## **CMT Review & Sign-off of Service Plan**

Required Consultations ('X' for all that apply)

## Required Consultations (must be completed before CMT submission) **Date of Review** Any Issues / Comments/Concerns from Area Consultee/areas of shared objectives Planning, Development Shared objectives: New Build programme, Growth and Infrastructure & Regeneration Housing ICT & People Finance Legal & Democratic Services Environmental, Shared Objectives: ASB and Enforcement activities **Resident & Regulatory** Services Finance, Commercial Shared Objectives: Garage strategy & Investment **Assets & Property** planning Development, Revenues Benefits and Fraud, Procurement & Compliance



# Housing

## **Service Plan**

Period of the Plan	2019/20
Services: Housing	<ul> <li>Strategic Housing</li> <li>Property &amp; Place</li> <li>Tenants &amp; Leaseholders</li> <li>Housing Development</li> </ul>

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## **Strategic Priorities**

## **Council Strategic Priorities & Service Objectives**

Priorities	Service objectives (outcome focused)	Barriers to overcome
Ensuring economic growth and prosperity	Where possible work with local based suppliers to deliver works to the Housing Service contained within the TAM 5 year benchmarking review	OJEU procurement regulations need to ensure fair treatment of suppliers from all areas within the EU and care taken not to introduce any bias.
	Branching Out Initiative to support tenants back into work to reduce dependence of benefits	Often circumstances behind work options are complex and input from external agencies is required to support positive outcomes
Affordable Housing	Essentially the focus of the whole service is aimed at improving the quality and availability of affordable homes with a specific focus on those in greatest housing need.	Requirement to obtain demographic data externally to supplement the internal sources of demand and supply data. Consideration of the impact of external support funding or grants
	Whole service Supported housing Project to assess the ongoing viability and use of the sheltered units in line with the allocations policy, feedback from open days, demand, supply, external funding, specialist use,, layout, size of units, desirability and net present value in order to consider possible re-designation or re-provision.	Conclude the review of the new Strategic Tenancy Strategy in line with the Localism Act and gain formal approval prior to implementation.

Strategic Tenancy Strategy to obtain formal approval and implement	Increasing numbers of street homeless and complex cases at presentation, with limited support from Community Mental Health teams or Adult care services
Continue to work with partner agencies, HCC and other districts to target intervention in the approach to street homeless maximising the benefits of the grant funding  Undertake the 5 year benchmarking review of the Total Asset Management Contract in line with the contract provisions to ensure the contract remains fit for purpose and is delivering the strategic and operational objectives  Improve the scope and range of services available through frameworks to provide resilience in the event of contractor collapse and to enable market testing of various	SWOT analysis undertaken and delivery on a set of key objectives to be resolved in advance of the year 5 review as the decision on the year 4 contract extension has been deferred, subject to satisfactory completion of defined objectives.  Ongoing high levels of demand across the sector for all compliance related functions especially fire safety engineers, fire risk assessors, and specialist contractors who are able to complete works. Also issues with material testing have created problems with the specification of internal fire doors.
Work with Strategic Planning and Development Control on the Local Plan to maximise opportunities for social housing development and delivery on larger sites.  Compliance & Health & Safety cross cutting project to embed the approach to safety	Changes in testing of materials and increased legislative requirements are
	Continue to work with partner agencies, HCC and other districts to target intervention in the approach to street homeless maximising the benefits of the grant funding  Undertake the 5 year benchmarking review of the Total Asset Management Contract in line with the contract provisions to ensure the contract remains fit for purpose and is delivering the strategic and operational objectives  Improve the scope and range of services available through frameworks to provide resilience in the event of contractor collapse and to enable market testing of various works elements  Work with Strategic Planning and Development Control on the Local Plan to maximise opportunities for social housing development and delivery on larger sites.  Compliance & Health & Safety cross cutting

	within the housing portfolio in respect of the physical assets and the occupiers.	ensure that any actions undertaken are appropriate.  Improved systems and data in order to effectively manage the compliance are essential.
	Window cleaning and cleaning service to continue to review of the delivery model and market test window cleaning options for the service.	Some changes to the delivery model already implemented, but additional monitoring required to maintain quality. Align frequency of cleans with service charges apportionment method.
	Conclude the amendments to the corporate approach ASB case management obtain approval and embed within the service.	Involvement of external agencies, including the police, CMHT, voluntary sector and Herts mediation service therefore important to maintain and develop strong working relationships
	Analysis of pre-tenancy engagement and during the early stages of tenancy, to assess effectiveness in sustaining tenancies.	Limited data currently available. Ongoing action.
Delivering an efficient and modern council	Tender the contract to procure new management arrangements for the Elms  Increase the use of evidence led decision-making and support the service to embed improvement recommendations.	Consideration of the impact on voluntary sector partners in respect of a potential change in provider and any impact on the strategic objectives

	Civica, Inform and Orchard to be used to improve reporting on key areas of service. Use of new customer portals to reduce telephone demand to be promoted	Review the fitness for purpose of the various systems in use and the need for training to use the information effectively.  Work with Corporate Transformation team to ensure projects are delivered in line with any corporate ICT development work.
	Review approach to Leaseholder management and service charges, including incorporating recommendations from the work stream review. Consult and implement charging structure arrangements for 19/20 and produce a policy to clarify approach	Leasehold work stream review findings presented to the engaged leaseholders and action agreed.
	Trial suitable Off Site & Modern Methods of Construction and continue to work with neighbouring districts and registered providers to ensure any economies of scale and knowledge sharing are realised.	
Building strong and vibrant communities	Extend the scope of the PRS Service, in line with Fitness for Human Habitation Act legislation and the Private Rented Housing Strategy	

## **Service Objectives into Action**

### **All service areas**

### **Service Objectives:**

• Review of Supported housing provision to determine future use, investment and re-development options.

K	ey Actions	By	y When	Re	ho is esponsible for elivery		npact on TFS	d	What will be lifferent once this s done?	Q	Quarter 4 Update
•	Analyse the information obtained at the Open Days and system data on demand and supply for each scheme including any preferences for either category of sheltered property.	•	July 2019	•	Supported Housing Team Leader	•	Impact unknown until review concluded and options identified	•	The information will be used to identify any schemes for redesignation, improvement, remodelling and to target investment to meet the demand	•	Review completed and information combined with report from FFT and presented to working group. Action plan updated to look at viability for less desirable schemes and will be presented at HSMT in February. Communications plan has been developed with SIE team to promote the service effectively
•	Review of the allocations policy to include financial thresholds for capital savings, consideration of the	•	September 2019	•	Strategic Housing Group Manager & Housing representatives (Supported	•	Potential for an increase rental income to be generated	•	A reduction in void periods and increased revenue, plus more people moving to a	•	Allocations policy review complete. Revised policy submitted to policy review group for implementation. Financial thresholds

option for a 10% increase above target rent and the incentives to move to a smaller home.		Housing, Tenancy & Independent Reviewing Officer)		smaller more suitable property for their housing need	amended and additional proposals under further investigation, development by the pre-tenancy project group.  • Completed – PH decision to increase capital saving cap to £250k.  • Rent levels across the service are being analysed.
Conclude the assessment of the Cat 2 sheltered schemes and develop options to improve the use and fitness for purpose of the schemes	• June 2019	<ul> <li>Group Manager Property &amp; Place, Group Manager Development, Team Leader Supported Housing</li> </ul>	will be profiled to	Investment targeted on those schemes with highest viability.	Completed. List of schemes where investment is needed and has re-designated a number of properties where they would be better suited to Sheltered or General needs
Assess the viability of a new sheltered scheme on the Leverstock Green site	• May 2019	Team Leader supported Housing, Group Manager Development		New build unit numbers may increase on the site, dependant on the outcome of the viability assessment.	Completed and general needs property more appropriate for the site.

### **All service areas**

## **Service Objectives:**

• Compliance and Health and Safety Project -. Overall risk management approach towards the allocation, use and decommissioning or disposal of housing stock

Key Actions	By When	Who is Responsible for Delivery	Impact on MTFS	What will be different once this is done?	Quarter 4 Update
Review of allocations policy to include considerations around the appropriateness of accommodation for tenants with vulnerabilities	• September 2019	Pre-tenancy     Team Leader     Strategic     Housing&     Housing     representatives     (Homelessness,     Supported     Housing,     Tenancy     Sustainment &     Tenancy)	No impact identified	A risk-based approach will be undertaken to consider the appropriateness of allocations.	Allocations policy review complete. Revised policy submitted to policy review group for implementation. Financial thresholds amended and additional proposals under further investigation, development by the pretenancy project group. The pretenancy project is ongoing and will develop enhanced assessment processes to support the work of the Housing Needs Team, scheduled completion October 2020.
<ul> <li>Stock Condition information and compliance data reconciliation, including surveys for communal</li> </ul>	• September 2019	Team Leader     Compliance	<ul> <li>Costs         contained         within         existing         budgets</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Improved awareness and access to information upon which to manage H&amp;S</li> </ul>	Consultant led projects ongoing for Empty homes and mobile working. Identified to be process, which will be implemented in 2020-21.

areas, to be migrated onto appropriate system to enable improved accessibility of information to all staff				within the stock and liaise with the Fire Service on matters such as Personal emergency evacuation plans where appropriate.  • Orchard Asset/Orchard Housing meeting held, and system health checks still required and existing systems review of compliance work streams commenced
Enhance training for all staff within the service to improve understanding of their responsibilities in respect of H&S	• July 2019	Team Leader     Compliance	Training budget allocated	Staff     understanding     of their role and     the     management of     risks in relation     to the housing     service      Ongoing compliance training     has been undertaken – now     considering on-line courses
Assess all new build developments for construction risks, ongoing maintenance and liaise with housing management to understand any design elements to avoid, reduce ASB or neighbour disputes on higher density sites.	• Ongoing	Team Leader     Development,     Team Leaders     for planned     works, Team     Leader for     repairs and     Team Leader     Tenants and     Leaseholders	No     additional     impact	<ul> <li>Collaboration on future designs will improve the ongoing management of tenancies once occupied.</li> <li>Housing Development Design Guide and Employers Requirements have been jointly reviewed and updated with Property &amp; Place and final draft agreed. This is an ongoing requirement to align with changes in legislation and in response to the climate change emergency</li> <li>Project Workshop meetings continue to be regularly held by Dev. Team with input from relevant departments</li> <li>Regular progress meetings on existing schemes on site adding</li> </ul>

		to cross exchange of
		information and lessons learned

### All service areas

Service Objectives:
• HRA Empty homes Project to reduce key to key times and improve rental income

Key Actions	By When	Who is Responsible for Delivery	Impact on MTFS	What will be different once this is done?	Quarter 4 Update
Review of the end-to end process to reduce the key to key timescale	• June 2019	Group Manager     Property and     Place & Pre     Tenancy Team     Leader Strategic     Housing	Reduction in void rent loss – minimal impact on MTFS	Reduction in key to key times	<ul> <li>Sopra Steria provided feedback and story board presentation to the project team to develop the next steps for implementation.</li> <li>COVID will impact the roll out of the programme, but continuing with all elements, which the move to remote working has derived efficiencies.</li> </ul>
Ensure     benchmarking     data is consistent     with reporting     methodologies     adopted in other     organisations	April 2019	Team Leader SIE	No impact	Consistent reporting structure	<ul> <li>Housemark submission has been completed for 2018/19 to allow benchmarking.</li> <li>Collection of data is being coordinated quarterly to improve accuracy of benchmarking reporting.</li> <li>Assessment of targets for 2020-21 was undertaken in advance of COVID, so are likely to be impacted by the new ways of working.</li> </ul>

Adapted properties – review of how best to use previously adapted properties and improve the process for allocation	August 2019	Team Leaders     Planned Works     and Strategic     Housing	No impact	Improved use of adapted stock and more streamlined process for allocating	<ul> <li>A&amp;A decision matrix being applied, and resulting in more homes being suggested for transfer to suitable homes rather than adaptation of unsuitable property</li> <li>Early indications are positive reflective with better use of stock to match properties with tenant needs</li> <li>Review of the decision matrix to make sure all elements are considered to provide the best outcome for tenants.</li> </ul>
Analysis of rechargeable works and properties returned in poor condition to inform decisions around cyclical tenancy management visits	• March 2020	Lead Officer     Empty Homes	No impact	Reduction in properties returned in very poor condition – improved times and opportunity to provide additional support to vulnerable tenants	<ul> <li>Analysis work ongoing to inform policy and procedure changes</li> <li>Further changes probable after outcomes known of Empty homes project</li> <li>Analysis of costs associated with gardens and house clearances undertaken in Q4</li> </ul>

### Strategic Housing Group Manager: Natasha Beresford

Service Objective: Development of a Private Rented Housing Strategy and respond to legislative changes **Bv When Quarter 4 Update Key Actions** Who is Impact on MTFS What will be **Responsible for** different once this Delivery is done? Strategic Housing Portfolio Holder decision Develop a January Team Leader The council will strategy that 2020 Group Manager have a clear in January. post created outlines the • Draft strategy submitted and Private to manage the approach to approach and Rented Sector service and improving the for consultation with Team Leader, tenants/landlords. Report management of ensure standards and prepared for submission the Private Sector plus input from accessibility strateav to H&OSC 3 June 2020. Housing in the ASB, Community delivered. within the PRS. Safety, Property Borough Landlords and & Place and Tenants will have Planning/Building an increased control awareness of their rights and responsibilities. Fitness for August 2019 Strategic Housing May increase Improved Completed and processes Group Manager enforcement understanding updated and toolkit Human Habitation Act and Private activity and the impact of the revised in line with new regulations. Further Rented Sector legislative training and fines develop Team Leader requirements and regulation changes are pending and ongoing, the appropriate delivery of procedures will be processes to deal appropriate with cases in the enforcement updates in line with **PRS** changes and horizon actions scanning.

Continue to work to identify HMO's, using internal information sharing protocols and raising public awareness	• April 2020	Private Sector     Team Leader	Potential for increased licence revenue	Increased     awareness of the     location of     licenced and     unlicensed HMO's     within the     Borough	Additional training provided to all staff on the Private rented sector enforcement and HMO management and assessment. Staff have a completed HMO work plan that identifies the process and arrangements/timescales for assessing, visiting and identifying HMO's.
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### **Service Objectives:** Strategic Tenancy Strategy **Key Actions Who is Responsible Impact on** What will be **Quarter 4 Update** By When for Delivery **MTFS** different once this is done? Consolidate and Independent Completed and approved August • The purpose A consistent **Reviewing Officer** 2019 conclude the of this policy approach across at Cabinet in Q2. Further all housing revision to strategy Strategic is to Tenancy Strategy streamline providers in the completed following Flexible Tenancy decision area will be following services for all at Cabinet. engagement with residents of encouraged registered the Borough providers and has the potential to generate income from advertising and management revenue.

Service Objectives:

Procure new Flms management contract

Procure new Elms management contract							
Key Actions	By When	Who is Responsible for Delivery	Impact on MTFS	What will be different once this is done?	Quarter 4 Update		
<ul> <li>Present options appraisal to members and undertake the procurement project in conjunction with legal and procurement colleagues</li> </ul>	• July 2019	Strategic Housing Group Manager & Independent Reviewing Officer	The impact will be dependent upon the successful service provider	Clearly defined roles and responsibilities for the management of the asset and operational management of the hostel	<ul> <li>Completed report to members in Q2. Further report submission to HSMT In January 2020 and CMT February 2020 on identified options pending approval on how to proceed.</li> <li>HCC are undertaking a review of the provision of Temporary Accommodation County wide.</li> <li>Report to Cabinet submitted for consideration in June 2020 with proposals to issue a new 1-year concession contract.</li> </ul>		
Support the transfer arrangements, if appropriate and monitor the transition and ongoing performance	• April 2020	Strategic Housing Group Manager & Independent Reviewing Officer	No impact	Ongoing monitoring of the performance and management of the arrangement	<ul> <li>New one year concession contract with the potential to extend up to two years delayed due to COVID, report to Cabinet in June 2020. Transfer arrangements delayed.</li> </ul>		

	Service Objectives:						
_	Increase the use of evidence led decision making and support the service to embed improvement recommendations						
	Key Actions	By When	Who is Responsible for Delivery	Impact on MTFS	What will be different once this is done?	Quarter 4 Update	
	<ul> <li>Follow up actions arising from the work stream reviews to be completed</li> </ul>	• October 2019	Strategy     Improvement     and     Engagement     Team Leader,     Policy, Projects     and     Improvement     Lead Officer	Included in the budget	Improvements     will be aligned     with the outputs     identified in the     work stream     reviews	Action plans detailing recommendations from work stream reviews are being updated and reviewed at quarterly Management review meetings WSR's and spotlight audits to be embedded as normal practice, to demonstrate commitment to continuous service improvement in line with the ISO9001 certification.	
	<ul> <li>Increase the amount of correct information held by the service on tenants and leaseholders</li> </ul>	• March 2020	Strategy     Improvement     and     Engagement     Team Leader,     Policy, Projects	No impact	The purpose of this exercise is to improve the housing services ability to profile how tenants use	The biennial Tenant & Leaseholder satisfaction survey is live until 29/02/2020. Demographic and diversity questions are	

		and Improvement Lead Officer		the service. Additionally, improved ways of maintaining contact information will support the service to communicate with tenants.	included in the survey, this data will be uploaded to Orchard to increase the amount of correct data held by the service.
Utilise the audit programme to highlight recommendations	• March 2020	Strategy     Improvement     and     Engagement     Team Leader,     Policy, Projects     and     Improvement     Lead Officer	No Impact	Using the internal audit programme, we can effectively identify where the teams resource needs to be targeted and inform the work stream reviews. This also allows us to monitor arears of high risk.	In addition to the work stream reviews which are more in-depth, the new Spotlight Audits were introduced in Q1 2020. This will support the WSR's to facilitate service improvement.
Support the service to embed STAR Survey findings	• March 2019	Strategy     Improvement     and     Engagement     Team Leader,     Policy, Projects     and     Improvement     Lead Officer	No Impact	This will be used to form the basis of satisfaction	The STAR based biennial satisfaction survey closed on the 29/02/2020. The data has been analysed and an action plan based on feedback has been developed to inform service delivery based on customer feedback.

Service Objectives: Implementation of Homelessness Reduction Act and Rough Sleeper Initiative							
Key Actions	By When	Who is Responsible for Delivery	Impact on MTFS	What will be different once this is done?	Quarter 3 Update		
Agree the delivery mechanism with St Albans and the role and scope of any outreach	• June 2019	Homeless     Prevention &     Assessment     Team Leader     Group     Manager     Strategic     Housing,     Independent     Reviewing     Officer     and(input     from     Procurement     in relation to     OJEU process)	Ensure     effective     management of     existing     resources and     grant funding	Joint working with St Albans and increased resource to address street homeless	Scope of Outreach agreed and SLA completed in Q2. This has led to effective outreach being in place and reducing homelessness. Housing First is in implementation and progression with first placements to be made in Q3. Additional funding provided to extend the RSI project for year 2, third allocation into Housing First for Dacorum is pending.		
<ul> <li>Carry out a financial assessment to determine the impact of the Homeless Reduction Act on the service</li> </ul>	• October 2019	Strategic     Housing     Group     Manager &     Homeless     Prevention &     Assessment     Team Leader	Effective management of resources and grant funding and to inform budget setting	Appropriate planning for service and ensuring service demands are met.	<ul> <li>Completed report to HSMT in Q2.</li> <li>Further review to be undertaken in Q3 due to the delay in announcement of FHS and Prevention funding from MHCLG. Review of the financial position undertaken and fed into the overall budget monitoring process to assist with resource planning.</li> </ul>		

### **Property & Place**

**Group Manager: Vacant role** 

### **Service Objectives:**

Complete the 5-Year benchmarking review of the Total Asset Management Contract with Osborne to ensure the contract

remains fit for purpose and is delivering the strategic and operational objectives

Key Actions	By When	Who is	Impact on MTFS	What will be	Quarter 4 Update
REY ACTIONS	by Wileli	Responsible	Tillpact oil MTF5	different once	Quarter 4 Opuate
		for Delivery		this is done?	
Undertake the five year benchmarking review of the whole contract including the financial model and rates	• June 2019	Group     Manager     Property     and Place	Minimal as the improvement programmes are tailored to match the available budget.	Agreement on the base costs for the remainder of the contract including the option of implementing a simplified cost mechanism for leaseholder recharge on Section 20 works	Completed in Qtr 2
Undertake a     SWOT analysis     of the key     deliverables to     assess if these     still align with     Corporate     objectives	• June 2019	Group     Manager     Property     and Place	No impact	Focused investment in areas to align with Corporate objectives and priorities – possible removal or reduction of some TAM	Completed in Qtr 2

Dooling	Contombou 2010	Crave	No Tropp of	activities undertaken by Osborne	Consultation undoutelon
Realign structure of Property and Place to maximise the contract management of Osborne and all contractors working on behalf of the Council – include skills analysis and retention of qualified staff	September 2019	Group     Manager     Property     and Place	No Impact	Improved understanding of roles and responsibilities and reduction in duplication.	<ul> <li>Consultation undertaken with staff and feedback used to finalise the details of the restructure.</li> <li>All JD's and PS's updated to reflect the new roles and minor amendments to those in the new structure to align with job titles.</li> </ul>

Service Objectives: Embed the new Compliance & Health & Safety Strategies & Management Plans within the service							
Key Actions	By When	Who is Responsible for Delivery	Impact on MTFS	What will be different once this is done?	Quarter 4 Update		
Training to all areas of the service to increase overall knowledge and awareness of the procedures that are required under the Fire Strategy,	Ongoing but to ensure recording of training is undertaken on the new HR management system	Leader Compliance and M&E contracts	Contained within budget	Improved management and knowledge of the Health and Safety risks	<ul> <li>No Change since Q3 update</li> <li>New HR system and online training records are live, so H&amp;S training records can be included once fully commissioned</li> <li>Training update to date has been positive with</li> </ul>		

Legionella strategy and Asbestos Management Plan					majority of staff achieving "green" status • Further asbestos audit with consultant input now in progress to improve awareness and management in this key area
Ensure all Health and Safety documentation relating to tenants are provided in the sign up packs or available through links to the website.	• November 2019	Team     Leader     Compliance     and M&E     contracts/     Lead officer     SIE	Contained within budget	Increased awareness of individual and corporate responsibilities in relation to the management of H&S	<ul> <li>Further compliance training being lined up for delivery including</li> <li>Fire Risk Awareness</li> <li>Electrical safety &amp; Inspections</li> <li>Both extended to wider DBC compliance areas to ensure group wide consistent knowledge and approach, some future training will need to be delivered on line</li> </ul>
Consolidate all     H&S information     onto the     management     systems to enable     better     management     information     reporting.	• January 2020	Team     Leader     Compliance     and M&E     contracts	Contained within budget	Improved     Management     Information     reporting	Review of the existing compliance system to determine the options for improved management reporting functions.

Establish and procure a supply chain framework to provide resilience in the event of contractor collapse and to enable market testing of various works elements

	testing of various works elements							
Key Actions	By When	Who is Responsible	Impact on MTFS	What will be different once	Quarter 4 Update			
		for Delivery		this is done?				
Identify suitable contractors that are able to satisfy the prequalification criteria for DBC and establish an approved list so that procurement can be undertaken in a timely manner.	• June 2019	Group     Manager     Property     and Place     & Team     Leader     Contracts	• Minimal	It will provide the opportunity for alternative contractors to be used in the event of contractor failure or collapse.	Completed in Qtr 1			
Obtain Portfolio Holder approval for direct awards through established frameworks so that there is additional resilience in the event of the failure any of the main contractors.	• June 2019	Team     Leader     Contracts     and Team     Leader     Compliance     and M&E	• Minimal	Additional resilience will be established and it will enable work to be market tested periodically to ensure value for money is being achieved.	Completed in Qtr 1			

### **Service Objectives:** Review the structure of the Cleaning Service to improve the delivery model and provide additional resilience **Kev Actions Bv When** Who is Impact on What will be **Ouarter 4 Update MTFS** Responsible different once for Delivery this is done? Window cleaning September Dependent Window cleaning continues Team None to be delivered in house service market test 2019 Leader upon outcome to establish of market test and feedback to date very Assets positive delivery model the window cleaning will Service Piloting extended improve to trial gutter clearances and external building fabric & panel systems cleaning Discussions in progress to extend service to DBC commercial property portfolio and option to retain services in-house Provide detailed • July 2019 Team Completed for cleaning and None More accurate information to Leader identification of electric lighting in Qtr 1 model the impact Work undertaken in Q4 to Assets costs associated on service charges with delivering identify further refinements to the tenants and to service charges including the service so leaseholders. that the service Leaseholders charges can reflect the actual costs Ensure there are October • Team Minimal any New blocks Ongoing liaison with the adequate resource 2019 Leader impact to be would be development team to levels to manage included identified earlier continue to refine the Assets the additional units within budget in the process for handover and created through development commissioning of new cycle so that blocks including revenue

the development	necessary	implications and service
programme.	provision for	delivery.
	cleaning can be	
	addressed.	

### **Group 3 - Tenants & Leaseholders**

Group Manager: Layna Warden

## **Service Objectives:**

Conclude the development of the Corporate ASB policy and case management

K	(ey Actions	В	y When	R	ho is esponsible for elivery	Impact on MTFS	di	hat will be fferent once is done?	Q	uarter 4 Update
•	Complete the actions identified to provide a joined up service model for the management of ASB across all tenures	•	December 2019	•	Group Manager Tenants and Leaseholders Team Leader	No Impact	•	Tenants will have contributed to our understanding of the effectiveness of case management. We know which areas to focus on to improve our approach	•	ASB services are now provided within the housing Team and changes made to referral process which will improve satisfaction in case management
•	All procedures, templates and guidance will be reviewed and updated and rolled out	•	April 2020	•	Tenants and Leaseholders Team Leader	No Impact	•	Documents will support our approach and give detailed guidance for Officers and tenants	•	Completed in Qtr 3. To be reviewed following ASB team move to Housing.

Organise training for officers on new process	• November 2019	Tenants and     Leaseholders     Team Leader	No Impact	<ul> <li>Officers will be confident on how to address ASB and able to support victims.</li> <li>Overall a more victim led approach will be embedded across the service. A reduction in complaints about ASB and higher satisfaction in how we deal</li> </ul>	Completed in Qtr 3
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Orchard Health Check to determine best use of the system to be integrate across all variety of teams

Key Actions	By When	Who is Responsible for Delivery	Impact on MTFS	What will be different once this is done?	Quarter 4 Update
Data     cleansing     (Red Olive)     to be costed     for     undertaken	• February 2019	Group Manager     Tenancy and     Leasehold	No Impact	More accurate information on the Housing Management system	Pro-master health check completed, Tenancy management delay due to implementation of Income Analytics. To be rolled over to 2020/21

	to make sure the system has accurate information					and in conjunction with any New Normal activities.
•	Commission Income Analytics to identify a more targeted approach to rent income and roll out training to the income team	• December 2019	Rent and     Income Team     Leader	Already included in the budget	Ability to target income collection and reduce the time taken interrogating records.	Implemented in January. Have already seen increase in contact from tenants and better understanding of workload across team
•	Review of current modules and those in development to migrate as many staff onto Orchard Classic	• June 2019	Group Manager     Tenancy and     Leasehold	Already included in the budget	Improved resilience and functionality of the system	First tranche rolled out and DBC to be part of second or third. Waiting for updates from Orchard to ensure all modules can go live together and so we can understand long term plans for system upgrades.

Review approach to service charges, implement arrangements for 19/20 and produce a policy to clarify approach

Key Actions	By When	Who is Responsible for Delivery	Impact on MTFS	What will be different once this is done?	Quarter 4 Update
Use best practice from guidance and other organisations to identify appropriate method for calculating service charges across leasehold and tenanted properties	• September 2019	Income Team     Leader		Tenants and Officers will understand the method for calculating service charges leading to fewer complaints, more consistency in charges and quicker ability to set charges in future years	<ul> <li>Charges more accurate and consistent this year with fewer complaints received following rent letter in February and more</li> <li>When changes in P&amp;P structure are complete will review resource in managing and identifying service charges</li> </ul>
Work with finance to finalise the apportionment of any service charges that can be charged back to leaseholders to ensure there is a	• September 2019	Group Manager     Tenants and     Leaseholders     and Group     Manager     Property and     Place	Possible increase in leaseholder service charge recovery	Consistent     approach     which can be     automated to     capture costs     as far as     possible.	Completed in Qtr 3

consistent			
approach across all			
across all			
tenures			

• To develop a Pro-active offer to young and more vulnerable tenants and support those on Universal Credit

Key Actions	By When	Who is Responsible for Delivery	Impact on MTFS	What will be different once this is done?	Quarter 4 Update
Develop and implement a project to support those who are under 25, focussing on outcomes and regular evaluation	November 2019	Team Leader     Tenancy     Sustainment	No Impact	Improved sustainment of tenancies especially for those younger tenants or care leavers reducing eviction costs and rent arrears	Pre-tenancy actions complete and drafting online offer to link to Tenant academy. Proposal for post to be considered in 2020/21 budget
Streamline     Pre-tenancy     processes     and improve     information     provided to     new tenants	• December 2019	Group Manager     Tenants and     Leaseholders,     Team Leader     Tenancy     Sustainment     and Team     Leader Pretenancy	Minimal through lower void rates	High-risk applicants will be better prepared for tenancies and improve chances of the tenancies being sustained.	• Completed

•	Improve the offer for Introductory tenants to tailor our services based on needs	•	October 2019	Group Manager Tenants and Leaseholders	No Impact	•	Improved information and training sessions tailored to High risk groups	•	8 month inspection introduced. Other potential changes to be implemented as part of recommendations from Branching out report
•	Ensure impact of UC is minimised	•	Ongoing	Income officer for UC	Sustained income rates	•	New service to support the role out of UC	•	UC officer continues to support tenants claiming UC. Regular meetings held with Job Centre to discuss current issues or difficult cases. UC officer Monitors emails from Lettings team to ensure any new tenants claiming UC are contacted for early intervention and support

Analysis of early stages of tenancy and review approach to sustainment

Key Actions	By When	Who is Responsible for	Impact on MTFS	What will be different once	Quarter 4 Update
		Delivery		this is done?	
Complete review of reasons for tenancy failure following work stream review outputs	• March 2020	Tenancy     Sustainment     Team Leader		Better understanding of reasons for tenancy failures	Research conducted     which identified areas     where support is needed     to prevent tenancy     failure. Actions through     18-25s project, pretenancy and reviewing     Sustainment Officers     approach to outcomes     will improve these areas.
Identify and complete an action plan to focus on pre-tenancy activities to improve sustainment of Introductory tenants	• December 2019	Tenancy     Sustainment     Team Leader     and Pre Tenancy     Team Leader		A greater success in sustainment of introductory tenancies through	Completed. Pre-tenancy training session will be mandatory for all new tenants and will have added focus on UC. Looking at online offer to provide this through existing systems

## **Group 4 – Housing Development**

**Group Manager: David Barrett** 

S	Service Objectives:  Investigate Off Site & Modern Methods of Construction									
K	ey Actions	By When	Who is Responsible for Delivery	Impact on MTFS	What will be different once this is done?	Quarter 4 Update				
•	Visit suppliers Consider some level of adoption possible site identification Consortium approach for delivery if small scale trial option preferred	• September 2019	Development Team Leader	Costs     contained     within budget	Potential to enhance delivery of new homes	<ul> <li>Workshops held with 2 selected consortium partners.</li> <li>Site provisionally identified to receive MMC.</li> <li>Tracking WCHT Consortium</li> <li>Mobilising Garage programme and St Margaret's Way</li> </ul>				

_	Service Objectives: Review and rewrite current Housing Development Strategy to align with the Business Plan								
Key Actions	By When	Who is Responsible for Delivery	Impact on MTFS	What will be different once this is done?	Quarter 4 Update				
Model delivery numbers through the Business Plan tool to assess	August     2019	Group Manager     Development	Changes to delivery programme will be contained within budget	A refresh of our Strategy for the delivery of new homes	<ul> <li>Business Plan now approved.</li> <li>HDS to be produced to replace Building for the Future Strategy</li> </ul>				

financial viability Consult and agree with AD and PH Obtain approval for new programme and rewrite strategy to align with revised programme						
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Key Actions	By When	Who is Responsible for Delivery	Impact on MTFS	What will be different once this is done?	Quarter 4 Update
<ul> <li>Obtain formal approval for new build programme</li> <li>Prepare Briefs</li> <li>Implement delivery within team</li> </ul>	• September 2019	Group Manager Development	Increased rental income and HRA	Clear direction for team regarding the next tranch of schemes	Completed, Schemes are being developed through to Planning.

## **Service Improvement Plan**

Action	Expected Improvement(s)	Planned Start Date	Lead					
Improving Communications & Reducing Contact								
Internally promote the work of the SIE team to co-ordinate communications and use of Team Site for staff update	Improved approach to managing communications with an aim to streamline involvement and ensure it is focused	May 2019	Strategy, Improvement and Engagement Team Leader					
Continue to grow digital and online presence, developing a focused social media plan to support updates to tenants and leaseholders	Improved use of all media to improve communication	April 2019	Policy, Projects and Engagement Lead Officer					
Undertake a full review of website content to make sure it is up to date and relevant and develop further opportunities for self-serve (garages and rents)	Reduction in administration and improved options for self-serve	April 2019	Strategy, Improvement and Engagement Team Leader/ Policy, Projects and Engagement Lead Officer					

Action	Expected Improvement(s)	Planned Start Date	Lead
Review, update and consolidate policies and procedures			
Identify all Policies that are currently used by the Housing Service	All Policies and procedures updated and stored on team site, any actions from strategies updated	May 2019	Strategy, Improvement and Engagement Team Leader/ Policy, Projects and Improvement Lead Officer
Data & Evidence			
<ul> <li>Data cleansing of Orchard and collation of stock information to ensure the service is maximising data held:</li> <li>Building up profiling information on both stock and tenants</li> <li>It is compliant with new GDPR regulations</li> </ul>	Improve management information on the use of the stock and the impact of flexible tenancies and the roll out of Universal Credit	June 2019	Group Manager Tenants and Leaseholders and Group Manager Property and Place
Sheltered accommodation supply and demand, analysis of feedback from Open Day events and bidding history on the various schemes.	Detail to be assessed for developing a medium to long-term strategy for the sheltered accommodation and the changing needs of the over 0's demographic	May 2019	Team Leader Supported Housing
Garages supply and demand data from Civica to assess the optimum number of garages the Council should retain for revenue income.	Investment will be targeted and decommissioning sites for alternative use or disposal	June 2019	Garage Officer
Benchmarking and information	Compare our performance against peers	April 2019	Quality, Insight

returns e.g. Housemark LAHS, P1E	and identify opportunities for service	and
	improvement	Improvement
		Officer

### **Service Improvement Plan**

Action	Expected Improvement(s)	Planned Start Date	Lead
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Internally promote the work of the SIE team to co-ordinate communications and use of Team Site for staff update	Improved approach to managing communications with an aim to streamline involvement and ensure it is focused	May 2019	Strategy, Improvement and Engagement Team Leader
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Undertake a full review of website content to make sure it is up to date and relevant and develop further opportunities for self-serve (garages and rents)	Reduction in administration and improved options for self-serve	April 2019	Strategy, Improvement and Engagement Team Leader/ Policy, Projects and Engagement Lead Officer

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Benchmarking and information	Compare our performance against peers	April 2019	Quality, Insight
returns e.g. Housemark LAHS, P1E	and identify opportunities for service		and
	improvement		Improvement
			Officer

Action	Expected Improvement(s)	Planned Start Date	Lead
Systems and Assets			
De-commissioning of Genesis and commissioning of new system Inform	A range of devices can be used to input the information and a fully mobile solution, which caches information when there is no internet available when working in the field.	March 2019	Supported Housing Team Leader
Pro-master migration of all historic data and commissioning to maximise the functionality of the system	Orchard-hosted system will allow the wider service and third parties as well as tenants to access information on assets  Officers across the service will have	March 2019	Assets and Business Improvement Team Leader
	accurate asset information available through the Orchard System.		
Consultation on and continued	Utilising functions such as text	April 2019	Assets and
rollout of New Orchard	messaging, the customer portal and		Business
	improved functionality		Improvement
This needs to be treated as a project			Team Leader
within all teams using Orchard -			and Group
			Manager Tenants
			and
			Leaseholders

# Risk Register 2019 – 2020

Category:	gory: Corporate Priority: Affordable Housing Risk Owner:		Portfolio Holder:	Tolerance:	
inancial			Fiona Williamson		Treating
Inherent Probability	Inherent Impact	Inherent Risk Score	Residual Probability	Residual Impact	Residual Risk Score
2 Unlikely	4 Severe	8 Amber	1 Very Unlikely	2 Medium	2 Green
Conse	quences	Current	: Controls		Assurance
Delivery of the Business Plan would not be achieved if income and financial control is not closely managed		and service priorities Any policy changes or go announcements that may assumptions are quickly a the Business Plan This enables for long tern always be visible and if th certain years programme needed or issues taken to	reflect statutory changes overnment y impact the plan or its analysed and reflected into a financial viability to here are foreseen issues in so can be altered as o mitigate	finance Sign off by Cabinet	
		Sign Off	and Comments		

#### HL 103 Failure to adopt a service specific best practice approach to Health and Safety (Housing Landlord) **Corporate Priority: Risk Owner:** Category: Portfolio Holder: **Tolerance:** Infrastructure Safe and Clean Environment Margaret Patricia Treating Fiona Williamson Griffiths **Inherent Probability Inherent Impact Inherent Risk Score Residual Probability Residual Impact Residual Risk Score** 2 3 4 12 4 8 Likely Unlikely Red **Amber** Severe Severe Consequences **Current Controls** Assurance All Risk Assessments / Notes of meetings available for Death or injury to staff; residents or contractors' Service specific H & S procedures applied to staff; reputation; litigation and charges of corporate sheltered housing service covering service users review manslaughter. and staff eg. fire safety and lone working; clear landings policy and procedures; estate inspections schedule.. Corporate H&S policy under review. Ongoing training for staff in key areas. Increased resourcing to provide support and enhanced monitoring and administration of health and safety information. Directorate Health & Safety Committee Quarterly at DMT Standing Items on Team Meeting Agendas Quarterly Housing Fire Safety Group attended by Fire Service Ensuring that the service has appropriately qualified staff (though this is itself a risk as the Council finds it difficult to recruit surveyors on pay grounds) **Sign Off and Comments**

Ongoing work to manage risks and migrate data onto assess and compliance software systems

Q2 and Q3 audits of Asbestos and Legionella management plans completed and awaiting report from Auditors

#### Housing – Fiona Williamson Risk name: Failure to identify and manage Private sector Landlords and Houses in Multiple Occupation **Risk Owner: Corporate Priority:** Category: **Portfolio Holder: Tolerance:** Reputational Safe and Clean Environment Natasha Beresford Margaret Patricia Griffiths Treating **Residual Risk Residual Impact Inherent Probability Inherent Impact Inherent Risk Score Residual Probability** Score 8 3 4 12 2 4 Likely Unlikely Severe Red Severe **Amber** Consequences **Current Controls Assurance** Private sector tenants living in poor conditions that could be Additional resources have been employed to assist with the anticipated increase in workload following changes prejudicial to their health. Statutory function so reputational and financial risks for the to the legislation. Training for all staff in HHSRS and fire safety has been Council. undertaken. New procedures have been developed to align with the changes in legislation Volumes will be monitored to assess the level of demand upon the service. **Sign Off and Comments**

Increased activity to assess potential HMO's ongoing, awareness raised with staff and members, to report potential HMO's.

Category: Financial	Corporate Priority: Affordable Housing		<b>Risk Owner:</b> Natasha Beresford	<b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Margaret Patricia Griffiths	Tolerance: Treating
Inherent Probability	Inherent Impact	Inherent Risk Score	Residual Probability	Residual Impact	Residual Ris Score
3 Likely	4 Severe	12 Red	2 Unlikely	4 Severe	8 Amber
Consec	quences	Current	Controls	Assurance	
n homeless presentations on budget.	Safety risks for clients if	monthly reporting of stats seeking Housing Advice an homeless.  Use of grant funding to sup	oplement the team with ocess presentations through omeless process		
			mments		

Failure of the Total Asset	t Management Contracto	r to deliver the five strat	egic objectives and agree	ment on the year 5 benc	hmarking
Category:	<b>Corporate Priority:</b>		Risk Owner:	Portfolio Holder:	Tolerance:
Financial	Affordable Housing		Alan Mortimer	Margaret Patricia Griffiths	Treating
Inherent Probability	Inherent Impact	Inherent Risk Score	Residual Probability	Residual Impact	Residual Risk Score
3	4	12	2	4	8
Likely	Severe	Red	Unlikely	Severe	Amber
Conseq	uences Current		Current Controls		e
extensions and associated costs of managing the collation and interrogation of repairs data and stock condition information. Reputational issues in respect of the anticipated benefits to stakeholders not being realised. Operational consequences if the gas servicing and installation contract secures contract extensions due to the co-location of the operational teams. Additional costs and time to procure a new contract.		Regular contract review the operational, financial and someetings, with early warning actions to address any area. Monthly monitoring of key identify any trends which coachievement of the key stream of the key stream of the year 5 and benchmore preparation for the year 5 and benchmo	trategic core group ng mechanisms and agreed as of poor performance.  performance indicators to ould impact upon the ategic indicators.  narking underway in	Strategic Core Group Minu Key Performance Indicators On-going scrutiny by the Pr surveyors	S
		Sign Off and Cor	nments		

Year 5 Benchmarking completed and revised contractual amendments implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> April.

Review of KSI's to determine impact of COVID on the ability to deliver and agree the priorities so all works can include COVID secure approach

# HL\_R01 Failure to identify the needs and risks of residents living in sheltered housing and ensure that they have access to support appropriate to their needs

Category: Reputational	Corporate Priority: Affordable Housing			Portfolio Holder: Margaret Patricia Griffiths	<b>Tolerance:</b> Treating
Inherent Probability	Inherent Impact	Inherent Risk Score	Residual Probability	Residual Impact	Residual Risk Score
3 Likely	4 Severe	12 Red	1 Very Unlikely	4 Severe	4 Green
Consec	luences	Current	Controls	Assurance	e
accommodation and if not	accommodation and if not given there is risk to health and wellbeing of some of our most vulnerable residents  Commodation and if not given there is risk to health and wellbeing of some of our most vulnerable residents  Commodation and if not given there is risk to health and wellbeing of some of our most vulnerable residents  L		ional Procedures.  ther agencies.  ining for supported  replaced with Inform to keeping and management  within supported housing nagement structure (1:1s	Supported Housing Officer	Procedures

#### **Sign Off and Comments**

Review of the Supported Housing Assets underway, to assess the suitability of the assets for current and future use. The review is continuing into 2020-21. Increased telephone contact to assess the impact of lockdown on residents in sheltered housing. Liaison with HCC to identify any tenants who are in the Shielded group to ensure appropriate support provided

HL_R03 Failure to Deliver the Council's New Build Programme					
Category: Reputational	Corporate Priority: Affordable Housing		Risk Owner: David Barrett	Portfolio Holder: Margaret Patricia Griffiths	Tolerance: Treating
Inherent Probability	Inherent Impact	Inherent Risk Score	Residual Probability	Residual Impact	Residual Risk Score
2 Unlikely	4 Severe	8 Amber	1 Very Unlikely	4 Severe	4 Green
Conseq	uences	Current	Controls	Assurance	e
Consequences  Reputational and financial impact with public and HCA regarding grant allocations and due to the high profile of the project and Corporate priorities		Fortnightly AD update, mor	nthly project group, team velopment and new post of eated see progress of expenditure set o supplement those tany that do not progress	All Schemes have project wupdated fortnightly	vorksheets

Ongoing monitoring of progress to assess delivery underway. Any projects that are identified as having risks of delays or do not progress are reviewed and a pipeline of alternative sites retained to provide resilience.

Some impact of the lockdown as sites were suspended for a period of tie whilst measures could be put in place to enable social distancing and additional hygiene facilities provided.

### Housing – Fiona Williamson

Risk name: Failure to recruit and retain appropriately skilled, experienced or professionally qualified members of staff.

<b>Category:</b> Reputational	Corporate Priority:  Modern and efficient Counc	l Fiona Williamson		Portfolio Holder: Margaret Patricia Griffiths	<b>Tolerance:</b> Treating
Inherent Probability	Inherent Impact	Inherent Risk Score	Residual Probability	Residual Impact	Residual Risk Score
3	4	12	2	4	8
Likely	Severe	Red	Likely	Severe	Amber
Reliance on external consultants and agency staff and the additional cost implications and pressure if the budgets Risk of incorrect decisions being made by inadequately qualified or trained staff Risk of legal action increase in disrepair claims, Environmental Protection Act claims or personal injury claims.  Any issues arising as a result of Statutory functions, risk of prosecution and the associated reputational and financial risks for the Council.			ye the recruitment approach o supplement in house skills		

#### Sign Off and Comments

Apprentice posts created to provide pipeline of trained and skilled staff, to supplement skills levels.

## Housing – Fiona Williamson

Risk name: Failure to identify and manage Private sector Landlords, Houses in Multiple Occupation and Empty Homes

Category:			Risk Owner:	Portfolio Holder:	Tolerance:
Reputational			Natasha Beresford	Margaret Patricia Griffiths	Treating
Inherent Probability	Inherent Impact	Inherent Risk Score	Residual Probability	Residual Impact	Residual Risk Score
3	4	12	2	4	8
Likely	Severe	Red	Unlikely	Severe	Amber
Private sector tenants living in poor conditions that could be prejudicial to their health.  Reduction in projected income from licence fees and enforcement action  Statutory function so reputational and financial risks for the Council.		Additional resources emplo anticipated increase in wor the legislation. Training for all staff in HHSI	RS and fire safety has been include Fitness for Human ts.	- Assurance	

#### **Sign Off and Comments**

Private rented sector strategy work commenced and BRE commissioned to undertake the desktop analysis of the number and nature of PRS properties within Dacorum, to inform the approach and focus of the strategy.

# **Funding**

## **Current Budgets - Gen Fund & HRA**

**Gen Fund Housing** 

HOUSING & COMMUNITY COMMITTE	E GENERAL	FUND BUDGE	ΓDETAIL 20	19/20
	Original 2018/2019	Budgets 2019/2020	Varia 2018/19 -	
	£	£	£	%

Housing & Community
Housing Landlord (Fiona Williamson)

Housing Standards - DFG management (Alan Mortimer)				
Employees	44,550	45,340	790	2%
Transport	0	0	0	
Income	(33,610)	(34,420)	(810)	(2%)
Recharges	12,841	6,308	(6,533)	(51%)
Net Expenditure: Housing Standards	23,781	17,228	(6,553)	(28%)
Garages (Alan Mortimer)				
Employees	40,310	40,290	(20)	(0%)
Premises	561,070	573,970	12,900	2%
Supplies & Services	0	0	0	
Capital Charges	753,320	719,300	(34,020)	(5%)
Income	(3,770,650)	(3,770,370)	280	0%
Recharges	432,443	433,569	1,126	0%
Net Expenditure: Garages	(1,983,507)	(2,003,241)	(19,734)	(1%)
Supporting People (Alan Mortimer)				
Recharges	7,500	7,500	0	0%
recitarges	7,000	7,000		0 70
Net Expenditure: Supporting People	7,500	7,500	0	0%
Homelessness (Natasha Beresford)				
Employees	607,780	818,130	210,350	35%
Premises	120,560	106,380	(14,180)	(12%)
Transport	0	0	0	

Supplies & Services	131,300	80,300	(51,000)	(39%)	
Capital Charges	86,270	115,000	28,730	33%	
Transfer Payments	50,000	50,000	0	0%	
Income	(326,870)	(623,330)	(296,460)	(91%)	
Grants and Contributions	(438,300)	(625,060)	(186,760)	(43%)	
Recharges	122,312	128,590	6,279	5%	
Net Expenditure: Homelessness	353,052	50,010	(303,042)	(86%)	
Housing Advice (Natasha Beresford)					
Employees	92,010	95,000	2,990	3%	
Transport	0	0	0		
Supplies & Services	43,780	44,550	770	2%	
Recharges	180,643	195,211	14,567	8%	
Net Expenditure: Housing Advice	316,433	334,761	18,327	6%	
Housing Strategy (Natasha Beresford)					
Employees	398,960	419,810	20,850	5%	
Transport	2,610	2,670	60	2%	
Supplies & Services	12,960	62,990	50,030	386%	
Transfer Payments	5,000	5,000	0	0%	
Income	0	(30,000)	(30,000)		
Recharges	80,091	135,598	55,507	69%	
Net Expenditure: Housing Strategy	499,621	596,068	96,447	19%	

(783,120)

(997,674) (214,554) (27%)

Net Expenditure: Housing Landlord

### **HRA Summary**

### **HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET 2019/20**

£000	Note	Growth / (Savings)	Budget
Income  Dwelling Rents	1	500	(52,536)
Non-Dwelling Rents	<u> </u>	0	(102)
Tenant Service Charges	2	(54)	(1,626)
Leaseholder Charges	<del>  -</del>	0	(487)
Interest and Investment Income	3	(45)	(435)
Contributions to Expenditure	4	(110)	(645)
Total Income		291	(55,831)
Expenditure Repairs and Maintenance	5	(35)	12,068
Revenue Contribution to Capital	6	(1,324)	5,480
Supervision & Management	7	354	12,783
Corporate and Democratic Core		0	307
Rent, Rates, Taxes & Other Charges		0	35
Provision for Bad Debts	8	275	975
Interest Payable	9	(36)	11,558
Depreciation	10	475	12,625
Total Expenditure		(291)	55,831
HRA Deficit / (Surplus)		0	0
Housing Revenue Account Balance:			
Opening Balance at 1 April			(2,892)
Deficit / (Surplus) for the year			0
Closing Balance at 31 March			(2,892)

## SUMMARY OF MAJOR MOVEMENTS IN HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET 2018/19 - 2019/20

#### Note 1 - Dwelling Rents

The budget for Dwelling Rents reflects the final year of the 1% reduction in social rents announced by the Government in July 2015. The average dwelling rent is proposed to reduce from £101.22 in 2018/19 to £100.08 in 2019/20.

#### **Note 2 - Tenant Service Charges**

There is additional income of £54k on this line due to a grant from Herts County Council that was expected to have ceased. An additional £60k is also expected from service charge recovery on new properties.

#### Note 3 - Interest and Investment Income

There is an increase to the draft budget for 2019/20 due to increase in interest rates.

#### Note 4 - Contributions to Expenditure

The budget for Contributions to Expenditure has been increased by £70k to reflect an increase in income from minor capital receipts. In addition there is a budgeted increase of £40k from a new policy of charging leaseholders for alterations work. Income to be generated via a new post shown in Supervision and Management.

#### Note 5 - Repairs & Maintenance

There is a minor amendment to the budget for Repairs and Maintenance budget through investment in a maintenance officer to address disrepair claims at an early stage, which will lead to savings in repairs costs. Savings to be generated via a new post shown in Supervision and Management.

#### Note 6 - Revenue Contribution to Capital

The Revenue Contribution to Capital has reduced year on year, as a result of operational activities including reduced income from rents due to government policy and additional costs incurred maintaining the current asset portfolio. The capital programme is fully funded over the next 3 years through utilisation of capital receipts, capital grants and revenue contributions.

#### Note 7 - Supervision and Management

The draft budget includes the following assumptions:

In line with estimates for the General Fund, salaries budgets include pay inflation of 2.4%. Utilities budgets also include inflation of 5%.

Growth of £75k for a specialist Universal Credit income officer and new income analysis technology to improve efficiency in rent collection.

Growth of 2 posts recovered in increased income and reduced repairs (as above).

Growth of £120k in the new build team to contribute to delivery of the revised capital programme.

Increased recharge to the HRA from the General Fund to reflect updated share of central costs.

#### Note 8 - Provision for Bad Debts

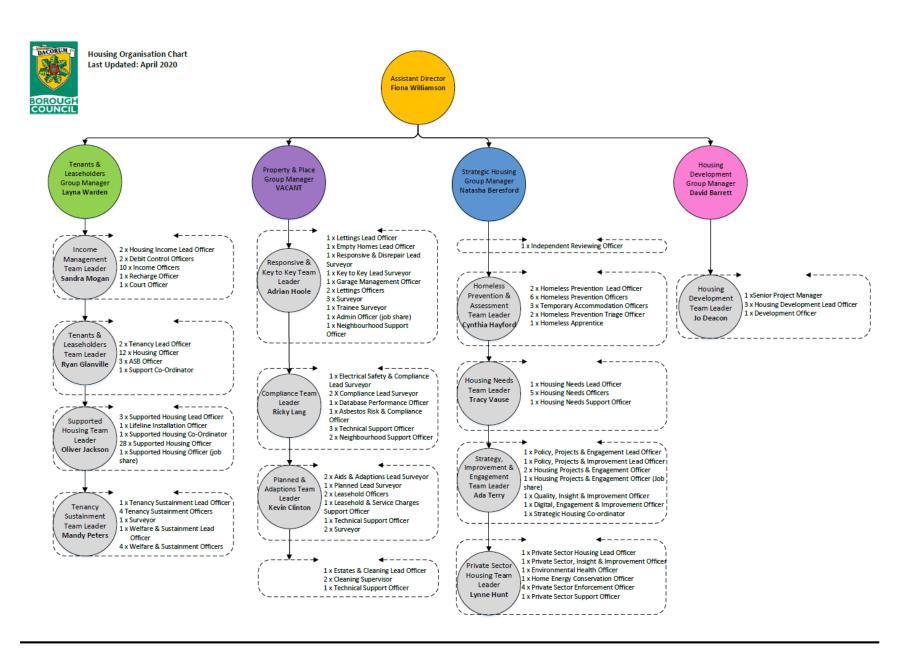
The provision for bad debts has been increased by £300k in 2018/19 to allow for the part year effect of the implementation of Universal Credit. The new income analysis technology is expected to help reduce arrears and therefore have a positive impact on the level of bad debt.

#### Note 9 - Interest Payable

This line reflects the interest payment due on the HRA self-financing loan taken out in 2012.

#### Note 10 - Depreciation

The budgets for depreciation have been increased to reflect an increase in capital assets as a result of the new build programme, combined with inflation in house prices.



### **Workforce Planning Report**

### **Group 1 – Strategic Housing**

Cl - ff l d - '-l-	
Staff turnover and risk	
<ul> <li>Recruitment</li> <li>Are there any skills that may prove difficult to recruit?</li> <li>How are you making these roles more attractive?</li> </ul>	Recruitment to technical roles across the council such as Surveyors and Environmental Health Officers is challenging, often leading to recruitment via temporary agencies, which is costly.  SH have had regard to this in relation to the introduction of new Private Sector Enforcement roles and have sought to develop a job role that is effective to meet statutory requirements and support the single point of failure in 1 FTE EHO.
<ul> <li>Skills development</li> <li>What new skills do you need to deliver service objectives?</li> <li>Could we develop these in-house?</li> <li>How are you transferring or developing specialist skills?</li> </ul>	Pre Tenancy Team will be undertaking cross training of staff within the team, as this has been identified as an area of risk with the high turnover of staff within the team.  Additional skills and knowledge requirement to meet statutory demands of Private Sector management have been identified and a training plan has been undertaken, with regular refreshers required.
<ul> <li>Single Points of Failure</li> <li>Are there any single points of failure?</li> <li>How are you dealing with them?</li> </ul>	As mentioned in point 1, EHO is single point of failure and the development of the new PRS Enforcement Officer posts has mitigated against this to a point. Given the number of responsibilities, the service has, in order to ensure that the service is tackling all areas of responsibility, a further review of resource is ongoing, to enable the effective tackling of empty homes and enforcement activity.  Strategic Housing Co-ordinator post, is vital role within the service gaps in this post can have a significant service impact. Working with other GM's to ensure consistency in management of these co-ordinators across to include cross training and awareness of different work areas.  In the past year sickness and challenges in recruiting to the role of Housing Needs and Allocations Officer have had a significant impact on the service delivery and performance in empty homes/lettings. The service intends to make these roles generic in function to reduce single points of failure and build in resilience.
Leadership  • How are you developing leadership in the team?	A number of new Lead Officer posts were introduced within Strategic Housing approximately 18 months ago, due to new burdens. This has enabled these officers to be involved in key team and service plan objectives or lead projects. Additionally there have been several acting up opportunities as a result of other staff challenges, which has provided a development opportunity at Team Leader and Group Manager level. Training has been made available for a number of staff across the service to develop management skills, such as ILMs.

### **Group 2 – Property & Place**

Staff turnover and risk	
<ul> <li>Recruitment</li> <li>Are there any skills that may prove difficult to recruit?</li> <li>How are you making these roles more attractive?</li> </ul>	All construction related and/or technical roles continue to be very difficult to recruit. Post Grenfell Health and Safety and compliance related qualifications are commanding an even greater premium in the marketplace.  Consideration has to being given to what options are available to make the roles more attractive to attract and retain the correct candidates
<ul> <li>Skills development</li> <li>What new skills do you need to deliver service objectives?</li> <li>Could we develop these in-house?</li> <li>How are you transferring or developing specialist skills?</li> </ul>	Quantity Surveying, Risk management, compliance related skills including gas, Fire Risk assessments, Legionella, asbestos and M&E.  Yes with additional training or qualifications  Mentoring of staff and a number are undertaking degrees in Construction.  Also have established a trainee empty homes surveyor role which will be covered by apprenticeship training levy.
<ul> <li>Single Points of Failure</li> <li>Are there any single points of failure?</li> <li>How are you dealing with them?</li> </ul>	Stock Database officer, Fire Risk Assessor, legionella, asbestos officer, surveyor.  Additional staff are working with the Promaster software and further training will be undertaken to establish some super users of the system.  Re-alignment of teams and roles to include cross team support and familiarity with specialist processes  External specialist consultancy support is being used to increase capacity with Fire Risk assessments
How are you developing leadership in the team?	Invited participation at Team Leaders meetings, mentoring and coaching techniques used to assist Team Leaders to develop.  Re-alignment of teams and roles to include cross team support and familiarity with specialist processes  External and internal management training, and supporting professional membership qualifications (chartered status)

### **Group 3 – Tenants & Leaseholders**

Staff turnover and risk	
<ul> <li>Recruitment</li> <li>Are there any skills that may prove difficult to recruit?</li> <li>How are you making these roles more attractive?</li> </ul>	There is a good level of demand for most full time roles within the Tenants and Leaseholder service. The levels of sickness and turn over in Housing Officer – Tenancy and Supported Housing Officers are high but mainly due to the numbers and that officers are keen to develop into new roles.
<ul> <li>Skills development</li> <li>What new skills do you need to deliver service objectives?</li> <li>Could we develop these in-house?</li> <li>How are you transferring or developing specialist skills?</li> </ul>	A good knowledge of service charges is needed to implement this service objective. Responsibility, skills and knowledge will be developed within the Income team.  Resilience is needed to continue to manage the work load in the Tenancy and Sustainment Teams. This could be achieved through training, regular 121's and employee assistance support.
<ul> <li>Single Points of Failure</li> <li>Are there any single points of failure?</li> <li>How are you dealing with them?</li> </ul>	All single points of failure have been addressed through realignment and reviewing responsibilities.
Leadership  • How are you developing leadership in the team?	A joint team plan for the T&L team will ensure that managers are aware of the strategic direction and how their teams contribute. It will ensure partnerships across the service.  A number of Officers have attended the in-house Introduction to Management Course. This will help identify those who can be future managers. Additionally offering the opportunity to offer mentoring and coaching across teams can provide support and develop leadership.

## **Group 4 – Housing Development**

Staff turnover and risk	
<ul> <li>Recruitment</li> <li>Are there any skills that may prove difficult to recruit?</li> <li>How are you making these roles more attractive?</li> </ul>	Yes, there is a skills shortage of good quality project managers in housing development.  Limited due to salary levels. Consideration of options of how this can be addressed is underway and use of specialist recruiters to target individuals in the market.
<ul> <li>Skills development</li> <li>What new skills do you need to deliver service objectives?</li> <li>Could we develop these in-house?</li> <li>How are you transferring or developing specialist skills?</li> </ul>	Improved project management skills.  Yes, this is our approach  Learning and support from our consultant team along with now having a team leader in post
<ul> <li>Single Points of Failure</li> <li>Are there any single points of failure?</li> <li>How are you dealing with them?</li> </ul>	No
<ul> <li>Leadership</li> <li>How are you developing leadership in the team?</li> </ul>	A new team leader in post who is undertaking management training.  Coaching project management skills plus attending formal training events.  Ongoing training and attendance at CPD events to supplement skills and knowledge within the team.