

Appendix A- Housing Strategy progress update November 2019

1. This briefing report is to inform on progress in developing a new borough wide housing strategy.
2. Slough Borough Council have commissioned Campbell Tickell to prepare a housing strategy that will set the framework for activity and practical measures required to achieve the Council's housing priorities: maintain council housing to a high standard; delivery of new affordable homes; reduce the number of households in temporary accommodation; and drive up standards in the private rented sector. At the same time the strategy needs to be grounded in the Council's Five Year Plan and help the Council achieve its overall strategic objectives, within the wider place (Berkshire/Outer London), including those relating to health and well-being. It needs to dovetail and be consistent with existing and emerging planning documents.
3. There are three key stages in compiling the strategy: data analysis; consultation; and drafting the strategy. Compiling the strategy is an iterative process with each phase adding to the content, quality and buy-in.
4. We have completed the data analysis stage. We reviewed a range of Council strategy documents and housing market and needs assessments. This helped set the context for consultation stages and ensured that the strategy will reflect the wider context and priorities.
5. There are three stages for the consultation: information gathering; consultation based on the interim draft strategy and public consultation. We are currently at the second stage and have invited comments on the interim strategy from people we have interviewed within the Council by 29 November 2019.
6. We have spoken to over 40 stakeholders including the Leader, Cabinet Member for Housing, Corporate Management Team, Council Officers from across departments, voluntary sector, health, housing associations, developers, Homes England.
7. In addition, a Sounding Board has been set up with representatives from across the Council with whom we are liaising throughout the development of the strategy. The Sounding Board has met three times, most recently on 13 November 2019 to review the interim strategy.
8. This Housing Strategy is not structured in the traditional way, which draws the reader to focus on the most acute housing needs and which separates each tenure/sector by chapter. Instead, we have framed what needs to happen within a broad context of the housing market and 'inclusive growth'.

9. The chapter headings we have chosen should allow the reader to see how the proposed actions on housing fit within a dynamic relationship between people, homes, health, place and the wider economy and how this will help to move Slough closer to its stated ambitions. Structuring the strategy this way means that actions relating to specific tenures, teams or other parts of the council's or partners' activity are spread throughout the document and across all chapters. This should help teams to see how their combined efforts might help to achieve broader outcomes and this should reinforce the 'One Council' messaging in the Our Futures programme.
10. The chapter headings are:
- Introduction – housing for an economically inclusive Slough
 - Successes, challenges and opportunities
 - How many homes and what sort of new homes does Slough require
 - Delivering new homes to support the right housing development
 - Increasing supply through better use of existing homes
 - Improving access to homes
 - Supporting people, improving health and well-being
 - Building healthy, thriving places with Slough's residents
 - Action plan – currently actions run throughout the chapters above.
11. We have invited comments back by 29 November 2019 following which we will update the strategy which can be used for wider consultation within the Council and external stakeholders. We will also produce an Action Plan alongside the strategy so that we think about deliverability throughout and provide sufficient time to raise any deliverability issues. Feedback will be then incorporated into the final draft for public consultation.
12. The timeline for development the strategy is as follows:

Stage	Dates
Interim draft strategy	Comments back by 29 November 2019
Draft strategy	Mid-December 2019
Final draft for public consultation	January 2020
Public consultation	January / February 2020
Final draft	March 2020

Appendix B- Slough Interim Housing Strategy