

## DECISIONS DELEGATED TO OFFICERS

<b>Decision title:</b>	To enter into an agreement with Homes England in order to allow bids for grant funding to be made under the Homes England Affordable Homes Programme 2021-26 for schemes as required.
<b>Decision date:</b>	17 November 2022
<b>Source of delegation:</b>	<p>Cabinet, on 13 April 2022, received a report on the <a href="#">Affordable Housing Delivery Programme</a>.</p> <p>Cabinet resolved to:</p> <p>8. Give project approval to the proposals to enter into funding agreements, and any other necessary agreements or contracts, with Homes England to receive grant under the Affordable Housing Programme (AHP) for the purpose of delivering more affordable housing in Oxford, as set out in paragraphs 14 and 15 of the report; and</p> <p>9. Delegate authority to the Executive Director for Communities and People, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Affordable Housing, Housing Security and Housing the Homeless; the Head of Financial Services/Section 151 Officer; and the Council's Monitoring Officer, to enter into funding and other necessary agreements for the purpose of delivery of affordable housing with Homes England, in accordance with recommendation 8 above.</p>
<b>What decision was made?</b>	To enter into a grant agreement with Homes England as part of their Affordable Homes Programme 2021-26 (Continuous Market Engagement). This will allow submission of bids for Homes England grant to support the delivery of the Affordable Housing Supply programme.
<b>Purpose:</b>	As the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal comes to the end of its final/ fourth year of the programme (for new schemes), new affordable housing schemes coming forward from now onwards will seek to secure funding from Homes England, currently under the Affordable Housing Programme 2021-26.

	<p>The Homes England programme requires that organisations seeking funding have 'Investment Partner' and 'Registered Provider' status. Oxford City Council has both.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Council is required to enter into contract with Homes England and to ensure that all funded schemes meet the Homes England requirements, including those detailed extensively in the Homes England 'Capital Funding Guide'.</p>
<b>Reasons:</b>	The decision to enter into agreement with Homes England will support and enable the delivery of Oxford City's Affordable Housing Programme.
<b>Decision made by:</b>	Stephen Gabriel, Executive Director (Communities and People).
<b>Other options considered:</b>	The option not to enter into the agreement was rejected, as this would not allow additional affordable housing to be delivered and would not be in line with the decision made by Cabinet in April 2022.
<b>Documents considered:</b>	None
<b>Key or Not Key:</b>	Key (expenditure or savings over £500,000)
<b>Wards significantly affected:</b>	None
<b>Declared conflict of interest:</b>	None
<b>This form was completed by:</b> <b>Name &amp; title:</b> <b>Date:</b>	Megan McFarlane Affordable Housing Supply Programme Officer 02.11.2022

### Approval checklist

<b><i>Approver</i></b>	<b><i>Name and job title</i></b>	<b><i>Date</i></b>
<b>Decision maker</b>	Stephen Gabriel Executive Director (Communities and People)	18 November 2022

	S.C.V	
<b>Senior officer</b>	Dave Scholes Affordable Housing Supply Corporate Lead	7 November 2022
<b>Head of Financial Services</b>	Nigel Kennedy, Head of Financial Services 	17 November 2022
<b>Head of Law and Governance</b>	Susan Sale, Head of Law and Governance 	8 November 2022
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Councillor Linda Smith Cabinet Member for Housing	8 November 2022