

## **Report to Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Growth and Economy**

**Subject:** Housing Strategy and Delivery Plan 2025-2030 public and stakeholder consultation

**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025

**Author:** Assistant Director of Housing and Resettlement

### **Wards Affected**

Borough-wide

### **Purpose**

To seek approval to undertake a 6-week consultation exercise to seek the views of the public and stakeholders on the Council's draft Housing Strategy and Delivery Plan 2025-2030.

### **Key Decision**

This is not a key decision.

### **Recommendation(s)**

- a) That the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Growth and Economy agrees to a public and stakeholder engagement being undertaken for a period of 6-weeks in relation to the proposed Council's Housing Strategy and Delivery Plan 2025-2030.**

## **1 Background**

- 1.1 Section 29 of the Deregulation Act 2015 removed the requirement of Housing Authorities to publish a Housing Strategy. The Council in response to the removal of this requirement has not produced a Housing Strategy since 2014 (Housing Strategy 2009 – 14).
- 1.2 Although the Council is not required to produce and implement a Housing Strategy, it has discretion to do so. A Housing Strategy can provide a mechanism for the Housing Authority to articulate its vision, priorities, objectives, actions and performance targets for improving the quality, supply, and affordability of housing within its boundary and to address both local and national challenges and opportunities. It provides a framework within which statutory services can be delivered and is considered best practice.
- 1.3 The Council initiated a project to develop a Housing Strategy and delivery plan. A Steering Group was established including internal Council Officers and external partners and stakeholders including Public Health representation. This Steering Group led by the Strategic Housing Manager agreed the framework for the development of the Gedling Housing strategy.
- 1.4 The proposed Housing Strategy 2025-2030 has been produced to align with existing Council policies and aims to provide an overarching framework to address the overall housing needs of the Borough.
- 1.5 The borough is home to a diverse range of people with varying and evolving needs associated with age, health, disability, and levels of vulnerability and this strategy sets out the Council future plans and objectives to address these needs over the next five years.

- 1.6 The key priorities which have been identified in the Strategy include:

**Priority 1 – The Provision of new housing**

**Priority 2 - Helping those that need a home**

**Priority 3 - Improving the quality of existing housing within the borough**

**Priority 4 – Looking after our residents in their homes**

For each key priority, the strategy sets out the current position, the progress made to date, and the actions planned to address these areas over the next five years.

- 1.7 The Housing Strategy is supported by a Delivery Plan (Action Plan), which is a live and working document that outlines how the Council will address and deliver the priorities contained in the strategy.
- 1.8 The Delivery Plan has been developed giving full regard to the key priorities identified in paragraph 1.6 of this report and includes areas of work that are already in progress. It includes cross council departmental actions and responsibilities which will be delivered mostly through our Housing, Welfare, Private Sector Housing and Planning Policy service areas.
- 1.9 A period of consultation will need to be undertaken for a 6-week period to seek views on the draft Housing Strategy 2025-2030. An exercise has already been completed to identify the key stakeholders needed to commence the consultation and a full list of these is attached in this report at Appendix 3.
- 1.10 A copy of the draft Housing Strategy 2025-2030 and supported draft Action Plan are included in this report and can be found at Appendix 1.

## **2 Proposal**

- 2.1 It is proposed that approval is given to undertake public consultation to ensure that the Housing Strategy has the support of key stakeholders and the community to appropriately reflect the needs of the borough.
- 2.2 An online survey will be created and circulated widely via a mailing list, and it will also be available on the Councils website and through the Councils social media channels. The consultation will be undertaken during a 6-week period. A list of key stakeholders identified has been produced and is available in Appendix 3.
- 2.3 A copy of the consultation questions can be found at Appendix 2 of this report. Following the completion of the exercise all responses received will be collated, and any suggested amendments will be considered before the final draft strategy is submitted to Cabinet for approval in early 2026.

## **3 Alternative Options**

### **3.1 Do Nothing**

There is an option not to produce a Housing Strategy meaning approval for a consultation period would no longer be required. There is no requirement to have a Housing Strategy, however, in doing so the Council would not have a platform that would set out the priorities and actions that are needed to improve the supply and standard of housing in the Borough. This could also impact on how the Council aims to address the major issues of impacting upon local residents and communities including the increasing threat of homelessness and domestic abuse case.

### **3.2 Joint Housing Strategy**

Alternatively, the Council could seek to create a joint Housing Strategy with other Nottinghamshire Councils. However, the Council has already identified that a number of Councils in Nottinghamshire have made the decision not to produce a Housing Strategy. Others who have their own housing stock already have Housing Strategies in place or under development. Due to these findings, a joint Housing Strategy seems highly impracticable and unrealistic.

## **4 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no specific financial implications identified other than the utilisation of existing funding streams.

## **5 Legal Implications**

- 5.1 Section 87 of the Local Government Act 2003 required local housing authorities to develop and maintain a Housing Strategy. However, these powers and requirements were removed under Section 29 of the Deregulation Act 2015 meaning a Council can use its own discretion as to whether a strategy is required.

## **6 Equalities Implications**

- 6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment can be found at Appendix 4 of this report.

## **7 Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications**

- 7.1 A Carbon Impact Assessment can be found at Appendix 5 of this report.

## **8 Appendices**

8.1 Appendix 1: Draft Housing Strategy and Draft Action Plan

8.2 Appendix 2: Consultation response form

8.3 Appendix 3: Stakeholder analysis

8.4 Appendix 4: Equality Impact Assessment.

8.5 Appendix 5: Carbon Impact Assessment

## **9 Background Papers**

9.1 None

## **10 Reasons for Recommendations**

10.1 To enable the Council to implement a 5-year Housing Strategy and Delivery Plan setting out the key priorities and actions to address the housing needs of residents and communities within the Borough.

### **Statutory Officer approval**

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

**On behalf of the Chief Financial Officer**

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

**On behalf of the Monitoring Officer**