

Housing Themed item - JOSC meeting on 7 November 2024

Issue - The development of the new Adur and Worthing Housing Strategy affords an opportunity for JOSC to provide some scrutiny of the Strategy as it is being developed. The Strategy will address some key strands of work including:

- The prevention of homelessness
- Delivery of affordable homes
- Health and wellbeing as part of housing
- Ensuring safe, decent and sustainable homes

Request from - JOSC Members

Public interest -

This request relates to those residents who are homeless, relatives and those in temporary accommodation.

It will be of public interest because of the costs involved and the impact and drain on the revenue budget

Lack of housing has an impact on mental and physical health of those in housing need and their children.

In some cases people are moved out of area.

Housing issues feature quite highly in Councillor casework.

Score = 5

Ability to change -

There is a limited amount of housing stock available.

Consultation on these issues by the Councils will help with change.

JOSC can influence the Strategy and approach.

Score = 3

Performance -

Adur Homes performance is being regulated through the Housing Regulator

Supply of sites allowing truly affordable housing.

The new Housing Strategy will govern the strategy approach to housing delivery and demand management as set out above.

Score = 3.5

Extent -

This is a huge issue for the Councils covering all areas of Adur and Worthing. It will impact a large number of people and have a big impact on budgets as well as affecting other services and impacting the community and voluntary sector.

Score = 5

Replication -

Reports on progress in implementing an improvement plan for Adur Homes are being regularly reported to the Joint Audit and Governance Committee.

There is a need for a local and national investigation to assess what work is being undertaken.

Score - 2.5

Expected Outcomes of the review -

- What is the expected outcome of the review?
- Who will the Committee submit advice, observations, comments or recommendations to?
- What does the Committee need to know, or gain a clearer understanding of, in order to achieve the outcome?
- What is the Committee trying to achieve from the review (i.e develop policy, investigate shortcomings or gaps, investigate the effects of policy etc)?

To comment on and influence the content and approach of the Adur and Worthing Housing Strategy.

To comment on the approach to consultation with key groups
To raise the profile of this work and the general awareness of Councillors.

What is the methodology for the review?

- Is the review so in depth that a Working Group review is recommended
- An Officer Report to the Committee
- Themed Meeting / inquiry for review, discussion, recommendations

Themed session with JOSOC to explain the Strategy and workshop in their views.

What time should be allocated for the review?

- How much time should be allocated to the item review?
- How long would a working group need to conclude a review?
- If there is a Themed meeting will this be for all or part of the meeting?

This item can be developed as part of a JOSOC themed agenda item.

Guests/Speakers/Resources required

- Who will need to be involved with the review - guests (cabinet members, officers, community representatives, experts), consultees and in what capacity
- Might there be a requirement for training and or external advice?

Senior Officers, relevant Cabinet Members and representatives from local housing providers.

Committee time/date required

- When does the review need to be carried out by?
- Are there critical dates that the committee must meet?
- When will the working group present its findings to the Committee?

There is an ongoing review of Housing Supply. JOSOC will need to review this matter and report its recommendations to Officers and Cabinet Members/Joint Strategic Committee within the timescale set aside for the review of the Housing Strategy - It is proposed

that this matter should be considered as part of the meeting of JOSC on 7 November.

Communications

- What communications are required for the review (i.e will there be a requirement for public engagement, will there be opportunities for promotion of the work of the Committee)

It is suggested that JOSC could publicise this area of work and encourage local residents to attend or comment on the issues being considered.

Does the proposed review link with the Council strategic objectives or does the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee have the ability to influence and/or add value on the subject?

Our Plan mission - Thriving People - Residents can lead positive, healthy and independent lives. Access to the right support is there when they need it. They are included and valued in their local community. They can take part in decisions about their area and the services they receive. The things we will work to achieve

- People are healthy, resilient and resourceful; they can access the right help when they need it
- **Everyone has a safe, secure and sustainable home**
- Everyone is able to enjoy a wide range of cultural, leisure and sporting opportunities.