

Select Committee Work Programme Suggested Review – Pro Forma

Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?

Affordable Housing

Like many local authorities demand for affordable and social housing is increasing. As a 'non stock holding' local authority we rely on Nomination Agreements with Registered Housing providers to address housing need and on relationships both Registered Housing providers and private developers to increase the supply of affordable housing in the borough. Currently we are experiencing increasing demand for affordable housing from all needs groups (i.e. families / singles & couples / those with health needs / those seeking supported housing to enable independent living) at a time when the number of affordable housing units available (via Nomination Agreements) is reducing.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS.
PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATION NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION.

Public interest justification:

To ensure that Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council can address the housing needs (in both general and supported housing) for both current and future generations.

Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:

The provision of good quality, affordable housing makes a direct (positive) impact on the health and well-being of the boroughs residents and also helps address inequality. As such supporting affordable housing delivery addresses key objectives detailed in the Council Plan and the Fairer Stockton-on-Tees Framework.

Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:

Number of applicants registered on Tees Valley HomeFinder (Housing Register):
Qu 2 2023/24 = 1331 / Qu 3 2023/24 = 2039

Number of applicants registered on Tees Valley HomeFinder (Housing Register) by band at the end of Qu 3):

Band 1 = 271
Band 2 = 452
Band 3 = 371
Band 4 = 945

Average number of properties advertised on Tees Valley HomeFinder (*per week* within the borough):
2022/23 = 16 / Qu 1 and Qu 2 2023/24 = 12 / Qu 3 = 10

Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):

No

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

The topic directly supports the following key objectives of the Council plan:

- *A Place where people are healthy, safe and protected from harm &*
- *Making the borough a place with a thriving economy where everyone has opportunities to succeed*

How:

- By providing good quality, affordable housing.
- By supporting independent living.

What would you want the outcome of the review to be?

To identify potential options for how the council can increase the supply of affordable housing in the borough and therefore address housing need.