

North East Derbyshire District Council

Cabinet

2 July 2014

<p>Safer Homes and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Review on the Relationship between the Council and Rykneld Homes Limited</p>
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Report No: EAH/11/14/LS of Councillor Mrs E A Hill, Portfolio Holder with Responsibility for Housing Strategy and Social Inclusion (supported by Councillor M Gordon)

This report is public

Purpose of the Report

- To present the action plan for the recent scrutiny review into the Relationship between the Council and Rykneld Homes

1 Report Details

- 1.1 The Council recently undertook a scrutiny review into the Relationship between the Council and Rykneld Homes.
- 1.2 The objectives of the Scrutiny Review were as follows:-
 - Establish whether the partnership was working as anticipated
 - Establish a clear understanding of the partnerships plans in the short term and long term to improve and develop better ways of working alongside each other into the future
 - Ensure that the policy framework is fit for purpose into the future
 - Ensure that plans are in place to maximize delivery
 - Ensure that communications to stakeholders are clear and understood Identify any areas of duplication
 - Identify any areas for improvement
- 1.3 The review proposed 7 recommendations and these were agreed by Cabinet at its meeting on 14 May 2014.
- 1.4 Consequently, officers involved in the review have developed an action plan to set out in detail how each of the recommendations will be addressed. The action plan includes details of the lead officer for each recommendation, the date by which the activities are anticipated to be completed, as well as an update on current progress.
- 1.5 A copy of the Action Plan is attached to this report as **Appendix 1**.

2 Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation

2.1 An Action Plan has been produced.

2.2 Members are requested to note the Action Plan and consider if they wish to add/amend any additional actions.

3 Consultation and Equality Impact

3.1 There are no consultation or equality impact implications identified.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 Following Cabinet's acceptance of the Scrutiny review findings no other options were explored other than to develop the Action Plan emanating from the Scrutiny review recommendations.

5 Implications

5.1 Finance and Risk Implications

5.1.1 There are no finance or risk implications identified.

5.2 Legal Implications including Data Protection

5.2.1 There are no legal implications identified in this report.

5.3 Human Resources Implications

5.3.1 No HR implications identified in the report.

6 Recommendations

6.1 That Cabinet note and approve the Action Plan and consider if they wish to add or amend any additional actions.

7 Decision Information

Is the decision a Key Decision? (A Key Decision is one which results in income or expenditure to the Council of £50,000 or more or which has a significant impact on two or more District wards)	No
District Wards Affected	N/A
Links to Corporate Plan priorities or Policy Framework	N/A

8 Document Information

Appendix No	Title
Appendix 1	Relationship between NEDDC and Rykneld Homes – Action Plan
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)	
None	
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AGIN 7(a) (CAB 0702) Safer Homes Scrutiny Review/AJD

Scrutiny Review – Relationship between NEDDC and Rykneld Homes – Action Plan

	Recommendation	Action Required	Who By	When By	Progress
1	That a review be undertaken of the policy framework including associated policies and the format of strategic and operational groups.	A review of the strategic and operational groups has already been undertaken along with a revision of the Contractual Arrangements with Rykneld Homes. In relation to the Operational Group it had been decided it would be more effective to run one group to pick up both strategic and operational issues. New Terms of Reference have already been approved by Cabinet. New strategic operational framework meetings are proving to be effective at this time.	PH/SS	Completed	Completed
2	That the Council ensure that the consistency of the client interaction with Rykneld Homes be maintained.	Regular on-going meetings between Rykneld Homes through both formal and informal groups. The Client Manager from the Council meets regularly with the Managing Director of Rykneld Homes along with various working groups depending on the projects being delivered. Regular meetings are also held with the Chair of Rykneld Homes and Portfolio Holders for Housing, as well as senior officer meetings with Rykneld Homes.	PH/LS	Completed	Completed
3	That further measures be taken to ensure that Elected Members understand what Registered Provider Status means to allay any fears and misconceptions.	On-going developments on the Registered Provider will be regularly reported to members including any issues or benefits that may emerge in due course.	PH/LS	On-going	On-going

4	That Rykneld Homes ensure that a mechanism is in place that facilitates various levels of staff across the Partnership to be engaged in the business planning of the organisation.	Ongoing and active engagement by members of staff in the partnership undertaken on all aspects of business planning, strategy and policy development, enabling alignment of business plans, operational activity and delivery against statutory, non statutory, regulatory activities	LS/NC/ SMT member s	On-going	On-going
5	That Rykneld Homes ensures that it continues to monitor the horizon to meet future needs.	On-going environmental scanning imbedded in all strategic and operational activity with supporting reports provided to Elected members and joint strategic groups.	LS/NC	On-going	On-going
6	That the Council support Rykneld Homes in its future delivery by participating collaboratively in the analysis and agreement of plans.	On-going and will be dealt with through the Operational Management Group with relevant reports back through Cabinet as appropriate.	PH/LS	On-going	On-going
7	That a review of the information provided to members be undertaken to identify specific requirements from ward members.	Review of information requirements to members to be undertaken, with specific actions/information requirements clearly identified in all future reports broken down by ward and potential impact.	LS/NC	On-going	On-going