
Report to: Place Panel

Date: 24 October 2018

Subject: Leeds City Region Housing Vision

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1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To seek endorsement from the Place Panel on the Leeds City Region Housing Vision.

2. Information

Background

- 2.1 The West Yorkshire Combined Authority produced a Housing Policy Position Statement (6 April 2017) which details the housing challenges, policy themes and actions for the Leeds City Region. Following this, councillors requested a 'headline' document be prepared which presented a concise housing vision for the City Region.
- 2.2 It was agreed that a focussed Housing Vision document be prepared for the Leeds City Region, linking to wider agendas such as transport and inclusive growth strategies.

Leeds City Region Housing Vision (Attached – Appendix 1)

- 2.3 On this basis, a Leeds City Region Housing Vision document has been produced. This has been shaped with input from partner local authorities.
- 2.4 The Housing Vision sets out the collective aims, ambitions and principles for creating good places to live in the City Region. The ambitions are outlined as follows:
- Building inclusive neighbourhoods for towns and cities of the future
 - Connecting communities, spreading prosperity, extending opportunity
 - People centred growth, clean, high quality development approach

- 65,000 new homes delivered over the next five years to support economic growth
- Putting people first: quality of place is as important as delivery of new homes. New housing has to be a good offer in places people choose to live.

2.5 The Housing Vision is a Combined Authority document which sets out a narrative that local authority partners have subscribed to. It recognises that the Combined Authority has no statutory remit over housing, and therefore that all partners have an important role to play in working together and using respective powers and resources to achieve the shared ambitions.

2.6 Key themes within the Housing Vision can be summarised as follows:

- Aim to create well connected neighbourhoods to support inclusive growth
- Building on our strengths – strong industrial heritage, cultural offer, countryside, quality of life
- Great connectivity – transport links that enable an agile, mobile workforce and digital connectivity fit for the future to build inclusive, connected neighbourhoods
- Strong relationships and partnership working key to this success – national agencies e.g. Homes England, government departments, local authority partners
- Using the levers we have available to unlock sites and accelerate delivery – through creative and flexible funding approaches and enabling SME developers to bring forward small sites
- Encouraging development of good quality homes
- Promoting city and town centre investment strategies which develop resilient ‘future’ towns and cities, connected through both great transport links and digital connectivity

2.7 The Housing Vision has now been through a number of iterations with input from a wide range of stakeholders. The intention is that if signed off by Place Panel, the Housing Vision can then be used to help shape discussions with communities and engagement with developers, housing associations and other potential investors / partners as a statement of broad principles for the City Region.

2.8 Cllr Tim Swift, Chair of the Place Panel, has been invited to do a keynote speech at the Brownfield Redevelopment: North conference on 7 November. This provides an opportunity to ‘soft launch’ the Housing Vision as part of the story of the wider package of work taking place across the region to support housing delivery.

3. Financial Implications

3.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

5. Staffing Implications

- 5.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

6. External Consultees

- 6.1 The Housing Vision has been developed in partnership local authority partners and other stakeholders including National Housing Federation and Homes England.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1 That the Place Panel endorses the Leeds City Region Housing Vision.
- 7.2 That the Place Panel agrees for the Housing Vision to be 'launched' at the Brownfield Redevelopment: North conference on 7 November.

8. Background Documents

Housing Policy Position Statement – Combined Authority 6 April 2017

9. Appendices

Appendix 1 – The Leeds City Region Housing Vision