

Decision Maker: RENEWAL, RECREATION AND HOUSING POLICY
DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date: Tuesday 30 March 2021

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: HOUSING, PLANNING AND REGENERATION PORTFOLIO
PLAN UPDATE –Q3 Update

Contact Officer: Denise Mantell, Strategy Officer
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Chief Officer: Sara Bowrey, Director, Housing, Planning and Regeneration

Ward: N/A

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 This report presents the Renewal, Recreation and Housing Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee with the update for the Portfolio Plan 2020-21 for Quarter 3.
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2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 Members are asked to note progress on the actions associated with the Housing, Planning and Regeneration Portfolio Plan for the third quarter of 2020/21 – Appendix 1.

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: There is no direct impact, however many of the initiatives set out in the Portfolio Plan support the provision of and access to suitable accommodation to meet the housing needs of, and safeguard, vulnerable adults and children. Additionally, services such as Libraries and the Resource Shops are community focussed and support this group.
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Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy
 2. BBB Priority: Children and Young People Excellent Council Quality Environment Safe Bromley Supporting Independence Vibrant, Thriving Town Centres Healthy Bromley Regeneration
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No cost:
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Renewal, Recreation and Housing Portfolio 2020/21 approved revenue budget and capital programme
 4. Total current budget for this head: £
 5. Source of funding:
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Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional):
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours:
-

Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None:
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable:
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Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications:
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): All vulnerable adults and older people within Bromley
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: N/A

3. COMMENTARY

Background

- 3.1 The Housing, Planning and Regeneration Portfolio Plan was refreshed for 2020/21 in line with the Council's Transformation Programme and Building a Better Bromley. The Plan focusses on four priority outcomes:
- Support the economic development of town centres.
 - Protect, conserve and regenerate the borough's built and natural environment.
 - Support wellbeing, particularly through culture and leisure.
 - Ensure residents have access to affordable, decent and secure homes.
- 3.2 Within each priority are a number of statements which are underpinned by actions and measures of success within the work of Housing, Planning and Regeneration.
- 3.3 Progress has been made on many of the actions within the refreshed Portfolio Plan, particularly in relation to the new housing development schemes. However, the impact of COVID-19 and the measures taken during the second wave of the pandemic continues to have an adverse impact on the financial prosperity of businesses and individuals. New ways of working remotely by officers and partner agencies have had to continue to respond to this situation. In-person services have again been stopped, where possible, as COVID-19 restrictions were re-instated. Some re-commissioning of services has been delayed and extensions made to contracts: however, the adjustment in timescales has been minimised as much as possible.
- 3.4 Much of the focus within operational housing has been to ensure the continued operation of services to support households at risk of homelessness during the second wave of the pandemic. All services continued to operate where possible on-line but also providing an emergency frontline reception and visiting service.
- 3.5 The Culture & Regeneration Team have also had to divert significant resources to managing over £12m of business grants to support the local economy during 20-21.

4 IMPACT ON VULNERABLE ADULTS AND CHILDREN

There is no impact on vulnerable adults and children. However, the individual projects and service delivery areas will in many cases have an impact on this group.

5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications. However, the Portfolio Plan will reflect relevant Council adopted policies and statutory duties in relation to planning, housing need and homelessness.

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Portfolio Plan will be delivered within the resources identified in the 2020/21 budget, including capital receipts, together with any external funding that has and will be secured.

7 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Portfolio Plan includes the Council's statutory obligations in relation to this department's area of work.

8. PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no procurement implications. Individual projects will be subject to specific reports detailing the procurement route.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Personnel Implications, Procurement Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	N/A