

Copeland Housing Strategy 2011 to 2015

Delivery Plan Year 2

Tasks	Milestones	Due dates	How measured	Lead partner
Strategic Objective One: Facilitation the right housing offer to support economic growth and community sustainability				
Objective 1.1: Facilitating the right supply of new homes				
1.1.1 Agree framework for the use of New Homes Bonus	Take draft policy for the use of the New Homes Bonus to the Housing Partnership	Framework to Copeland Strategic Housing Panel and Executive Committee April 2012	Policy for the use of the New Homes Bonus is published	Copeland Borough Council
1.1.2 Publish Preferred Options Draft Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) for consultation		November/December 2012	Development Plan Document published for consultation	Copeland Borough Council
Objective 1.2: Improving the quality of our places				
1.2.1 Continue to work with locality projects to identify common ground between community, parish and locality plans and the overarching housing strategy	Locality Plans identify cross referencing with the Copeland Housing Strategy	December 2012	Key projects and lead partners identified - key projects run by partners in support of localities	Locality partnerships, Copeland Borough Council
1.2.2 Investigate potential for use of local lettings policies in light of 'Cumbria Choice' Choice Based Lettings review	Findings of Cumbria Choice review to be examined by partnership			Copeland Housing Strategy Partnership
1.2.3 Deliver relevant development briefs and Supplementary Planning Documents for Whitehaven	Public consultation May 2012; publication Summer 2012	December 2012	Level of consultation; Agreement of Full Council	Copeland Borough Council

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Objective 1.3 Ensuring sufficient affordable housing				
1.3.1 Engage with the Homes and Communities Agency and Partners to ensure capital investment in Copeland, including through the Affordable Housing Programme		Ongoing	53 additional new units of affordable housing delivered between April 2012 and March 2013.	Copeland Borough Council and Registered Providers
1.3.2 Develop new models of delivering affordable housing, for example through public and private sector partnerships, including returning empty properties to use	Potential routes to the delivery of housing are identified	Routes to delivery and units planned by April 2013	Additional units are planned during 2012-13 for delivery by 2014-15	Copeland Housing Strategy Partnership
1.3.3 Continue six-monthly monitoring of the housing market and access to housing through the Council's Economic Impact report	Economic Impact Reports to Full Council meetings		Economic Impact Reports are examined at Full Council	Copeland Borough Council
Objective 1.4 Developing the role of the private rented sector				
1.4.1 Continue to work with landlords, using the Landlord Forum, to provide information and training on issues including welfare reforms, the Green Deal and stock condition and others as required	Information and training delivered through regular six-monthly Landlord Forum and through special sessions	Ongoing	Feedback from landlords, tenants, housing service customers and partners indicates that landlords are aware of the issues and the support available to them and their tenants	Copeland Borough Council
1.4.2 Review how landlords want to use the Landlord Forum and how the forum can	Questionnaire circulated to landlords prior to April 2012	Summer 2012	Feedback from landlords obtained and forum and	Copeland Borough Council and private

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best support the private rented sector	forum meeting Feedback from questionnaires used to inform agendas of next meetings and support available to landlords		training agendas set out	landlords
1.4.3 Continue to raise awareness of Copeland Borough Council Rent Deposit scheme, designed to help prevent homelessness by assisting people through the loan of rent deposits, using the Landlord Forum, Council website and publications	Landlord Forum meetings in April and October 2012	Ongoing	Landlords are aware of the range of support available and landlords and tenants approach the Housing Options service for help	Copeland Borough Council
Strategic Objective Two: Making the best use of existing stock				
Objective 2.1: Focus attention on the energy efficiency of existing stock				
2.1.1 Continue to support the delivery of the Cumbria Warm Homes Project	Home surveys completed and works recommended and installed	July 2012		
2.1.2 Continue to support the delivery of the Winter Warmth Fund				Cumbria County Council
2.1.3 Support the delivery of the ERDF Cumbria Cohesion Scheme and CESP Scheme		ERDF Scheme to complete by end 2013 CESP scheme to complete end October 2012		Registered Providers
2.1.4 Housing Strategy Partnership to respond to the Green Deal programme as this	The Housing Strategy Partnership examines the	Ongoing	Partners' own action plans to be monitored by the	Copeland Borough Council

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develops	<p>implications of the Green Deal as details of the programme become clearer</p> <p>The Landlords Forum is kept up to date with developments of the Green Deal programme</p> <p>Reports on the development of the Green Deal programme are taken to the Strategic Housing Panel</p>		Partnership	Copeland Strategic Housing Partnership
Objective 2.2: Enable improvements in private sector stock condition				
2.2.1 Private Sector Stock Condition Survey report due early 2012. Copeland Housing Partnership to analyse findings of report and review implications for Strategy Delivery Plan	<p>Analysis paper of findings produced for consultation with partners, June 2012</p> <p>Strategic Housing Panel to discuss survey report July 2012</p>	<p>June 2012 to review findings</p> <p>July 2012</p>	<p>Analysis paper of survey findings to Executive Committee</p> <p>Strategic Housing Panel to produce Action Plan based on findings</p>	Copeland Borough Council
Objective 2.3: Reduce the number of empty homes in the borough				
2.3.1 Implement Copeland Empty Homes Strategy	As per key milestones identified in Empty Properties Strategy		Number of long term Empty Properties reduced	Copeland Borough Council
2.3.2 Enable and support community and voluntary groups in addressing empty and				

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second homes in their communities				
Objective 2.4: Complete the programme to bring all social housing up to Decent Homes Standard (DHS)				
2.4.1 Registered providers to complete Regeneration Programmes 2.4.2 Registered Providers to maintain properties at Decent Homes Standard and/or Decent Homes Plus Standard	Quarterly monitoring of stock condition by Strategic Housing Panel	Ongoing		Registered Providers Home Group, Impact and Two Castles to report quarterly to Strategic Housing Panel
Strategic Objective Three: Enabling people to access the housing and support that they need, when they need it				
Objective 3.1: Ensure the right housing provision for older people				
3.1.1 Hold first meeting of Older People's Housing Task Group	Older People's Task Group membership identified First meeting of the Task Group held and terms of reference established	June 2012	Task Group identifies terms of reference and establishes key actions for the group to take forward	Copeland Housing Partnership
3.1.2 Older People's Housing Task Group to determine how to diversify the range of housing options available to older people	Range of potential housing options for older people identified	March 2013	Range of options fed into Housing Strategy Delivery Planning	Older People's Housing Task Group
Objective 3.2: Continue to prevent and deal effectively with homelessness				
3.2.1 Establish Task and Finish group to oversee review of Housing Options Service, to be completed by August- September 2012	Task Group established – to include Registered Providers and partner agencies	May 2012	Task Group in place	Copeland Borough Council

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3.2.2 Review Housing Options Service		August – September 2012		
3.2.2 Publish new five year Homeless Strategy draft March 2013 (end Year 2), taking into account implications of welfare reforms	Homeless Strategy out to consultation Homeless Strategy in place by March 2013	Draft Homeless Strategy for consultation November 2012; Adopted by March 2013	Homeless Strategy consulted on and agreed	
3.2.3 All partners to be involved in establishing agreed framework for the use of the increase in the discretionary housing payment from 2012, and the homelessness prevention fund, in preventing homelessness	Review Service Level Agreement with Housing Benefits	April 2012		
3.2.4 Continue to provide financial support to tenants with small amounts of rent arrears if they are being threatened with eviction				
3.2.3 Continue to raise awareness of Homelessness Prevention routes available	Strategic Housing Partnership to produce plan to raise awareness of methods available to prevent Homelessness	End 2012	Plan in place to publicise homelessness prevention and ensure partner agencies are aware of routes available	Strategic Housing Partnership
Objective 3.3: Respond appropriately to the opportunity of more flexible affordable homes, tenancies and allocations				
3.3.1 Develop Copeland Tenancy Strategy and publish in December 2012	Draft Tenancy Strategy to Strategic Housing Partnership in June 2012	Tenancy Strategy published December 2012		Copeland Borough Council

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3.3.2 Use the Strategic Housing Partnership to discuss and identify work in response to developments in tenure and social housing reforms		Discussion of responses to be included under all Partnership agendas		
3.3.3 Housing Strategy Partners to be fully engaged in review of 'Cumbria Choice' Choice-Based Lettings scheme	Strategic Housing Partnership to sign off outcomes of review Partnership to address any improvement actions identified by Cumbria Choice review			Cumbria Choice – Choice-Based Lettings Board Copeland Strategic Housing Partnership
Objective 3.4: Ensure that the housing needs of vulnerable and socially excluded people are met				
3.4.1 Improve move-on housing opportunities for young people through the development of additional trainer flats in Whitehaven town centre by the Whitehaven Community Trust	Funding confirmed Work on site started	End May 2012 Summer 2012		Whitehaven Community Trust
3.4.2 Progress the Whitehaven foyer project				
3.4.3 Continue work of the task group to determine accommodation needs of the Gypsy and Traveller Community and work to establish needs				
3.4.4 Maintain time taken to approve Disabled Facilities Grants		Ongoing	Average length of time taken to complete works from date of referral	Copeland Borough Council
3.4.5 Influence development of Design Guide				

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to ensure that new homes are built to Lifetime Homes Standards and meet higher standards for accessibility and carbon management				
Strategic Objective Four: An integrated delivery approach				
Objective 4.1: Working with partners				
4.1.1 Copeland Strategic Housing Partnership to continue to hold regular meetings	Quarterly meetings of the partnership	Ongoing		Copeland Housing Strategy Partnership
4.1.2 Continue Cumbria Housing Partnership working	Delivery against Cumbria Housing Strategy under Key Themes of: - Housing Growth, Affordability and Community Sustainability - Vulnerable People, Supporting Independence - Better Use of Stock	Ongoing		
4.1.3 Copeland Housing Partnership to maintain Housing Strategy Delivery Plans	Annual review of Housing Strategy Delivery Plan			
4.1.4 Continue to work with partner agencies to determine approaches to addressing child poverty				
Objective 4.2: Monitoring and Reporting				
4.2.1 Continue to report quarterly on the Housing Strategy Delivery Plan to the				

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Copeland Borough Council Strategic Housing Panel and Copeland Housing Partnership				
Objective 4.3: Localities and Copeland Partnership				
4.3.1 Continue to report to Copeland Partnership at least once a year on the progress of the Strategy and Delivery Plans and gather feedback on future priorities				
4.3.2 Continue to attend localities and Locality Together meetings as requested to discuss Housing Strategy and Delivery Plan				