

HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report To: Cabinet
1 December 2015

Subject: **HAMBLETON HOUSING STRATEGY ACTION PLAN 2015 - 2021**

All Wards
Portfolio Holder for Environmental and Planning Services: Councillor B Phillips

1.0 PURPOSE:

1.1 This report seeks Cabinet approval and recommendation to Council that the Hambleton Housing Strategy Action Plan is adopted.

2.0 BACKGROUND:

2.1 In June 2015 the Council adopted the York, North Yorkshire and East Riding (YNYER) Housing Strategy. At the time Members were made aware that this would form the basis for developing a Strategic Housing Action Plan that would reflect Hambleton's priorities through delivery of local schemes and initiatives and be used as a local performance management tool.

2.2 Following confirmation of the adoption of the York, North Yorkshire & East Riding Housing Strategy all partnering Local Authorities have been asked to approve their own local action plans to ensure its delivery.

2.3 A draft Action Plan has been prepared for Hambleton and is attached as Annex 'A'. The local actions proposed align with both the Council Plan 2015 and the sub regional strategy's overarching aim which is to support and enable economic growth, deliver the housing priorities set out in the 'Growth Deal' and meet the diverse needs and aspirations of our local economies and communities.

2.4 Measures are in place to enable the Council to monitor progress and performance against these key actions which will be largely reported via Council Service Plans and/or performance information submitted bi-yearly to the Sub Regional Housing Board.

2.5 Key actions include:

- Preparing a new Local Plan for Hambleton
- Commissioning a Strategic Housing Market Assessment for Hambleton
- Working with the LEP to ensure delivery of North Northallerton
- Continuing to support the RHE programme and the role of the Strategic Housing Manager (including remaining to act as lead employer)
- Implementation of the Hambleton Homelessness Strategy
- Review of the 2014 Hambleton Traveller Needs Study
- Continuing to be a partner of North Yorkshire Homechoice
- Piloting a scheme for shared accommodation in Northallerton for single working people on low incomes
- Training Planning staff to ensure they are confident using Affordable Housing and Size, Type and Tenure of New Homes SPD
- Member training to ensure Members are kept up to speed with new guidance /legislation

2.6 As well as preparing a local action plan that aligns with the priorities of the sub regional Strategy, Hambleton will need to report annually to the Housing Board on progress against it. However, since there is a strong correlation between the priorities of the Strategy and those of the Council Action Plan no issues are anticipated.

3.0 LINK TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

3.1 Providing an adequate amount and range of housing, including affordable housing, to meet the housing needs of all sections of the local community is a key to meeting key objectives of the Council’s Plan. Provision of more market and affordable housing will help to provide special places to live and help to drive economic vitality. Working with private sector landlords and other housing providers to improve the condition and warmth of homes will also enhance the health and well-being of residents which is another key Council priority.

4.0 RISK ASSESSMENT:

4.1 There are no significant risks attached to this report

4.2 The key risk in not approving the recommendation is shown below:-

Risk	Implication	Prob*	Imp*	Total	Preventative action
The Council does not approve the Action Plan.	The Council will not be able to demonstrate that its priorities align with those of the sub region and its ability to attract public sector housing and economic investment will be impaired.	4	4	16	Approve the Action Plan

Prob = Probability, Imp = Impact, Score range is Low = 1, High = 5

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 There are no financial implications

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 There are no implications.

7.0 EQUALITY/DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 Approving the Action Plan will help to deliver initiatives that better meet the housing needs of Hambleton residents of all ages across all types and tenures. It will also ensure that the needs of vulnerable groups and those with specific needs are fully considered and that these groups are not disadvantaged in terms of accessing suitable accommodation and support services.

8.0 RECOMMENDATION:

8.1 It is recommended that Cabinet approves and recommends to Council that:

- (1) the Housing Strategy Action Plan 2015-2021 be adopted;

- (2) the Action Plan is reviewed annually;
- (3) progress against the Action Plan is reported to the York North Yorkshire and East Riding Housing Partnership when requested.

MICK JEWITT

Background papers: York, North Yorkshire and East Riding Housing Strategy 2015-21
Council Plan 2015-19

Author ref: SWT

Contact: Sue Walters Thompson
Housing and Planning Policy Manager
Direct Line No: 01609 767176

Hambleton Strategic Housing Action Plan