



ADUR & WORTHING
COUNCILS

Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee
14 July 2022

Key Decision [No]

Ward(s) Affected:N/A

JOSC Working Group- Review of the Adur Homes repairs and maintenance service

Report by the Director for Digital, Sustainability & Resources

1. Purpose

1.1 This report sets out information received by the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) Working Group which was created as part of the JOSC Work Programme to review the Adur Homes repairs and maintenance service and work being undertaken to improve the services as part of the overall housing transformation.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That JOSC note the report, consider any recommendations that it would like to put to the JOSC Adur Homes Working Group as part of its work and note and welcome the progress being made to transform and improve the Adur Homes services.

3. Context

- 3.1 As part of its Work Programme, JOSOC set up a Working Group to continue to review the improvements to the Adur Homes repairs and maintenance Service and overall transformation of the Adur Homes services which had been recommended by an earlier JOSOC Working Group and implemented by the Joint Strategic Committee in early 2021.
- 3.2 The current membership of the Working Group as agreed by JOSOC on 9 June 2022 is Councillors Carol Albury, Ann Bridges, Joss Loader, Sharon Sluman and Deb Stainforth.

4. Issues for consideration

- 4.1 The JOSOC Working Group met in July and October 2021 and January and April 2022 to review the progress with improvements to the service and received regular update reports from the Chief Executive, Head of Housing and Housing Transformation Manager as well as from new Team Leaders in the new Adur Homes management structure.
- 4.2 A report which set out the latest progress made to improve the Adur Homes repairs and maintenance service was reported to the Working Group in April and a summary of that information as updated is now contained in the appendix attached to this report. The Working Group wanted to highlight the improvements that had been made with appropriate timelines for the delivery of future improvements. To improve transparency of the process the Working Group considered that this information should be reported via JOSOC.
- 4.3 The JOSOC Working Group will continue with its work to review the progress with the transformation of the Adur Homes service in 2022/23 and to keep a careful watching eye on the issues, ensuring that what has already been implemented is working effectively and that the next steps in the transformation process can be delivered on time for the benefit of Adur Homes tenants and leaseholders.

5. Engagement and Communication

- 5.1 The JOSOC Working Group has held discussions with relevant Council Officers and consulted with the Adur Executive Member for Customer Services.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications connected to this report but there are financial implications connected to the overall review and transformation process of the Adur Homes service.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 Under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Councils have the power to do anything to facilitate or which is conducive or incidental to the discharge of any of their functions.
- 7.2 Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 provides a Local Authority to do anything that individuals generally may do (subject to any current restrictions or limitations prescribed in existing legislation).
- 7.3 Section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 1999 (LGA 1999) contains a general duty on a best value authority to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

Background Papers

Previous report of JOSC Adur Homes Working Group to JOSC - October 2020.

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Sustainability & Risk Assessment

1. Economic

Matter considered and no significant issues identified.

2. Social

2.1 Social Value

Matter considered. An improved Adur Homes service will improve social value for the tenants and leaseholders of Adur Homes.

2.2 Equality Issues

Matter considered and no significant issues identified.

2.3 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)

Matter considered and no significant issues identified.

2.4 Human Rights Issues

Matter considered and no significant issues identified.

3. Environmental

Matter considered and no significant issues identified.

4. Governance

Matter considered. The JOSC Working Group has been set up in accordance with the JOSC Procedure Rules and forms part of the agreed JOSC Work Programme for 2022/23.