

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

STRATEGIC HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD

20 May 2013

**Joint Report of the Director of the Director of Planning, Housing and
Environmental Health and Cabinet Member for Housing**

Part 1- Public

**Matters for Recommendation to Cabinet - Non-Key Decision (Decision may be taken
by the Cabinet Member)**

1 HOUSING STRATEGY 2013-2016

Summary

The Housing Strategy 2013-2016 was considered and approved by Council at its meeting on 16 April 2013. This paper presents an Action Plan to cover the first year of the new Housing Strategy.

1.1 Legal Implications

1.1.1 The Housing Strategy is a statutory requirement under section 7 of the Local Government Act 2003.

1.2 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

1.2.1 None arising from the decision sought in this paper, although as will all Council services, key priorities and associated action plans will need to be kept closely under review in terms of funding available.

1.3 Risk Assessment

1.3.1 Failure to develop an effective and forward looking housing strategy and action plan will compromise the Council's ability to meet identified housing need and attract the funding necessary for that purpose.

1.4 Equality Impact Assessment

1.4.1 See 'Screening for equality impacts' table at end of report

1.5 Recommendations

1.5.1 **CABINET is RECOMMENDED to APPROVE the action plan that is attached at [Annex 1].**

The Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health confirms that the proposals contained in the recommendation(s), if approved, will fall within the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

Background papers:

contact: Janet Walton

Nil

Steve Humphrey
Director of Planning,
Housing and Environmental Health

Councillor Jill Anderson
Cabinet Member for Housing

Screening for equality impacts:		
Question	Answer	Explanation of impacts
a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to cause adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the community?	No	The Housing Strategy 2012-2016 was subject to an Equality Impact Assessment on two separate occasions during the course of its development. Firstly, in June 2012 as a pre-consultation draft; and secondly in September 2012 following the close of the consultation period. Individual equalities implications are also identified in the Action Plan attached at [Annex 1] .
b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper make a positive contribution to promoting equality?	Yes	Objectives in the Action Plan will assist older and vulnerable households; those who have experienced domestic violence; those who are vulnerable as a result of drugs and alcohol use; and those who are in receipt of low incomes.
c. What steps are you taking to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above?		N/A

In submitting this report, the Chief Officer doing so is confirming that they have given due regard to the equality impacts of the decision being considered, as noted in the table above.