing to promote affordable housing through discussions with Parish Councils and Neighbourhood Plan groups.  Utilising social media channels where appropriate. |
| **Encourage the development of energy efficient affordable homes to reduce carbon emissions and reduce household heating costs** | Actively promote and encourage new affordable housing that incorporates ecologically friendly features and design, working with developers and Registered Providers | Quarterly reviews from April 2020 | Housing Development team | Staff time | Review of current practices.  Review current policy position.  Amend planning consultation responses if applicable | More energy efficient homes being delivered | Reduced bills for occupants of affordable homes | Policies are being reviewed as part of the Review of Local Plan. Some RP partners are already using more ecologically friendly features and design as standard practice. |
| **Ensure support is available for a range of needs, including supported housing** | Embed and develop the Council’s in-house Resettlement Support Service and continue to build on strengths-based approaches with participation from the wider system of public services | Mar 21 | Housing Needs Manager | Staff time | Full complement of staff in roles.  Resettlement Officers actively involved in the delivery of Personalised Housing Plans | Minimise the numbers in temporary accommodation. Minimise the length of stay in temporary accommodation. Ensure B&B use is minimised. | TVBC maintains low levels of households in temporary accommodation.  Housing Options Officers upskilled in resettlement support techniques to enhance pre-existing asset based approaches. | Resettlement team has been embedded within the housing service and is focussed on addressing barriers to move on from temporary accommodation  The length of time that residents spend in any form of temporary accommodation has reduced. |
|  | Develop close links with Hampshire County Council to identify customers who may benefit from bespoke affordable homes to meet specific needs, that may otherwise be difficult to adequately meet within the existing housing stock. | Apr 20 | Housing Development Team/ Hampshire CC | Staff time | Initial meeting with HCC to discuss their strategies and identify needs.  Identify options for meeting needs.  Identify potential funding opportunities. | A clear process for identifying needs and signposting customers to appropriate services.  A clear understanding between TVBC and HCC regarding roles and responsibilities. | Suitable and cost-effective housing solutions being made available to customers with specific and high level needs. | Discussions taking place between TVBC and HCC where appropriate. |
| **Ensure alternative housing options are available for people with mobility needs and those affected by** **physical disabilities where they may be required**. | Encourage the development of new housing which is suitable for disabled people and encourage higher accessibility standards using the Affordable Housing SPD and Part M of Building Regulations | Quarterly reviews from April 2020 | Housing Development team | Staff time | Planning policy review. Develop standard planning consultation response to seek accessible homes. Development of SPD.  Development of standard S106 clauses and planning conditions to secure relevant level of adaptations. | 10% of all new affordable homes on sites of 10 or more dwellings to provide homes that are accessible and adaptable. | Delivery of affordable homes that meet the needs of those with disabilities either now or in future, reducing the need for customers to move when their needs change over time | Continuing to secure a percentage of adapted homes on new developments.  AH policies for emerging Local Plan have been reviewed with a view to having policy requirements for accessible homes. |

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| **THEME 2: Improving access to and quality of existing housing** | **What we will do** | **When will we do it?** | **Who will deliver this?** | **Resources** | **Milestones** | **Target/Outcome** | **What would success look like?** | **Progress update January 2025** |
| **Explore different ways to make the Council’s Housing Services accessible for people who need them most** | Work with Town and Parish Councils and council teams to deliver place-based events to promote housing related services. Use events to facilitate improved access to services and greater awareness of available help, including promotion of energy efficiency measures in domestic homes. | Ongoing through lifetime of strategy | All housing teams / Community Engagement teams | Staff time | Regular reviews across housing service for opportunities to attend events, including use of Community Engagement services to reach into local communities. | Attendance at local community events, promoting housing initiatives | Better understanding and involvement in delivery of affordable housing, and a clearer understanding of other housing related services available to them. | Ongoing work with external stakeholders and partners, eg. Test Valley Partnership, Association of Town & Parish Councils.  Parish Council, and other community meetings and events being attended where requested. |
|  | Continue to provide an up to date and comprehensive Service Directory for the area to benefit residents and agencies / stakeholders | Ongoing | Housing Needs Manager / partner agencies including Preventing Homelessness Forum | Staff time | Directory of Services is updated annually | Up to date Service Directory available on the TVBC website | Comprehensive directory of services available for residents and professionals | There will be different service directories produced across a range of services in TVBC to cover a range of topics, rather than one comprehensive directory. This project is being delivered under the Preventing Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy.  A review of the TVBC website is underway, to ensure that information is relevant and up to date. |
|  | Review the available options for single people and identify how to meet their needs now and in the future | Apr 21 | Housing Options / Housing Development | Staff time | Discussion at RP forum to identify key issues.  Analysis of applicants rejected for housing on affordability grounds.  Options Paper to identify issues and options. | Clear approach to delivery of affordable housing options for single people. | A range of housing options that meet the needs and affordability of single people. | No evidence of any key affordability issues. 1 bed homes being negotiated on new developments.  Access to the private rented sector remains possible the Rent Deposit Loan Scheme with flexibility on the length of rent in advance being provided.  The ending of Social Inclusion funding from Hampshire County Council has initiated a needs analysis and options appraisal for the needs of single people with support needs. |
|  | Ensure that victims of domestic abuse are able to access services and support, and that they are able to remain in their homes where it is appropriate for them to do so, working with the Hampshire Making Safe Partnership and local domestic abuse services. | April 2020 onwards | Housing Needs Manager, Hampshire Making Safe Co-Ordinator, ACSC Manager | Staff time | Promotion of the service to Registered Providers and other key agencies | Updated information available to all staff, customers and partners | Increased number of households able to remain safely in their home as a result of target hardening measures and housing option interventions. If possible, to work with Hampshire partners to secure further MHCLG funding to ensure continuation of the programme for a further 3 years | TVBC are supporting Finding Freedom to provide outreach support in the Romsey area on a regular basis.  Also working on the creation of a co-located Housing Options Domestic Abuse Specialist Officer within refuge and outreach services utilising MHCLG New Burdens funds. |
| **Ensure that those who are least able to afford market housing are supported to access a decent and affordable home that meets their needs** | Monitor and review the Allocations Policy to ensure it meets all legal requirements and strikes the right ‘balance of needs’, whilst investigating ways to ensure that those most exposed to local affordability challenges have a realistic prospect of securing a home | April 2023 (quarterly informal reviews during the lifetime of the strategy) | Head of Service / Housing Needs Manager / Hampshire Home Choice Manager | Staff time | Using data from the Housing Strategy Evidence Base & Review of Homelessness 2019 to target areas of the allocations policy for review | The Allocations Policy achieves the right balance of priorities.  The Allocations Policy supports the Council’s strategic aims. | The Allocations Policy remains fit for purpose.  The Allocations Policy directly contributes to achieving the Council’s strategic aims | Review of the policy commenced in December 2023 - this is ongoing. In the meantime amendments and updates have been made to ensure the policy remains lawful and fit for purpose on a day to day basis. |
| **Work in partnership with the Private Rented Sector to increase the available supply of rented homes to meet local needs and work with landlords and their agents to provide opportunities for them to learn and network** | Deliver the government funded Private Rented Sector Access project including developing an in-house ‘Social Lettings Agency’ model | 6 monthly and April 2021 | Head of Service / Housing Needs Manager | DLUHC funding (formerly MHCLG) | Launch of TV Lettings, a local lettings agency.  Consult with private landlords and letting agents through periodic forums, and use feedback to inform future provision.  Meet all DLUHC reporting requirements and establish exit strategy, including with regard to ring-fenced Homelessness Reduction Grant | Increase in the number of private landlords and agencies accommodating our clients.  Pre-tenancy training for 40 single people with history of rough sleeping.  Increased tenancy sustainment | TV Lettings – a new service for landlords and tenants.  Increased number of households diverted from and moved on from temporary accommodation.  Focused PRS project operating sustainably as a ‘social letting agency’ within Housing Options service | Complete. The funding from Private Rented Sector Access project has been utilised and TV Lettings continues in operation, funded from the Homelessness Prevention Grant. |
|  | Deliver Private Rented Sector Landlords & Letting Agents forums and other networking opportunities for private landlords; promoting the events widely and using them to consult the Private Rented Sector on issues that are affecting them | 3 forums per annum | Housing Options Team / Private Sector Housing Team | Staff time | Forums to be held every 4 months to enable discussion of key issues and to receive feedback on emerging pressures and the Council’s services | Good communication with landlords and letting agents to highlight any key issues and discuss national policy changes.  Contribute to good relationships with the Private Rented Sector to ensure good supply of good quality rented housing in the borough | Good supply and standard of rented accommodation in the borough to meet local needs | Landlords forum hosted in spring 2024, with a further forum to be held in 2025, focusing on the emerging Renters Rights legislation  Regular email newsletter communication with landlords. Click before you evict to be launched in January 2025 to offer support to landlords. |
| **Actively promote high standards in the rented sector and take appropriate action where those standards are not being met** | Support and encourage new, high quality and well managed Houses in Multiple Occupation in the local area, whilst licensing all HMOs that are subject to mandatory licensing | Ongoing | Private Sector Housing team | Staff time | Review all current data held by the Council and formulate action plan in combination with the Housing Stock Condition Database (HSCD) | Additional high quality HMOs and improvements to existing HMOs in the borough | Good quality private rented accommodation that meets health and safety requirements | Ongoing. |
|  | Monitor standards in the rented sector and take robust enforcement action where necessary to tackle disrepair, poor housing conditions and criminal landlords | Ongoing | Private Sector Housing team | Staff time | Monitor service requests received regarding poor housing, identify trends and consider action as necessary | To improve housing standards in the borough | Good qualify private rented accommodation that is energy efficient, and in good state of repair | Ongoing. Preparing for new legislation under Renters Rights which will strengthen enforcement. |
|  | Ensure the Private Rented Sector meets the requirements of the Energy Efficiency (Private Rented Property) (England & Wales) Regulations 2015, and raise awareness of grants available to residents to improve their homes in terms of energy efficiency | Review to commence April 2020 | Private Sector Housing Team | Staff time | Review data held in Housing Stock Condition Database and formulate an action plan to target those properties who do not meet the requirement | To improve housing standards in the borough | All private rented properties with an appropriate energy efficiency rating. Reduction in fuel poverty. Reduction in cold related illnesses | A number of properties in the borough benefitted from energy efficiency measures funded through the HUG2 scheme. Awaiting outcome of bids for the new Warm Homes:Local Grant which will also provide further funding for energy efficiency measures. |
| **Promote energy efficiency in residential homes, the Council’s Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) Action Plan initiatives, and actively support local people to access Energy Company Obligation funding** | Review and promote initiatives contained in the Council’s HECA Action Plan and actively support local people to access Energy Company Obligation (ECO) funding | Ongoing | Private Sector Housing team | Staff time | Reviewed regularly; next action plan update to be published 2021 | To reduce carbon emissions and reduce the incidence of fuel poverty | Improvement in energy efficiency in domestic properties across the borough | Ongoing. Update on Action Plan are provided annually. |
| **Support people with disabilities to remain in their homes through the provision of aids and adaptations and make effective use of the Better Care Fund to meet local need** | Provide an effective and efficient Disabled Facilities Grant process including promoting the grants programme, and make effective use of the Better Care Fund to meet local needs | Quarterly reviews | Private Sector Housing team | Staff time | Regular review at staff 1:1s and appraisals. Quarterly performance monitoring and reporting.  Year end performance monitoring, analysis and reporting | To utilise grant funding to assist customers to remain living independently in their own home | Customers able to remain living independently. Reduced hospital admissions | Staff costs have been capitalised against the Better Care Fund, enabling the addition of further resource in the team to deal with the demand and backlog for DFG’s. DFG spend is monitored and recorded quarterly, and amendments to the policy have resulted in more residents benefitting from grant, and the Better Care Fund spend being maximised. |
|  | Work with Registered Providers to deliver low-cost aids and adaptations in their housing stock to support their tenants, and develop improvements in the recording and identification of adapted units within the existing  affordable housing stock | Over lifetime of the Strategy | Private Sector Housing Team and Housing Development Team / Registered Providers | Staff time / RP involvement | Review current adapted stock details. Review provision of new aids and adaptations to RP stock on annual basis. Aids and adaptations info reflected in property adverts on Hampshire Home Choice | Comprehensive  record of all adapted stock in the borough | Ability to make best use of adapted stock and meet a range of needs. | Aster continues to provide some adaptations in their existing stock at their expense. Ongoing discussions being held with Aster to ensure that processes are effective. |
| **Bring problematic empty homes back into use** | Develop and update the Council’s approach to bringing problematic long term empty properties in the  borough back into use | Ongoing (Empty Homes policy adopted December 2019) | Private Sector Housing Team | Staff time | Review of internal policies and procedures to ensure streamlined approach. Identify and target specific long term vacant and problematic properties. | Actively working with owners of long term and problematic empty homes to bring them back into use, with reference to the Empty Homes Policy. | Reduced level of empty homes in the borough. Ability to take enforcement action where needed. | Ongoing. Dealing with empty homes on a case by case basis. |

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| **THEME 3: Meeting the challenge of an ageing population** | **What we will do** | **When will we do it?** | **Who will deliver this?** | **Resources** | **Milestones** | **Target/Outcome** | **What would success look like?** | **Progress update January 2025** |
| **Understand the housing aspirations of people aged 55 and over, who may be eligible for older persons housing and understand local need in partnership with Hampshire County Council, to establish demand and identify opportunities for future schemes**. | Review information available on housing needs for older people in the borough, including a clear understanding of Hampshire County Council's approach to extra care housing. Explore barriers to downsizing. | Alongside review of Strategic Housing Market Assessment | Housing Development team / Planning Policy team | Staff time | Meet with HCC to review their older person’s strategy and longer-term approach to extra care or other forms of supported housing for older people. Work with Planning Policy to ensure that a new Strategic Housing Market Assessment will be able to identify needs and trends | A clear  understanding of the housing needs of older people | Successful joint working with  Hampshire County Council to identify needs and deliver a range of accommodation to meet those needs. | Proposed new Local Plan policies will better address the need to deliver a range of housing to include housing for older people. |
|  | Conduct satisfaction surveys with residents of older person’s affordable housing in the borough to ensure that the type of affordable housing delivered is still appropriate to meet the needs of the ageing population. | Apr 25 | Housing Development team | Staff time | Survey residents of older persons' developments completed within the last 5 years. | To ensure that negotiations of new affordable homes for older people take account of the changing needs of the older population and accommodation is fit for purpose. | Policies for delivery of older persons housing that can provide fit for purpose accommodation close to amenities,and that enhances the experience of tenants and enables them to live independently. | No progress to date |
|  | Work with partners to deliver events that promote affordable housing options for older people and to seek their views, including understanding their housing aspirations. Also use the event to promote other housing initiatives such as grants to improve their existing home. | Ad-hoc events | All housing teams | Staff time | Regular reviews across housing service for opportunities to attend events, including use of Community Engagement services to reach into local communities.  Discuss potential joint approaches with RP partners to deliver housing events. | Providing older people with opportunity to make informed choices on their housing solutions and to access any grants available to them. | Being able to provide older people with options to suit their needs, including access to financial assistance to improve their existing home | Teams attended an Older Persons Event in Andover in autumn 2024.  Housing needs for older people will be explored as part of the emerging housing strategy engagement work. |
| **Ensure new affordable housing for older people adequately meets future needs (including mobility needs and issues such as dementia), in locations close to local amenities, and of a design and type that is attractive to older people** | Investigate good practice elsewhere; including where schemes may have been delivered for a mix of ages and household types, successfully integrating older persons housing  into a mixed community | Ongoing | Housing Development Team | Staff time | Use Registered Provider partnership to access evidence of good practice. Review opportunities on new developments which are providing affordable housing | Providing balanced and sustainable communities where residents can provide support to each other. | Mixed tenure developments where older people are able to benefit from younger households living in close proximity, and where residents in the community help each other | Ongoing. Each site is dealt with on a case by case basis.  Using feedback from RP partners where appropriate. |
|  | Review potential for an Extra Care Scheme in Andover town centre to support a mixed and vibrant community as part of future regeneration | Discussions to commence during 2021 | Housing Development team / Hampshire CC/ Planning | Staff time | Consult with Hampshire CC on longer term strategy for extra care housing. Assess needs in the area Consider other housing options Consider proposal in line with other planning considerations | Suitable and affordable housing for older people who have an identified care need | A modern and fit for purpose housing facility where older people can live independently while accessing support, together with communal services which can also benefit the wider community | To be discussed as part of the wider plans for Andover town centre regeneration. |
|  | Work with partners to deliver and allocate Extra Care homes at the  Nightingale Lodge scheme in  Romsey | May 21 | Housing Development team and Housing Options team | Staff time | Monitor progress of development  Nominations to completed units  Monitor grant spend | Occupation of all  units at Nightingale  Lodge | A fit for purpose extra care scheme providing accommodation and support for older people | Development now complete |
| **Develop a range of alternative housing options for older persons, actively encouraging downsizing to free up family homes** | Work with Registered Providers to identify, and then consult, tenants who are under-occupying affordable homes by 2 or more bedrooms, to understand what would encourage them to move to a smaller home | Apr 22 | Housing Options | Staff time. Potential incentives | Identify level of under occupation.  Consider options with RP partners Consider incentives to offer residents to downsize. | Depending on the outcome of the consultation it may be necessary for further  representation to be made to seek budgets for incentives. | Better use of stock including releasing larger homes for families in need. | Outstanding. However, under-occupancy figures are low. Registered Provider partners are not currently offering any financial incentives to downsize.  To be discussed as part of emerging housing strategy engagement work. |
|  | Identify opportunities on new development sites to deliver a small proportion of affordable bungalows that could be ringfenced for people who are downsizing from family sized affordable homes in Test Valley | Through lifetime of Strategy | Housing Development team | Staff time | Consider extent of under occupation in the borough. Consult with RP partners regarding delivery of bungalows. Consider any requirement for a policy review as part of review of Local Plan. | Affordable homes to meet local needs of older people, and release of larger affordable homes for families. | New affordable homes that enable older people to remain living independently in their local area in accommodation that is affordable for them to run. Increased availability of family sized homes to meet needs of families on the housing register. | To be considered on a site by site basis. Local Plan policies do not currently enable specific negotiations for provision of bungalows. |
|  | Review the mix of housing needed in the borough as part of the next Revised Local Plan | 2021/22 | Housing Development team / Planning Policy team | Staff time | Review Strategic Housing Market Assessment and housing register. Analysis of previous delivery / affordability.  Development of revised policies | Robust policies to secure homes to meet local needs | A range of housing that meets identified needs | This has been addressed through the work on the emerging Local Plan policies. |

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| **THEME 4: Preventing and relieving homelessness and rough sleeping** | **What will we do** | **When will we do it?** | **Who will deliver this?** | **Resources** | **Milestones** | **Target/outcome** | **What would success look like?** | **Progress update January 2025** |
| **Key Themes: Improve health & wellbeing, building on skills, empowering communities to thrive**  **Drive innovation across the local system of public services through effective partnership arrangements**  **Support people to remain in their homes, or to move into the right accommodation at the right time**  **Develop local partnerships to ensure no-one has to sleep rough in Test Valley** | Deliver the aims of the Council's  Preventing Homelessness &  Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020 to  2023 | Dec 23 | Housing Manager / Social  Inclusion Partners / Registered  Providers / DWP / Hampshire  County Council / Hampshire  Constabulary | Identified within the strategy & delivery plan - including  MHCLG (now DLUHC)  funding for the purposes of preventing  and relieving homelessness | All relevant milestones are contained within the Preventing  Homelessness & Rough Sleeping  Strategy Delivery Plan | Incidences of homelessness and rough sleeping are minimised, along with the number of households in temporary  accommodation  (including the use of bed and breakfast). | Effective deliver of the Council's  Preventing Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy. Minimal levels of homelessness and rough sleeping, temporary accommodation and the use of bed and breakfast. | Preventing and relieving  homelessness to be a high priority. This Housing Strategy theme benefits from a separate standalone Preventing  Homelessness &  Rough Sleeping Strategy including a delivery plan that sets out how the Council and its partners will prevent and relieve all forms of homelessness.  A new Preventing Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy was adopted in 2024. |