

Report of: Strategy and Review Business Manager

Title: Final Draft Housing Strategy 2005-2008

Ward: ALL

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Key Decision: Yes

Lead Member: Councillor Turner

Scrutiny responsibility: Housing

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board:

- 1. Notes that formal consultation for the draft housing strategy has been completed and the final draft of the strategy has been amended to take into account consultation responses**
- 2. Recommends to full Council that the final draft strategy be adopted as part of the Council's policy framework for the period 2005-2008.**

1. This report presents the final draft of the Housing Strategy following the conclusion of the formal consultation period as advised in the report to Executive Board on 9 May 2005.
2. Responses to consultation have been received from officers of the city council, agencies and stakeholders who took part in a conference on 16 June. The report was presented to Oxford Tenants Panel and sent to Tenants' and Residents' Associations but no specific feedback has been received. Housing Scrutiny Committee considered the strategy in detail on 27 June. It has not been possible to incorporate any changes based on that Committee's comments due to the deadline for this report – any recommended changes will be reported verbally.
3. Consultation responses confirmed and supported the strategy objectives and have influenced the priority allocated to certain planned actions. In the Action Plan, a small number of actions relating to land supply, support for vulnerable people and communication have been given a "Very High" priority as a result of the emphasis given to these

during consultation. A few new actions have been added to reflect responses relating to the importance of effective partnership working and the need to explore additional sources of funding for new affordable housing.

4. Legal and regulatory considerations: production of the strategy is a mandatory requirement. Although a formal assessment process will be necessary, informal indications from GOSE are that the document is now fit for purpose.
5. Financial implications: the strategy document sets out details of recent capital and revenue expenditure, the budgeted expenditure for 2004-2008 and how this will be funded. The financial position is set out in chapter 5 of the draft strategy.
6. The strategy is currently word processed and will be professionally proof-read and typeset prior to publication.
7. Executive Board is asked to approve the strategy and to recommend it to full Council on 3 October 2005 for adoption as part of the Council's policy framework.
8. The full draft strategy and action plan are attached as an appendix.

THIS REPORT HAS BEEN SEEN AND APPROVED BY:

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Ed Turner

Strategic Director: Michael Lawrence, Director of Housing Health and Community

Legal and Democratic Services: Jeremy King

Financial Management: Penny Gardner

Background papers: None