

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

**Portfolio Holder for Property, Buildings and Housing Cllr Rosemarie
Harris
April 2017**

REPORT AUTHOR: Housing Strategy Team Leader

SUBJECT: Powys Local Housing Strategy

REPORT FOR: Decision

1 Summary

1.1 To authorise publication of the final approved Local Housing Strategy (LHS)

2 Proposal

2.1 Welsh Government guidance advises that every Local Authority in Wales should produce a Local Housing Strategy.

2.2 Over the last year a draft Strategy, produced by the Housing Service was approved by Cabinet and consulted on with all relevant stakeholders.

2.3 The final draft strategy was presented to Cabinet on February 17th 2016 and approved subject to a final extended consultation requested by the Chief Executive of Powys teaching Health Board, results of which were to be presented to members of the Powys Strategic Housing Partnership (SHP) prior to publication. Cabinet agreed to delegate final sign-off for publication to the Portfolio Holders for Housing and for Regeneration and Affordable Housing.

2.4 The PtHB were subsequently invited to comment by the end of March 2016. No comments were received despite reminders being sent. At the meeting of the SHP on July 28th 2016 it was agreed that with no further comments having been received in the extended consultation period the LHS should be published. Minute 7 of that meeting records this decision (See attached annexe 1)

2.5 The relevant Portfolio Holders, were present at that meeting and therefore approved the publication of the Local Housing Strategy.

2.6 In addition, the SHP endorsed the following, to monitor the plan.

SI stated that the monitoring of the action plan is critical, as the LHS needs to be regarded as a living document. **It was suggest and agreed that at every meeting of the Strategic Housing Partnership a progress report would be provided on one of the three aims of the LHS.**

3 One Powys Plan

- 3.1 The Local Housing Strategy contributes to the aims of the One Powys Plan across a wide spectrum of the areas on which the Plan focuses. Most specifically it contributes to the health and well-being agenda and the stronger safer communities in that we will be better able to address the housing needs of the community with the recognised health benefits that brings, as well as addressing the needs of those less able to provide for themselves due to financial and other circumstances.

4 Options Considered/Available

- 4.1 No options available for consideration

5. Preferred Choice and Reasons

- 5.1 Publication to comply with Welsh Government requirements and good practice

6 Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder,/Welsh Language/Other Policies etc

- 6.1 The LHS is intended to address environmental and equalities issues by providing for all citizens of Powys to be adequately housed and by addressing the needs of estates and communities will contribute to a reduction in crime and disorder

7 Children and Young People's Impact Statement - Safeguarding and Wellbeing

- 7.1 This is a service specific matter.

8 Local Member(s)

- 8.1 This issue applies to all councillors equally.

9 Other Front Line Services

- 9.1 This is a service specific matter.

10. Support Services (Legal, Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)

- 10.1 Finance – “The Finance Business Partner notes the contents of the report and will work with the service area to ensure all financial implications are within the current financial envelope and the business plan updated accordingly.”
- 10.2 Legal – “The Professional Lead –Legal supports the report and will assist where appropriate.”

11 Local Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc

- 11.1 The views of the housing services key stakeholders have been sought via the Strategic Housing Partnership.

12 Corporate Communications

- 12.1 A new LHS would be communicated to the public by the following means:
- issuing of press release to news agencies
 - the placing of the LHS on the Council’s website
 - via the Housing Services FaceBook page
 - via an article in the Housing Services Open House magazine

13 Statutory Officers

- 13.1 The Corporate Solicitor and Deputy Monitoring Officer has commented: “I note the legal comments and content of the report and have no additional comments to make.
- 13.2 The Strategic Director Resources (S151 Officer) notes the comment made by Finance that the Strategy will be delivered within the current financial envelope and in line with the business plan.

14 Members’ Interests

- 14.1 The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report. If Members have an interest they should declare it at the start of the meeting and complete the relevant notification form.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
That the Portfolio Holder authorise publication of the final LHS	Compliance with the Cabinet Decision of February 2016

Relevant Policy (ies):			
Within Policy:	Y / N	Within Budget:	Y / N
Relevant Local Member(s):			

Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Housing strategy Team Leader
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	6th April 2017

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
Terry Flynn	07836 686329		terry.flynn@powys.gov.uk

Annexe 1: Extract from the minutes of the Strategic Housing Partnership held on 28th July 2016

Local Housing Strategy

Simon Inkson circulated LHS at last meeting and advised the Partnership that we were waiting for comments from PTHB. Still received no comments, so it was suggested that it would be safe to presume that they had no objection to the LHS

AGREED to sign off LHS.

SI stated that the monitoring of the action plan is critical, as the LHS needs to be regarded as a living document. **It was suggest and agreed that at every meeting of the Strategic Housing Partnership a progress report would be provided on one of the three aims of the LHS.**

CABINET REPORT TEMPLATE VERSION 3