

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - CARE

TITLE	Housing Strategy 2019-2024 Consultative Draft
PURPOSE	To update members of progress and to share a copy of the consultative draft for further comment.
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CABINET MEMBER	Cllr. Craig ab Iago
DATE	28th of March 2019

1.0 Background

The Housing (Wales) Act 2014 requires each local authority to produce a Housing Strategy for its area every 5 years. The Housing Strategy is an opportunity to identify factors influencing demand for Housing and to outline the Council's priorities on how it will seek to achieve the strategic objectives as a local housing authority.

The Housing Strategy sets out ambitious plans to maximizing delivery in the field and outlines the financial resources we hope to attract to achieve the ambition.

The vision outlined in Gwynedd's Housing Strategy is consistent with the vision outlined in Gwynedd Council's Strategic Plan for 2019-24 and is key to helping deliver the aims of the Strategic Plan. It outlines a diverse range of innovative, and green housing proposals, which promote lifelong solutions and preventative support for those who require assistance. Alongside there is an ambition to ensure that housing prosperity is properly planned and implemented in a way that is sustainable, promotes social equality and maximizes opportunities for innovative development.

Gwynedd Housing Strategy confirms a long-term ambition, as well as clear priorities over the next 5 years. Although our housing needs can change at different stages of our lives, what is consistent is the need to live in homes and communities that are safe, and enable and encourage our people to live healthy and independent lives

One of the biggest challenges at the moment is to ensure an adequate supply of affordable and suitable housing, which are environmentally friendly, and of a high standard to meet the needs of a changing population. The genuinely affordable housing has been identified as one of our highest priorities.

The Strategy aims to establish a framework to ensure that we focus on the right priorities for providing homes for the people of Gwynedd and to make the best use of scarce resources to improve provision across the County. We are aware that housing, health, care and well-being issues are very high on the Welsh Government's national priorities. It means that there is a golden opportunity for the Housing Strategy to make a

difference over the next few years. To achieve this, the Strategy will need to be a living document which can respond to the various opportunities that arise in the future. We are committed to will work closely with the Housing Associations and other partners to monitor progress and to deliver our priorities.

1.0 ACTION

There was an opportunity to discuss some of the priorities and development plans of the Housing Strategy with members of the Scrutiny Committee at its last meeting. These comments have been considered in developing the content of the strategy and elements have been adapted.

Members are asked to review the content prior to presentation to Cabinet and full Council for adoption.