

Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Protection Portfolio Summary 2017/18

25th September 2017

Responsibilities	Corporate Plan Priorities 2016 -19 (as updated for year Q1) Position at September 2017	Successes and challenges, performance summary	Forthcoming Decisions (Forward Plan)
<p>a) Overall responsibility for the provision management and maintenance of the Council's retained housing stock.</p> <p>b) Overall responsibility for the discharge of the Council's functions relating to the homeless.</p> <p>c) Overall responsibility for the improvement of housing stock in the District; the Council's Community Link (Community Alarm) Service and the provision of associated financial assistance.</p> <p>d) Overall responsibility for the maintenance, protection, improvement and cleanliness of the natural and man-made environment with specific reference to pollution control.</p> <p>e) Overall responsibility for Council's functions relating to alcohol, gambling, public health, food safety and hygiene, health and safety at work, animal welfare, stray dogs, public safety, scrap metal dealings, motor salvage operators, caravan sites, street trading, shops and Sunday trading, water and sewerage, public conveniences, markets and registration plates not being the function of the Licensing Committee.</p>	<p>Communities</p> <p>1. Develop the case for potential expansion of community wardens with parishes New scheme now launched at Pulborough 2016/17 but no further schemes anticipated this year 2017/18</p> <p>2. Endeavour to prevent homelessness throughout the District Following the Housing Services restructure a renewed emphasis being placed upon early intervention for homelessness prevention and joint working with other professionals. The Council places great emphasis on homelessness prevention and the issuing of robust, fair homeless decisions that withstand legal challenge. In 2016/17 the Housing Homelessness team supported 205 households to prevent the loss of their home or secure alternative accommodation to prevent homelessness. This is an increase from 122 households supported over the previous year. The Homeless Reduction Act is expected to be implemented April 2018 and will bring additional responsibilities.</p> <p>3. Support an expanded effective telecare and telehealthcare service The Community Link Team moved from the Housing Department to Environmental Health and Licensing in June 2016. Work in partnership with West Sussex Telecare providers to prepare and submit a bid for the WSCC telecare tender during 17/18. Deliver training to all relevant organisations including HDC, WSCC, The Mental Health Teams, GP practices and the Voluntary Sector. At 1st April 2017 the service had 1702 Units installed.</p>	<p>Portfolio performance summary as reported in Finance and Performance Reports September 2017.</p> <p>HS01b Homelessness: Decisions HS17 Number of homelessness preventions HS19 Of which no of households in B & B accommodation HS21 No of households on the Housing Waiting list</p> <p><i>Full Finance and Performance Report available as part of this agenda.</i></p>	<p>Review of Affordable Housing Investment Policy (PDAG 21st August, Decision 23rd November 2017)</p> <p>Housing and Planning Act 2016 - proposal for the implementation of a civil penalties/prosecution policy for specific housing offences (PDAG 20th November, Decision 23rd November 2017)</p>