

APPENDIX A

Questions for the Consultation

We are currently consulting on the new draft Housing Strategy and Private Sector Housing Strategy and would like to hear your thoughts on our objectives and what is important to you.

Housing Strategy

We want our new Housing Strategy to take account of the current challenges we face. The health and wellbeing of our residents, climate change, cost of living, the economy, and the regeneration and improvement of our communities are all themes and priorities that need to be addressed.

The Housing Strategy sets out three overarching objectives.

Objective 1: The Homes That North East Derbyshire Needs

Our Housing Strategy commits to working alongside partners, developers, and potentially investors to create opportunities to build new homes to meet the needs of residents, including those in need of Affordable Housing, young people looking to buy their first home, and families upsizing and rightsizing.

We have partners and developers who will build, and so we see our role as setting out very clearly what homes NE Derbyshire needs and helping to unlock any barriers that exist in delivery. This may mean the council will invest in the housing market and recycle funding in the future and we will consider new opportunities from external investment.

Q1. Do you agree with Objective 1? Yes or No

If you have answered no, please explain why you don't agree?

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Please provide any further comments in the text box below.

Comments:

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Objective 2: More Opportunities to Live Independently

Having the right accommodation enables people who require supported and specialist housing to live rich and valued lives connected to their communities, increasing individuals' resilience and independence.

Our priority is to promote sustainable communities and tenancies, and our primary focus is to ensure we have the correct services available to enable people to either live independently within their homes, or where this is not possible, in supported accommodation that is 'inclusive for all' and meets their primary support need; when people are ready to move on, they will be supported to successfully achieve this.

Q2. Do you agree with Objective 2? Yes or No

If you have answered no, please explain why you don't agree?

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Please provide any further comments in the text box below.

Comments:

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Objective 3: No One Forgotten, No One Left Behind

Access to healthcare services, mental health support, and healthy food options are critical components of a healthy community. Being able to work, heat your home, and get a bank account are also essential. Being able to maintain your home, furnish it, and buy white goods can all impact on your ability to remain living in your home.

With our partners, we are building on our existing support, creating and investing in new support services that encompass social, economic, health, and environmental considerations to create well-rounded, vibrant communities in which residents can lead fulfilling, healthy, and prosperous lives.

Q3. Do you agree with Objective 3? Yes or No

If you have answered no, please explain why you don't agree?

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Please provide any further comments in the text box below.

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Private Sector Housing Strategy

The Private Sector Housing Strategy is the first such strategy that North East Derbyshire Council has published and supports the council's over-arching Housing Strategy by setting out our detailed plans for both home ownership and private rented housing.

Private sector housing performs a vital role in supporting North East Derbyshire's economic growth and meeting housing need in the district.

This strategy will meet the vision and aims through the delivery of four priorities.

Objective 1: Improve property and management standards.

Improving the housing stock is an essential part of protecting the health and wellbeing of our residents. Private Rented homes can play a very valuable role in helping to make more properties available to lower income households unable to access social housing, help vulnerable households to find suitable well-managed accommodation, and reduce homelessness. We believe everyone should have a good quality home no matter what tenure they live in.

All private housing should at least meet the minimum standards that comply with the legislative standards ensuring that the property does not cause a physical hazard or nuisance to residents and the local neighbourhood. We want to work with landlords to increase security, certainty, affordability, and stability for tenants.

Q4. Do you agree with Objective 1? Yes or No

If you have answered no, please explain why you don't agree?

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Please provide any further comments in the text box below.

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Objective 2: Increasing and improving the supply of good quality, well-managed homes in the Private Rented Sector.

A priority for the council is to maximise the number of high-quality and genuinely affordable homes in the district for all our residents. Increasing access to the number of private sector homes which can be used to support move-on accommodation for people who are homeless is critical if we are to reduce our reliance on temporary accommodation and provide stable and secure homes for people.

We are building a dedicated team that will work to engage with private sector landlords and agents and explore new ways of securing access to the Private Rented Sector.

Q5. Do you agree with Objective 2? Yes or No

If you have answered no, please explain why you don't agree?

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Please provide any further comments in the text box below.

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Objective 3: Ensuring that housing standards and living conditions in North East Derbyshire contribute towards better health outcomes for all.

Good quality housing is essential for everyone's health and wellbeing; safe and sustainable housing can support good physical and mental health, reduce fuel poverty, decrease carbon emissions, reduce hospital admissions, and help people live independently for longer.

As well as promoting adaptations, we will be supporting older people or people with a disability or complex needs in the Private Rented Sector, exploring options to better inform and advise landlords of the challenges for older people living in unsuitable properties and the potential support landlords can offer.

Q6. Do you agree with Objective 3? Yes or No

If you have answered no, please explain why you don't agree?

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Please provide any further comments in the text box below.

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Objective: 4: Ensuring all areas, neighbourhoods, and streets in North East Derbyshire, irrespective of housing tenure or type, are places where people want to live and are proud to live.

A good mix of housing types and tenures is vital for creating sustainable communities and meeting the district's housing needs. It is important that all our residential areas feel welcoming and safe and are locations where people are more likely to be invested in their homes and neighbourhoods.

As well as bringing empty homes back into use, we will support officers from both the council and its partner organisations to be able to report concerns by introducing a Triage Service, designed as a portal for professionals to report and discuss housing issues and explore potential solutions with housing colleagues.

Q7. Do you agree with Objective 4? Yes or No

If you have answered no, please explain why you don't agree?

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Please provide any further comments in the text box below.

Comments:

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What is important to you?

Taking all the objectives into consideration from both the Housing Strategy and Private Sector Housing Strategy:

Q8. Do you feel there is an area of importance to be considered which is not included in the objectives identified above?

Comments:

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