

District Councillors Report

November 2021

This report emanates from a recent meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Rother District Council covering a broad spectrum of current policy and future expectations in the delivery of Council services which was the subject of recommendations made by a recent meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

Review of Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-2024

Priority 1: Increasing the supply of housing

The Blackfriars, Battle development programme due to deliver 200 homes towards the total delivery of 335 new homes, 70 of which will be affordable of mixed tenure to include affordable rent and shared-ownership. Construction of the housing was expected to begin in early 2022 and with final homes to be completed 2023.

A community lead housing scheme in Icklesham Parish and supported by Sussex Community Hub will provide 15 homes for local people and the Council plan to have a minimum of 45 further homes delivered in a similar way by 2024. Priority 2 & 3 respectively dealt with the provision of rough sleeping, homelessness; and improving the quality and suitability of existing housing.

Medium Term Financial Plan – 2022/23 to 2026/27

This shows a funding gap of £3.3m by 2022/23 but a surplus by 2025/26.

Performance Progress Report: 2nd. Quarter 2021/22

A summary of the Council's performance against selected Key Performance Indicators (KPI).

- (i) **Economic Development & Poverty:**
Number of Council Tax reduction claimants, Council Tax collection rates & Business rates collection met their targets.
- (ii) Waste collection, additional income and planning processing did not meet their targets. These are expected to show improvements in Quarter 3.

New Community Infrastructure Levy Governance & Proposal for Apportionment

The Cabinet portfolio holder for Strategic Planning and Chairman of the Community Infrastructure Levy Steering Group reported the following for approval by Cabinet.

- Parish and town councils with a Neighbourhood Plan could apply for 25% of CIL funding collected, those without, 15%;
- A Neighbourhood Plan would not be required to apply for funding from the Infrastructure Matched Fund;
- Any party meeting the criteria of the scheme could apply for the Climate Emergency Bonus Fund;
- Decisions of the Allocations Panel would be regularly scrutinised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and reported to the Audit and Standards Committee and;
- Infrastructure priority requirements would be sought from the parish and town councils.

Councillors Martin Mooney & Tony Ganly

Rother District Council

Northern Rother Ward