

Decision Number: 08 (2015/16)

Portfolio Holder Executive Decision Statement

The Local Authority (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012

Subject: To agree the 'Sevenoaks District Empty Homes Action Plan Refresh (2015/16 – 2016/17).

Details of Decision taken

The 'Sevenoaks District Empty Homes Action Plan 2009' was developed following an in-depth scrutiny in 2008. Since then, 99 long term empty properties have been brought back into use through the objectives set out in the plan.

The action plan has now been reviewed and progress reported (as per Appendix A: Empty Homes Action Plan 2009 – review of progress).

Many of the action plan objectives are ongoing and have, therefore, been carried over into the revised plan. Where appropriate, objectives have been updated or added to reflect changes in local and Government policy since 2009.

The refreshed action plan is entitled the 'Sevenoaks District Empty Homes Action Plan 2015/16 – 2016/17' (Appendix B).

Consultation on the revised action plan was undertaken during March 2015 with both internal Council departments and external partners through the 'Kent Empty Property Forum'.

Reason for Decision

The current Empty Homes Action Plan 2009 is now due for review. Consequently, a refresh of the action plan has been produced to cover the period 2015/16 – 2016/17.

All Documents considered:

Housing Strategy Action Plan (2012)

Empty Homes Action Plan 2009

Core Strategy

Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the Member when making the Decision:

None.

Financial implications

None – funded by existing resources.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment

There are no legal implications.

Equality Impacts (Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty)

Related initiatives and grant opportunities are open to all.

This strategy aims to provide additional housing options for those on lower incomes, by bringing back into use predominantly lower-end market housing and to improve opportunities. It therefore has a positive effect.

When completed a copy of this record must be sent to the Democratic Services Section by e-mail and a signed copy by internal mail

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Local Member (s), other Portfolio Holders and/or Directors/Heads of Service Consulted Pat Smith, Chief Housing Officer Cllr Michelle Lowe, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Health Senior Management Group	
Details of any conflicts of interest a) declared by any executive member who is consulted by the Decision Taker N/A b) and any details of dispensations granted by the Chief Executive in respect of any declared conflict N/A	
Decision taken by:	Cllr Michelle Lowe, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Health
Signed by Portfolio Holder	
Date of Decision	16/7/15
Record made by:	George Lewis
Date of record:	17 July 2015

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