

Appendix 2 - Housing Strategy Action Plan

Housing and Homelessness Strategy 2022-2026 Action Plan

😊	Action progressing well /on or above target
😐	Action has some issues / delay but not significant
😞	Significant risk to not achieving the action or there has been significant slippage in the timetable, or performance is below target
	Project has not yet commenced/ date not available or required to report
✓	Action complete or annual target achieved

YEAR ONE – PRIORITY 1: INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF NEW HOMES, INCLUDING AFFORDABLE HOMES

Actions	Target date	Responsible Officer/Group	Progress to date	Activity
a) Adopt the Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan and put in place relevant policies to support housing delivery	Sep 2022	Planning Policy Manager	✓	COMPLETE - The Tewkesbury Borough Plan 2011-2031 was adopted on 8 June 2022.
b) Support the review of the Joint Core Strategy and the delivery of its objectives	March 2023	Planning Policy Manager	😐	The review has not reached a stage for involvement from our service. Strategic housing officers will support and advise planning colleagues on updating housing needs and affordability evidence and formulating draft policies as necessary.

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Actions	Target date	Responsible Officer/Group	Progress to date	Activity
c) Prioritise the delivery of social rented properties to reflect the local evidence of housing need	March 2023	Strategic Housing & Enabling Officer	😊	The Housing Services department has been successful at using our most recent evidence base to secure schemes where the rented portion of the Affordable Housing is delivered as Social Rent tenures. This includes 2 sites where we have used our commuted sums funds to support our Registered Provider partners. A total of 30 Social Rent units (of a total 47 units) will be delivered.
d) Ensure that a proportion of new homes are built to meet the needs of residents who require accessible or adaptable accommodation	March 2023	Strategic Housing & Enabling Officer	😊	The SHEO and Housing Advice Team are working together to identify households through the housing register to use as evidence when negotiating new housing schemes. A new reporting function has been installed to help identify households in need through the housing register.
e) Prioritise reducing fuel poverty through good design and encouraging a 'fabric first' approach	March 2023	Strategic Housing & Enabling Officer and Planning Policy Manager	😊	A 'fabric first' approach maximises the performance of the components that make up a building. Registered Providers have committed to improved design of properties and we have been able to help fund this with commuted sums we hold. Two schemes will deliver 47 units designed with a fabric first approach to achieve a high energy performance certificate (EPC) rating.

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YEAR ONE – PRIORITY 2: REGENERATING AND MAKING BEST USE OF EXISTING HOUSING				
Actions	Target date	Responsible Officer/Group	Progress to date	Activity
a) Develop a complimentary strategy to reduce the number of empty homes, making use of legal powers available	March 2023	Environmental Health Manager	✓	COMPLETE - An Empty Homes Strategy was approved by Executive Committee in November 2022.
b) Support partners to target advice at households most at risk of fuel poverty	Dec 2022	Housing Services Manager	😊	Housing Services are engaging with the Financial Inclusion Partnership and will help produce a guide for partners to understand what help is available and how to refer customers. Officers attended a Cost of Living event in Tewkesbury to offer advice to members of the public and establish contacts with partner agencies.
c) Analyse the findings of the Gloucestershire County Stock Condition Survey and put in place an action plan to address the findings for Tewkesbury Borough	March 2023	Environmental Health Manager	😞	The organisation conducting the stock condition survey have begun work to establish a sample of properties to survey in Tewkesbury Borough. The survey will not be completed by March 2023. The target date has been revised to March 2024.
d) Work jointly with Registered Providers and other partners to support carbon reduction demonstration projects and procure funding to assist with carbon reduction measures	March 2023	Strategic Housing & Enabling Officer	😊	There are a number of funding options available to Registered Providers. The Housing Services department have begun engaging with the main partners to explore options to take advantages of funding. Providers are reviewing their stock to assess options for regeneration or disposal.
e) Work with partners to establish arrangements for management of empty homes that are brought into use through management orders	March 2023	Environmental Health Manager	😊	This action will be progressed through the emerging Empty Homes Strategy.

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Actions	Target date	Responsible Officer/Group	Progress to date	Activity
f) Work with Registered Providers and other partners to collect data and identify properties that would benefit from energy efficiencies and other improvement measures	March 2023	Strategic Housing & Enabling Officer	😊	Bromford Housing has completed a survey of their stock and options to improve standards will be explored including regeneration programmes. Learning from this process will be shared with other providers.

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YEAR ONE – PRIORITY 3: MEETING THE HOUSING NEEDS OF HOMELESS HOUSEHOLDS AND OTHERS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS				
Actions	Target date	Reporting Officer/Group	Progress to date	Activity
a) Engage key partners in exploring new ways of helping rough sleepers and other individuals with complex and multiple needs	March 2023	Housing Services Manager	😊	The Housing Advice Team is working jointly with other districts, Registered Providers and partner agencies to establish a Housing First/Housing Led programme. This will put the individual at the heart of the support and accommodation options offered and deliver more bespoke assistance. The Housing First cohort for Tewkesbury has been established and support has begun to get the cases ready while properties are sought.
b) Fully implement the countywide Care Leavers Covenant locally, including developing a local 'offer' to redress the disadvantage that care leavers may have experienced through childhood	March 2023	Housing Services Manager	😊	Work with the County Care Leaver team has produced a protocol for support young people through their transition from care into living independently while ensuring the right support is on offer throughout and after their move. A draft version of the protocol has been based on best practice examples and signed off at an operational level. The document is with the Care Leaver team to complete the final details. It will be shared with districts and complimented by training for housing and support services.

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Actions	Target date	Reporting Officer/Group	Progress to date	Activity
c) Engage with people with 'lived experience' of homelessness and other disadvantage in developing plans for the delivery of housing services	Dec 2022	Housing Services Manager	😊	Partner agencies have been contacted to find people with experience of homelessness to engage with the Housing Services department. A session involving peer mentors linked to the County homeless outreach service has been arranged. Care Leaver Ambassadors will be invited to help implement the new Care Leaver Protocol.
d) Conclude the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs Assessment and engage with the local communities to understand their requirements	March 2023	Planning Policy Manager	😊	The initial assessment has been completed to be signed off for adoption. A briefing has been arranged for March and following this the report will be formally published. Planning Policy and Housing Services will work with the assessment to understand the need and seek to deliver options to meet them.
e) Continue to provide support for people to sustain their tenancies, including money advice	March 2023	Housing Services Manager	😊	Linked to Priority 2b. Bromford Housing have established a new role of Income Management Adviser to help support their tenants. The Housing Advice Team will work closely with them to ensure both housing advice and support regarding finances is provided. Some funding from the Homelessness Prevention Grant will be allocated to support households with rent arrears.