

NEWARK AND SHERWOOD HOMES – ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To seek approval from the Committee for the adoption of the Annual Delivery Plan with Newark and Sherwood Homes for the financial year covering 2016/17.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 The Management Agreement is the overarching legal agreement between the Council and Newark and Sherwood Homes, with one of its requirements being that an Annual Delivery Plan is formulated and agreed.
- 2.2 The purpose of the Delivery Plan is to set and guide the main activities, standards or targets of the Company's operations for each financial year, set against the Council's strategic priorities, its housing vision and outcomes and the need to sustain a viable Housing Revenue Account Business Plan (HRA BP). It states in Schedule 6 of the Management Agreement that:

The Annual Delivery Plan will dovetail with the HRA Business Plan and will cover:

- *Housing Vision and Outcomes*
 - *Company Governance*
 - *Service delivery*
 - *Procurement and Capital programme*
 - *Finance*
 - *Resources*
 - *Performance Management and regulation*
- 2.3 The Delivery Plan is underpinned by Newark and Sherwood Homes own Business Plan. This sets out the Company's strategic vision, objectives and core values and outlines the tasks, targets and resources which ensure delivery. Their Business Plan identifies priorities for action and expected outcomes, being used as a live document to stretch the Company to deliver its vision.
- 2.4 The current Delivery Plan covering the financial year 2015/16 expires on 31st March 2016.

3.0 Annual Delivery Plan 2016/17

- 3.1 The proposed Delivery Plan for 2016/17 is at **Appendix 1**. Included in this is the progress to date of the key activities in the current Delivery Plan that were set to be achieved by the Company during 2015/16 for the Committee's consideration. This information can be found on pages 17 to 21 of **Appendix 1**.
- 3.2 One particular activity scrutinised by the Committee related to the Company's review of 'tenant influence and integration in decision making', with proposals to implement a new structure alongside the development of an implementation plan. The Committee resolved to approve the new structure, with a report to be submitted to a future Committee meeting:

(d) an update report be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee highlighting whether the anticipated outcomes for the implementation programme had been achieved.

3.3 Officers of the Council and the Company have worked together to ensure that the draft Delivery Plan for 2016/17, in setting out the Company's key activities for that year, reflects the Council's strategic priorities and work streams such as:

- supporting the Council's housing growth strategy;
- working in partnership with the Council to deliver the extra care new build scheme at Bowbridge Road, Newark (*pending final approvals*);
- the relocation to new offices from Kelham Hall;
- supporting the Council in the implementation of the reviewed housing allocation scheme;
- reviewing the existing rules on publications to ensure transparency;
- seeking to tailor services to vulnerable residents
- formulating and consulting on a monthly or 4 weekly tenancy agreement; and
- exploring the potential for shared support services to deliver greater synergy, resilience and efficiencies.

3.4 The Delivery Plan for 2016/17 also addresses the Council's key challenges and priorities put to the Company at its recent Board 'off-site' planning day, set against the requirement to maintain a viable HRA BP. These are:

Key Challenges

- a) *To be more open and transparent - ensuring wherever possible reports are not confidential and are open to the public.*
- b) *To deliver efficiency*
- c) *To be more flexible (in service delivery) – considering on an individual basis where flexibility would improve service to customers within the existing cost envelope.*

Priorities

To increase stock

- a) *The effective use of stock and Asset Management*
- b) *Income Generation*

3.5 All the above are in addition to the Company delivering the core housing services required under the Management Agreement and measured against the agreed key performance indicators.

Proposals

3.6 The Committee is asked to consider the 2016/17 Annual Delivery Plan for the Company as set out in detail at **Appendix 1** for approval, along with progress in the key activities for this current year. For ease of Members' reference the key actions for the Company going forwards into 2016/17 have been extrapolated from the draft Delivery Plan and are set out in **Appendix 2**.

4.0 Equalities Implications

- 4.1 The equalities implications involved in issues such as the housing growth strategy, review of the housing allocations policy and the move to new offices have been fully taken into account and recorded as part of those separate projects and reports on these matters.
- 4.2 There may be equalities implications in terms of impact upon persons with protected characteristics arising from the review of the Company's Board and tenant participation review and the Council and Newark and Sherwood Homes will need to assess these fully as part of those separate projects before decisions are taken or policies altered.

5.0 Impact on Budget/Policy Framework

- 5.1 The formulation of the Annual Delivery Plan is an integral document to ensure the effective delivery of the Management Agreement and to sustain a viable HRA BP, influencing the HRA's capital and revenue budgets.

6.0 RECOMMENDATION that:

- a) the progress of the key activities identified in the current Annual Delivery Plan (2015/16) be noted; and
- b) the 2016/17 Annual Delivery Plan for the Council's housing company, Newark and Sherwood Homes, be approved and implemented.

Reason for Recommendations

To comply with the management agreement between the Council and its housing company.

Background Papers

Management Agreement between the Council and Newark & Sherwood Homes (2013)
Appendices to the Draft Delivery Plan

For further information please contact Karen White on Ext 5240 or Rob Main on Ext 5930

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