

**Title of Report:**

## **Quarter 3 In Depth Performance Report – Council Strategy Priority 3 (Enable More Affordable Housing)**

**Report to be considered by:**

Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission

**Date of Meeting:**

5 April 2016

### **Purpose of Report:**

To provide a more in depth analysis of the overall performance status for the basket of measures used at corporate level to monitor progress of the delivery of the Council Strategy Priority 3 – ‘Enable the completion of more affordable housing’.

### **Recommended Action:**

The Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission to note progress against the performance measures.

#### **Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission Chairman**

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# Executive Report

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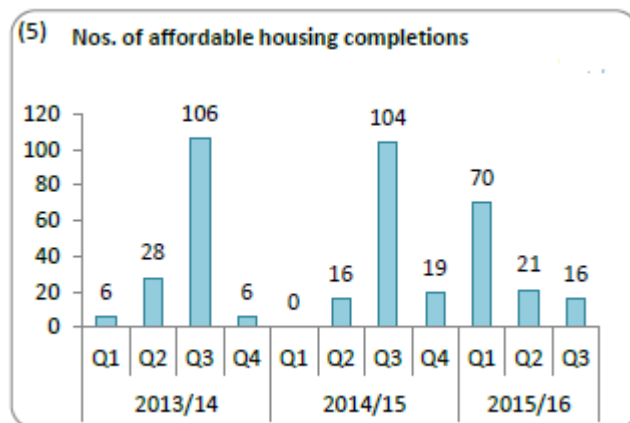
## 1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 This report was produced following the decision of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015 that in addition to the quarterly performance report, an ongoing and scheduled programme of scrutiny is put in place to monitor the progress that the Council is making in the achievement of its strategic priorities.
- 1.2 Performance reports are provided on a quarterly basis to the Corporate Board, the Executive and general public to assess the overall delivery of the Council Strategy. As part of the Council's performance management approach, these reports are also submitted for consideration at the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission.
- 1.3 The focus of this paper is on the status of delivery of the Council Strategy Priority 3 – 'Enable the completion of more affordable housing'. The aim is to provide a more in depth level of information to allow the Commission to assess the activities delivered and the results achieved to date.

## 2. Quarter 3 results

- 2.1 One of the priorities for improvement that is part of the Council Strategy 2015-2019 under the aim of 'A Stronger Local Economy' is to 'Enable the completion of more affordable housing'.
- 2.2 The Council Strategy includes, as one of key activities planned, to 'Investigate new ways of delivering affordable housing'. It also states that 'We will publish the number of new affordable homes built on a quarterly basis'.
- 2.3 A placeholder for a performance measure focusing on the affordable housing completion was included in the Council Strategy Delivery Plan under this priority. This placeholder has been used whilst Strategy Board supported a process to find solutions for the delivery of the Council Strategy priority '*Enable the completion of more affordable housing – we are setting an ambitious target of facilitating the completion of 1000 new affordable homes across the district over the coming five years.*'
- 2.4 A small group of senior officers have been trained to apply new ways of working, aiming to generate solutions to the affordable housing shortage. These "Collaborative Architects" worked across 20 subject matter experts from our communities to define the problem, and come up with innovative solutions to deliver the expected number of affordable homes by 2020. Participants included representatives from the building trade, the world of finance, elected members and delegates from the private and social housing sectors.
- 2.5 Strategy Board will need to consider which, if any, of the options proposed by the Collaborative Architects is taken forward. These then can be adopted by the relevant services or partner organisations to define the specific delivery plans and timescales.

2.6 Until these plans are firmed up, relevant for this report is one of the measures of volume used as part of the quarterly performance reports to provide contextual information (e.g. not targeted measures): 'The number of affordable housing completions'. As illustrated by the chart below, the total for the first three quarters of this year is 107 compared with the same period of the previous financial year of 120.



2.7 In addition to the placeholder, four measures, grouped under the heading of 'Core Business' and relating to homelessness prevention and homes' adaptations, have been linked with this priority as part of the Council Strategy Delivery Plan. However, as the four measures are not directly linked to the delivery of more affordable homes, these measures have not been included as part of this report to allow the Commission to focus on the actual subject matter.

### 3. Conclusion

3.1 Plans are being progressed to identify and implement solutions for delivering more affordable homes.

3.2 The number of affordable housing completions is monitored and reported on a quarterly basis.

### Appendices

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None