

Mayoral Combined Authority Board

16 January 2023

Final Draft - South Yorkshire Housing Framework

Is the paper exempt from the press and public?	No
Reason why exempt:	Not applicable
Purpose of this report:	Policy Decision
Is this a Key Decision?	Yes
Has it been included on the Forward Plan of Key Decisions?	Yes

Director Approving Submission of the Report:

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Executive Summary

This paper seeks the Board's approval of the Final Draft South Yorkshire Housing Framework.

What does this mean for businesses, people and places in South Yorkshire?

The South Yorkshire Housing Framework sets out our collective vision, priorities and actions for delivering affordable, high quality and sustainable homes in South Yorkshire.

Recommendations

The Board is asked to:

- Consider and approve the final draft South Yorkshire Housing Framework; and
- Delegate to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Housing and Infrastructure Board Co-Chairs to sign off the final designed document.

Consideration by any other Board, Committee, Assurance or Advisory Panel

Housing and Infrastructure Board

8th December 2022

1. Background

- 1.1 The previous Housing Review (2020) highlighted areas of concern regarding housing in South Yorkshire, including: the affordability and quality of accommodation; social mobility and inclusion; the need to concentrate housing development in existing urban areas; driving up the quality of design in housing; investing in net zero housing to improve the overall quality and energy efficiency of the existing housing stock; and the need to explore alternative funding models.
- 1.2 In December 2021, the Housing and Infrastructure Board requested that a Housing Framework be prepared to set out the collective actions to address the strategic housing issues facing South Yorkshire. The Board has overseen its preparation, which has also been informed by contributions from South Yorkshire's Mayor, Homes England, the South Yorkshire Housing Partnership, Housing Associations, and Local Authority Housing Directors. A particular focus has been given to ensure that local priorities and collective actions and activities are appropriately captured and reflected in the Framework.
- 1.3 The Housing and Infrastructure Board has recommended that the Final Draft Housing Framework presented at Appendix A for the Board's consideration be approved and adopted.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The Framework sets out how the MCA and local authorities will work in partnership with others to address key strategic housing opportunities and challenges in South Yorkshire and contribute to delivering a number of the commitments in the Mayor's Manifesto. It provides:

- **A Vision**, setting out what we are we seeking to achieve, as follows:

To ensure that everyone has access to good quality, warm homes that are affordable and meet needs, whilst helping achieve our ambitions for a net zero economy and sustainable, attractive places to live, work and invest.

We will strive to raise both the energy efficiency of existing homes and the design quality and environmental standards of new housing, with a particularly focus on new housing supporting both regeneration and the repurposing of our urban centres.

- **Four Key Priorities**, as follows, which align with those of key partners, and focused on where collectively the MCA, local authorities and other partners can make the greatest impact, as follows:

1. *Increasing energy efficiency and decarbonisation of the existing housing stock to help tackle net zero and the long-term cost of living crisis, and reduce the health impacts of poor housing*

2. *Increasing housing growth and delivering affordable new homes for sale and rent, in sustainable, well-connected locations, particularly within urban centres with a focus on brownfield sites and conversions*
3. *Improving the standard and quality of new and existing homes and places, including private rented homes, as part of wider regeneration and placemaking*
4. *Working to secure further devolution of housing powers and funding, and leveraging in further complementary public and private investment*

- **Detailed Delivery Plan** of collaborative actions that will be undertaken to deliver the Vision and Key Priorities.

2.2 The Framework provides for a move from a housing growth dominated strategic housing agenda to a greater emphasis on improving the existing housing stock. This includes a focus on retrofitting homes with energy efficiency improvements to help tackle the energy and cost of living crises, as well as improving the quality of housing overall and supporting housing's increasingly important role in regeneration and placemaking.

2.3 As is set out in the Framework, SYMCA, local authorities and partners have already been delivering on some of the agendas, and following approval of the document, efforts will be focussed on building on these successes to accelerate delivery of all the actions set out in the Framework.

3. **Options Considered and Recommended Proposal**

3.1 **Option 1**

To approve the Draft Final South Yorkshire Housing Framework at Appendix A.

3.2 **Option 1 Risks and Mitigations**

The key risk is securing commitment by SYMCA, local authorities and partners to the ambitions and priorities of the Framework and delivering the collaborative actions. This would also involve identifying sufficient funding and resources to take forward the new ideas and approaches and is being mitigated through continued close working with local authorities and partners in developing and delivering the Framework.

3.3 **Option 2**

To not approve the Draft Final South Yorkshire Housing Framework.

3.4 **Option 2 Risks and Mitigations**

The key risk of this approach is that there is currently no coherent strategic approach to identifying and developing collaborative opportunities for addressing strategic housing issues across South Yorkshire. This could lead to duplicated work and resources; missed opportunities for collaboration where strategic benefits could be realised; under-developed housing propositions which do not take advantage of shared knowledge, experience and economies of scale; and less funding and investment in housing and related infrastructure in South Yorkshire which would

mean the housing needed to support the economy and social requirements is not provided.

3.5 Recommended Option

Option 1 is recommended as the most effective way to address strategic housing issues and maximise collective resources to deliver greater overall benefits for South Yorkshire.

4. Consultation on Proposal

4.1 Work to develop the final draft Housing Framework has been informed through engagement with South Yorkshire's Mayor, Homes England, the South Yorkshire Housing Partnership, Housing Associations, and Local Authority Housing Directors. The Housing and Infrastructure Board endorsed the Final Draft Housing Framework at its meeting on 8 December 2022.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 Following an approval of the Housing Framework by the SYMCA Board, the focus of activity will be on working with partners to implement the identified actions. Progress updates will be reported to the Housing and Infrastructure Board which will oversee its implementation.

6. Financial and Procurement Implications and Advice

6.1 There are no financial or procurement implications directly arising from this report. However, the financial implications of implementing actions in the Framework will need to be fully explored and identified.

7. Legal Implications and Advice

7.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

8. Human Resources Implications and Advice

8.1 There are no human resource implications arising directly arising from this report.

9. Equality and Diversity Implications and Advice

9.1 There are no equality and diversity implications arising directly arising from this report.

10. Climate Change Implications and Advice

10.1 There are no climate change implications arising directly arising from this report, although positive impacts from a number of actions in relation to strategic housing issues could be significant.

11. Information and Communication Technology Implications and Advice

11.1 None as a direct result of this report.

12. Communications and Marketing Implications and Advice

12.1 None as a direct result of this report. There will be publicity opportunities for actions and projects when delivered.

List of Appendices Included:

A Final Draft South Yorkshire Housing Framework