

<b>Priority 1 – To increase the supply and choice of new affordable accommodation in locations throughout Flintshire in accordance with housing need and aspiration.</b>					
	<b>What we will do</b>	<b>Timescales</b>	<b>People and Resources</b>	<b>What will it achieve</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
1.1	Analyse and act on the findings coming from the Housing Market Assessment (HMA)	September 2007	Housing Strategy Manager  Principal Planning Officer	Factor the findings of the research into future housing and planning proposals and the application of current housing and planning procedures.	Head of Housing Head of Planning
1.2	Develop monitoring tools to understand the local housing market	March 2008	Housing Strategy Manager Housing Strategy team  Principal Planning Officer	Ensure that the dynamics of the housing market are understood to affect appropriate changes in Council policy or intervention	Head of Housing Head of Planning Housing Strategy Manager
1.3	Develop a corporate approach to affordability	March 2008	Head of Housing Head of Planning	To coordinate a policy response to affordability issues in the County. Inform and support the development of affordable housing in the County	Strategic Housing Partnership
1.4	Introduce Choice Based lettings for Council properties / RSL nominations.	May 2008	Housing Options Manager Housing Strategy Manager RSLs	Ensure that applicants are aware of their housing options and able to make choices about where they want to live	Head of Housing
1.5	Develop robust arrangements for use of planning conditions or Section 106 agreements in delivering affordable housing	Sept 2007	Housing Strategy Manager Housing Strategy Team  Head of Planning	To strengthen the Council's position in negotiating and securing the provision of affordable housing as part of development schemes	Head of Housing Head of Planning

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1.6	Consider reducing the threshold on which affordable housing should be provided on new developments through LDP process	March 2009	Head of Housing Housing Strategy Manager Head of Planning	More affordable housing provided on sites across the County	Head of Housing Head of Planning Housing Strategy Manager
1.7	Develop intermediate housing schemes	March 2009	Housing Strategy Manager  Principal Planning Officer  RSLs	Allow households whose needs are not met by the market to become owner occupiers	Head of Housing Head of Planning
1.8	Carry out Council land asset review	March 2009	Corporate Valuer Principal Planning Officer	The potential use of Council assets to maximise the Council's contribution to affordable housing	Head of Housing Head of Planning Housing Strategy Manager
1.9	Explore the use of innovative grant free solutions to develop new affordable housing	Ongoing	Head of Housing Strategy	More housing provided which is affordable to local residents	Head of Housing
1.10	Continue to work sub-regionally and Regionally	Ongoing	Head of Housing Head of Planning Housing Strategy Manager	Closer cooperation with neighbouring authorities in terms of responding to changing housing markets	Head of Housing Housing Strategy Manager Head of Planning

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1.11	Develop a pilot affordable housing scheme which will help sustain the Welsh language	Ongoing	Head of Housing Head of Planning RSLs	Ensure that the needs of Welsh speakers are considered when developing new accommodation	Head of Housing Head of Planning

<b>Priority 2 – To aim to ensure that all homes within the County are of a good quality, particularly through ensuring that Council Housing is brought up to the Welsh Housing Quality Standard by 2012</b>					
	<b>What we will do</b>	<b>Timescales</b>	<b>People and Resources</b>	<b>What will it achieve</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
2.1	All public sector rented homes to meet Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) by 2012	2012	Local authority revenue funds Local authority capital programme / borrowing RSL revenue funds RSL capital programme / borrowing WAG funding resources	Improvement in the standard of social rented accommodation	Council Housing Associations
2.2	Achieve WHQS in 70% of private sector households that are vulnerable.	2012	Local authority capital programme WAG Other funding sources (including Houseproud etc)	Improvement in the standard of private sector accommodation occupied by vulnerable households	Head of Housing
2.3	Review and alter Council policies in relation to Enforcement Procedures, Houses in Multiple Occupation and Empty Homes	March 2008	Head of Housing Private Sector Housing Manager Housing Grants Manager	Improvements in housing standards and management in the private rented sector, enforcement activities especially around disrepair and management of empty homes.	Head of Housing Private Sector Housing Manager
2.4	Develop Financial Assistance Packages for home owners, including equity release schemes	December 2007	Capital programme "Houseproud" etc Housing Grants Manager	Home owners able to access funds to improve their own homes	Head of Housing Housing Grants Manager
2.5	Identify and tackle poor standards of management in the private sector	On-going Continuous Programme	Housing Renewal Team	Greater Partnership working. Improved management and condition of Private Rented Sector. Reduction of ASB.	Head of Housing Private Sector Housing Manager

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2.6	Introduce small scale renewal areas to focus improvement activity	Ongoing	Housing Strategy Team  Housing Renewal Team  Regeneration Team	Eradicating the worst housing conditions by developing options and housing programmes to deliver housing renewal	Head of Housing Private Sector Housing Manager Head of Regeneration
2.7	Target financial assistance to assist the most vulnerable who are experiencing and living in the worst housing conditions	Ongoing	Housing Renewal Team Housing Grants Team FCC Capital Programme "Houseproud" etc	Ensure that the most vulnerable households are able to access direct funding to assist their housing condition	Head of Housing Private Sector Housing Manager Housing Grants Manager
2.8	Ensure that service delivery is coordinated through Directorates	Ongoing	Housing Strategy Manager	Better management of services across the Council	Head of Housing
2.9	Develop a Private Sector Housing Advice Role	Ongoing	Council General Fund revenue account  Housing Strategy Manager  Private Sector Housing Manager	Better coordination and management of services across the Council	Head of Housing
2.10	Extend the HMO licensing scheme so that it covers two-storey dwellings	September 2008	Private Sector Housing Manager Private Sector Housing Manager Council General Fund revenue account	Improved safety and security of dwellings	Head of Housing
2.11	Continuing to support Flintshire Care & Repair	Ongoing	Housing Grants Manager Council General Fund Capital Programme	Ensure that older people's needs in this area are addressed	Head of Housing

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2.12	Ensure that the housing needs of migrant workers are considered	Ongoing	Private Sector Housing Manager Housing Strategy Manager Housing Options Manager Policy Officer Equalities Range of partners	Better housing services to migrant workers	Head of Housing
2.13	Tackle anti-social behavior and fear of crime in residential areas	Ongoing	Head of Housing Police RSLs Range of partners	Increased stability in communities, reduction in crime and fear of crime.	Head of Housing

<b>Priority 3 – To seek to prevent homelessness and provide a wide range of accommodation for homeless people when homelessness is unavoidable.</b>					
	<b>What we will do</b>	<b>Timescales</b>	<b>People and Resources</b>	<b>What will it achieve</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
3.1	Carry out review of homelessness services in the County and produce new Homelessness Strategy	March 2008	Housing Options Manager  Supporting People Manager	Map out extent of homelessness and services available to tackle homelessness, together with a plan of action to address this issue	Head of Housing
3.2	Investigate the potential for a simple common housing application form, register and waiting list	March 2008	Housing Options Manager RSLs	Simplify application process for all social rented housing in the county	Head of Housing
3.3	Implement a comprehensive and strategic review of how the sector meets the advice and support needs of young people facing homelessness	April 2009	Supporting People Team  Housing Options Team  Children's services team	It will create a service fit for purpose based on the needs of the client group	Supporting People Manager  Housing Options Manager  Head of Children's Services Head of Housing
3.4	Co-ordinate and develop provision of services with the emphasis on preventing homelessness occurring.	April 2008	Supporting People Team  Housing Options Team	Reduce the number of homeless people through active prevention	Supporting People Manager  Housing Options Manager
3.5	Increase the amount of direct / immediate access accommodation for young people at risk	April 2008	Supporting People Team  Supporting People revenue funding	Better services for young people, less reliance on other services	Supporting People Manager  Housing Options Manager

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3.6	Reduce use of bed and breakfast accommodation	Ongoing	Head of Housing  Supporting People Manager	Ensure that, where homelessness is unavoidable, suitable emergency accommodation is provided while households are given support and opportunities to identify suitable future options	Head of Housing

<b>Priority 4 – To provide a range of housing-based support for vulnerable people and to maximise independence through the Supporting People programme.</b>					
	<b>What we will do</b>	<b>Timescales</b>	<b>People and Resources</b>	<b>What will it achieve</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
4.1	Produce an Older Person's Housing Strategy	September 2008	Head of Housing  Supporting People Manager	Coordinated approach to ensuring that older peoples housing needs in the County are addressed	Head of Housing
4.2	Ensure that there are robust and stable arrangements for the administration of Supporting People in the County	November 2007	Supporting People Team	Improvement of arrangements following recent reports from both internal audit and WAG.	Supporting People Manager
4.3	Ensure the emerging housing needs of young people are met.	ongoing	Head of Housing  Supporting People funding	Better provision for young people in the County	Head of Housing
4.4	Prioritise gaps in unmet need as agreed by the Supporting People Commissioning Body	March 2008 then quarterly thereafter	Supporting People Team  Supporting People Strategic Body  Supporting People Commissioning Body  Supporting People funding	A transparent approach to commissioning intentions	Supporting People Manager
4.5	Create a needs analysis methodology by developing a model of datasets for collecting needs information	March 2008 then annual thereafter	Supporting People Team  Housing Options Team  Supporting People Strategic Partnership	It will provide a robust and equitable data source from which appropriate commissioning decisions can be made	Supporting People Manager

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4.6	Update the client group Strategies. Link the Client group strategies to the Supporting People Strategy and ensure a consistent approach for collecting needs data and analyse the data to produce a model of needs	March 2008	Supporting People Team  Housing Options team  Housing Strategy team	Identification of the type of schemes we require based on the evidence collected.	Supporting People Manager
4.7	Complete review of sheltered accommodation	September 2007	Head of Housing	Accommodation and services for elderly people which are up to today's standards	Head of Housing

**Priority 5 – To improve the quality of life of our communities through joint approaches to community safety, physical and social regeneration.**

	<b>What we will do</b>	<b>Timescales</b>	<b>People and Resources</b>	<b>What will it achieve</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
5.1	Set up Strategic Housing Partnership	September 2007	Head of Housing	Stakeholder Forum to take forward and develop the Housing Strategy	Head of Housing
5.2	Establish a Performance Management Framework for delivery of our housing strategy	September 2007	Head of Housing	All actions are monitored and reported to the Strategic Housing Forum	Head of Housing
5.3	Hold annual Housing Strategy Event for stakeholders	annual	Head of Housing	Regular updating of Strategy and feedback from those involved in Housing in the County	Head of Housing
5.4	Encourage cross cutting regeneration initiatives to preserve heritage	Ongoing	Head of Environment and Conservation	Enhancement of designated areas to promote local distinctiveness	Head of Environment and Conservation

<b>Priority 6 – To ensure that housing provision in the borough is in line with our economic aspirations</b>					
	<b>What we will do</b>	<b>Timescales</b>	<b>People and Resources</b>	<b>What will it achieve</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
6.1	Develop a suite of financial inclusion projects to help residents in disadvantaged areas	March 2008	Head of Housing	Promotion of social inclusion in council estates	Head of Housing
6.2	Develop a pilot intermediate labour market project in conjunction with a social landlord	September 2008	Head of Housing RSL partner	Tackling of worklessness and economic inactivity, leading to policy development in this area	Head of Housing
6.3	Carry out an employer survey	March 2009	Housing Strategy Manager	Information on employers views of housing provision in the County	Head of Housing

**Priority 7 – To promote the health and wellbeing of communities by improving the quality and design of homes and the environment in which they live.**

	<b>What we will do</b>	<b>Timescales</b>	<b>People and Resources</b>	<b>What will it achieve</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
7.1	Promote mixed housing developments in sustainable communities	Ongoing	Housing Strategy Team  Planning Policy Team  Planning Enforcement Section  Development Control Section	Provide quality, choice and range of housing in sustainable communities	Head of Housing Head of Planning
7.4	Continue to work with the Welsh Assembly and Registered Social Landlords and private sector developers to ensure design standards are complied with	On-going	Planning Enforcement Team  Development Control Team	To ensure at the earliest stage of the development process, all of the necessary planning requirements are met	Head of Planning
7.5	Investigate the possibility of using infill sites on predominantly social housing estates for new build	March 2009	Housing Strategy Team	More mixed tenure neighbourhoods	Housing Strategy Manager
7.6	Maintain character of existing buildings and areas	March 2008	Head of Environment and Conservation	Preservation of the county's historic character	Head of Environment and Conservation

<b>Priority 8 – To improve the environmental and energy performance of housing through construction, education and maintenance</b>					
	<b>What we will do</b>	<b>Timescales</b>	<b>People and Resources</b>	<b>What will it achieve</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
8.1	Reduce numbers of households suffering from fuel poverty	Ongoing	Welsh Assembly Government, Energy Efficiency Advice Centre and other key stakeholders	Provision of affordable warmth.	Head of Housing
8.2	Promote nationwide Sustainable Energy Network	Ongoing	Utility companies, the Welsh Assembly Government, the Local Energy Support Programme	Contribution towards low carbon emissions	Head of Housing
8.3	Provision of sustainable and low and zero carbon homes.	Ongoing	Energy Team	Aid in the transition to sustainable homes	Head of Housing
8.4	Promote grants for new efficient boilers and insulation where current national grant schemes cannot deliver and where feasible,	Ongoing	Energy Team	Provision of affordable warmth	Head of Housing
8.5	Continue to provide advice on energy saving,	Ongoing	Energy Team	Contribution towards climate change alleviation	Head of Housing
8.6	To use best available technology when planning new development or refurbishment	Ongoing	All directorates	Reduce the environmental impact of housing	Head of Housing

<b>Priority 9 – To seek to meet the housing needs and aspirations of our diverse communities</b>					
	<b>What we will do</b>	<b>Timescales</b>	<b>People and Resources</b>	<b>What will it achieve</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
9.1	Ensure that accessible advice and appropriate information for the needs of diverse communities is provided.	Ongoing	Housing Strategy Team	Support the diversity of our communities by promoting information and advice about housing that meets the different needs of our communities, in different languages and formats.	Head of Housing
9.2	To ensure equality monitoring systems are in place for housing provision and service delivery	September 2007	Housing Strategy Team	Identification of any areas of potential or actual discrimination	Head of Housing
9.3	Develop and implement strategy to identify the housing needs and aspirations of the BME community	September 2008	Housing Strategy Team	Build upon the existing sub-regional BME Housing Strategy	Head of Housing
9.4	Ensure all housing providers, contractors and staff are aware of the council's policies in relation to diversity	March 2008	Housing Strategy Team	Better services from staff. Contractors demonstrate commitment to race equality and set up systems to monitor how they are meeting the requirement	Head of Housing
9.5	Review services to Gypsies and Travellers	March 2008	Housing Strategy Team	Understanding of how the Council is meeting the needs of this client group	Head of Housing
9.6	Conduct an assessment of the need for Gypsy and Traveller sites – permanent, transit and	September 2008	Housing Strategy Team	Policy development to ensure that site provision is sustainable	Head of Housing

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	emergency stop off sites				
9.7	Continue joint working with North Wales authorities and Cheshire in relation to Gypsies and Travellers	Ongoing	Housing Strategy Team	Develop consistent joint approach to unauthorised encampments	Head of Housing
9.8	Assess housing provision for migrant workers	April 2008	Housing Strategy Team	Better awareness and assessment of housing needs of this group leading to policy development	Head of Housing
9.9	Carry out small scale research project on overcrowding in the county	Dec 2008	Housing Strategy Team	Develop appropriate policy response to overcrowding issues	Head of Housing
9.10	Publicise harassment and anti-social behaviour policy	Ongoing	Council RSLs	Increased confidence in social landlords on part of minority communities	Head of Housing

<b>Priority 10 – To make the case for housing in Flintshire</b>					
	<b>What we will do</b>	<b>Timescales</b>	<b>People and Resources</b>	<b>What will it achieve</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
10.1	The Council and housing associations should lobby WAG regarding funding affordable housing requirements in the County	Ongoing, annual update	Head of Housing RSL Directors of Development	Increase in the amount of social housing grant for affordable housing in the county	Head of Housing Housing Portfolio Holder
10.2	Develop regional and sub-regional alliances	Ongoing, annual update	Head of Housing RSL Directors of Development	Highlight housing problems in the region and secure further investment	Head of Housing Housing Portfolio Holder
10.3	Ensure that the priorities of the Housing Strategy are reflected in other council- and partner- documents	Ongoing, annual update	Head of Housing	Integration of housing with other work across the county	Head of Housing