

## **APPENDIX TWO**

### **Housing Strategy 2007-10**

#### **EXAMPLES OF PROPOSALS AND ISSUES INFLUENCED BY CONSULTATION**

Proposals for different aspects of the Council's housing strategy are developed in the context of numerous discussions between key stakeholders which occur in a wide range of liaison groups. This means that as proposals are formulated the views of those stakeholders are incorporated and it is not realistic to try and pinpoint the exact contribution that each viewpoint has made.

However, in some instances it is possible to identify where a particular contribution has influenced policy development and some representative examples are listed below to demonstrate the range of issues that have been tangibly influenced by consultation. In some cases this involves ways of approaching issues and in some cases eventual outcomes. The list is not intended to be exhaustive.

#### **Travellers Housing Needs Survey**

Questions on income and benefit were removed from the draft survey as these were felt intrusive and unworkable by Traveller representatives. Other questions were amended by the Traveller Reference Group, including health and education/training issues.

#### **Supporting People Services**

The Audit Commission Inspection Report (March 2006) confirmed that service users were involved with the review programme and services had been changed to reflect their views.

#### **Redevelopment Proposals**

All redevelopment schemes have been the subject of extensive local consultation with affected residents, Local Members, Parish Councils and other key stakeholders. This affects issues such as layouts and mixes of property types.

#### **Options Appraisal 2005**

At the end of the evaluation process, Management Team concluded that on balance although both stock transfer and retention could deliver the government's decent homes target, stock transfer offered the greatest long-term benefits to both the Council and tenants, and long term was the most sustainable solution. Council decided on retention which was the option supported by tenant consultation, with the situation to be kept under review.

#### **Sheltered Housing Services**

The review of the sheltered housing service involved participation by tenants and staff on the future vision and organisation. The most important elements identified by tenants at the outset were:

- the 24 hour response service
- daily contact with staff
- the security of living in a sheltered environment

The re-organisation stemming from the review accepted the maintenance and improvement of these core services as its guiding principle.

#### **Housing Management**

Tenants have been involved in formulating the DLO Recovery Plan and will continue to be represented on the DLO Core Group to ensure delivery of the objectives identified.

Consultation with the Tenant Participation group on kitchen specification for voids resulted in an upgrading of the range used.

### **Planning and the Local Development Framework**

The scope for changes to the LDF documents was limited by the Structure Plan strategy, and by the extent of partnership working throughout the plan making process. However, there have been a number of changes made to the preferred options and policies as they have gone through the consultation processes, e.g., market housing mix targets.

Following representations on the draft document, the Gypsy and Travellers Development Plan Document was amended to take more account of “cross border issues” and 5 more key locational criteria were added.

### **Consultation Protocol**

Following representations from Parish Councils the timescale for standard consultations was increased from 30 to 42 days.