DRAFT Committee workplan progress update and Housing performance report Quarter 2 2021/22

This report provides updates on the Housing Committee priorities and work plan for 2019 to 2023, as well as a range of performance indicators. Delivery of a complex housing service during the Covid-19 crisis had been a challenge, and gratitude is expressed to residents for the patience and understanding they have shown.

While there continue to be areas of strong performance, with 20 Housing Committee Work Plan objectives on track for delivery and 7 performance indicators on or above target, some delivery challenges remain. The report highlights actions being taken to improve services where performance has been adversely impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

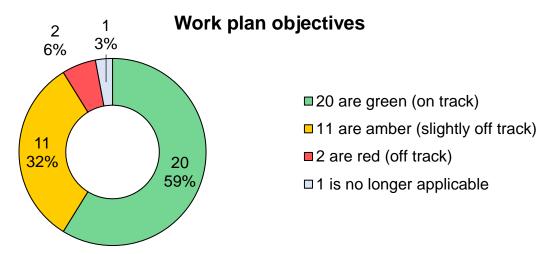
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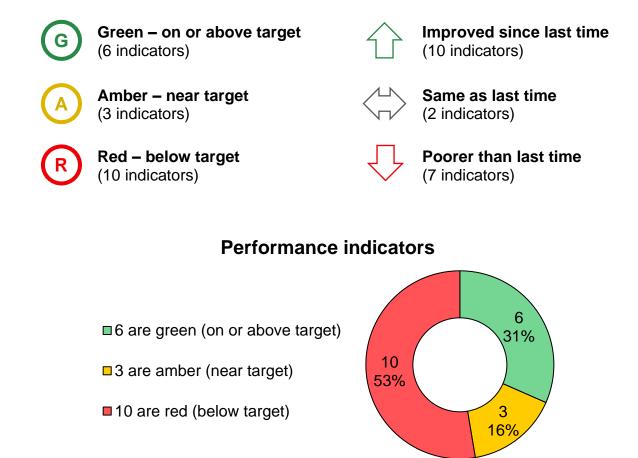
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This housing performance report covers Quarter 2 (Q2) of the 2021/22 financial year. It uses red, amber and green ratings to provide an indication of performance.

Part one provides an update of performance against the Housing Committee work plan objectives for 2019 - 2023:

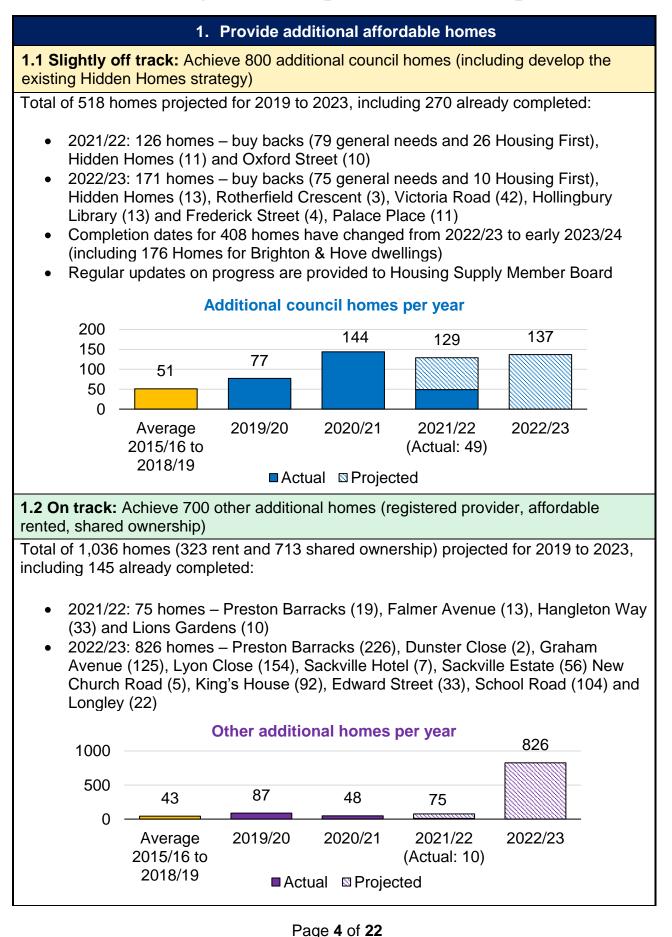


Part two presents results for a range of performance indicators across Housing and similarly uses red, amber and green ratings, as well as trend arrows. Commentary has been included for indicators which are red. During Quarter 2, the ratings and trends were as follows:



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Part one: Housing Committee priorities and work plan 2019-23

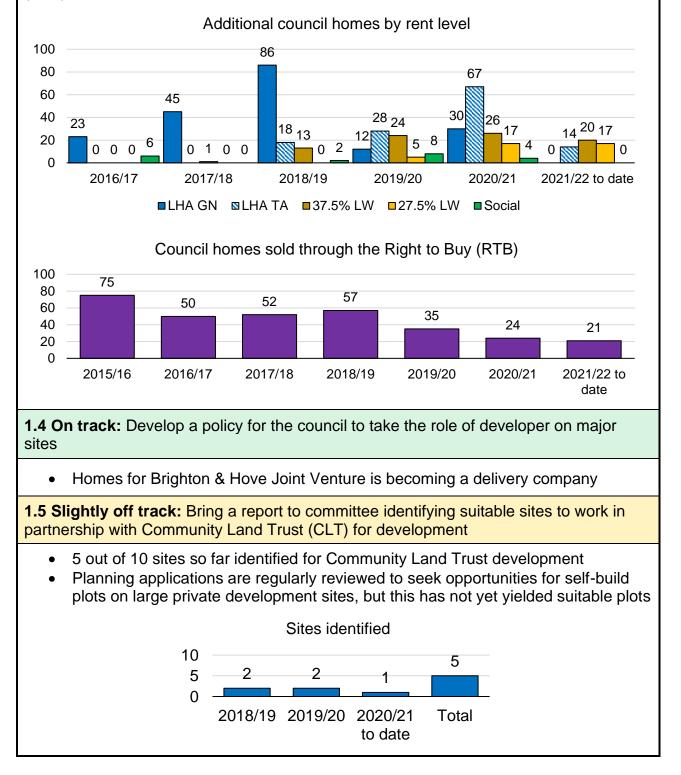


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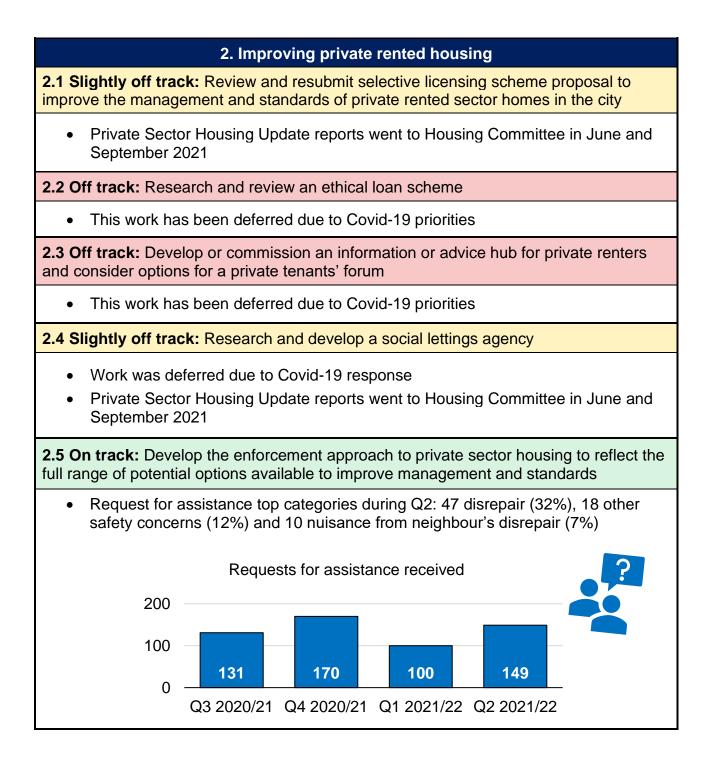
1. Provide additional affordable homes

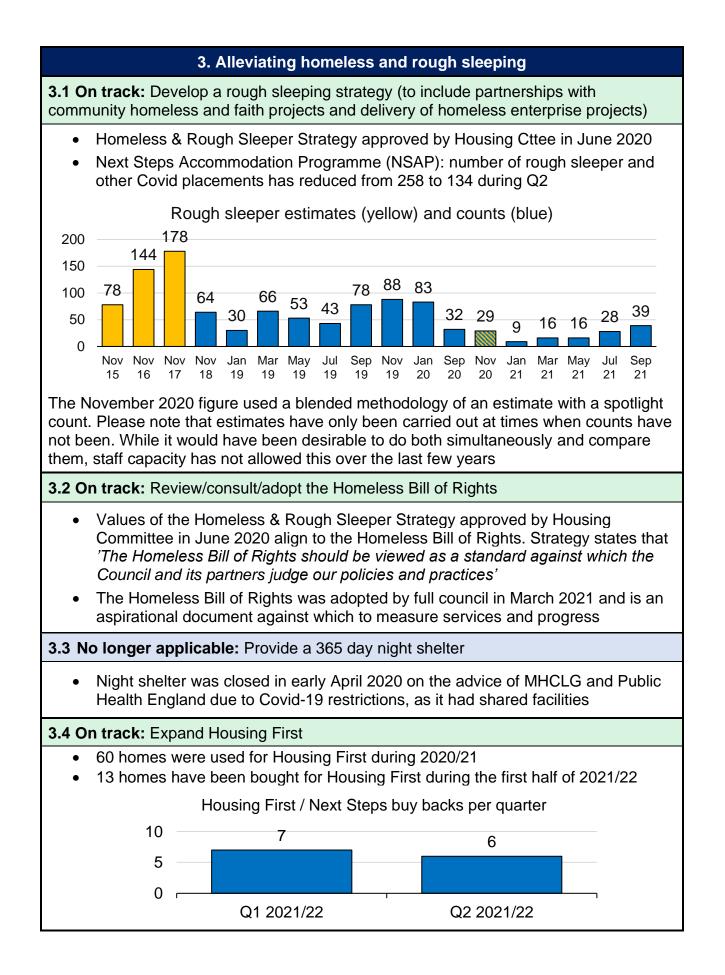
1.3 On track: Review the rent policy to maximise the number of council homes replaced at social or living wage rents (especially those at 27.5% Living Wage)

17 of the 37 (46%) of new general needs council homes delivered during 2021/22 are at 27.5% Living Wage rents, and the remaining 20 (54%) are at 37.5% Living Wage rents. The temporary accommodation (TA) council homes are at Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rates.

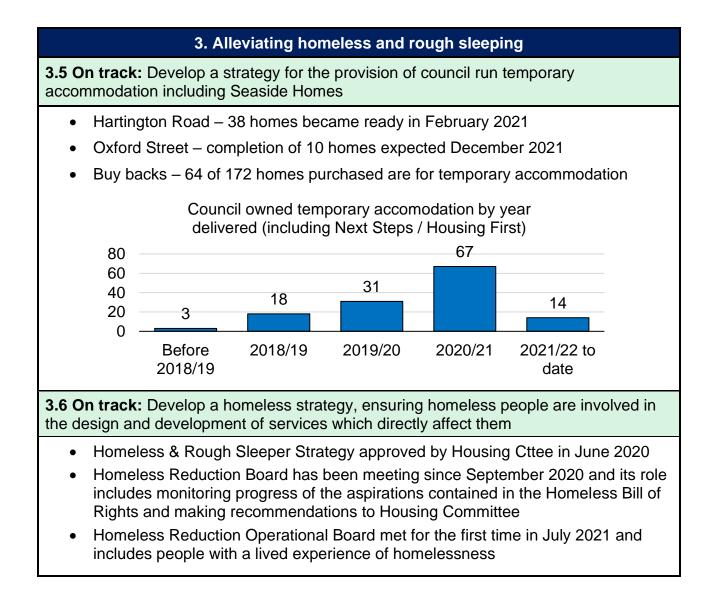


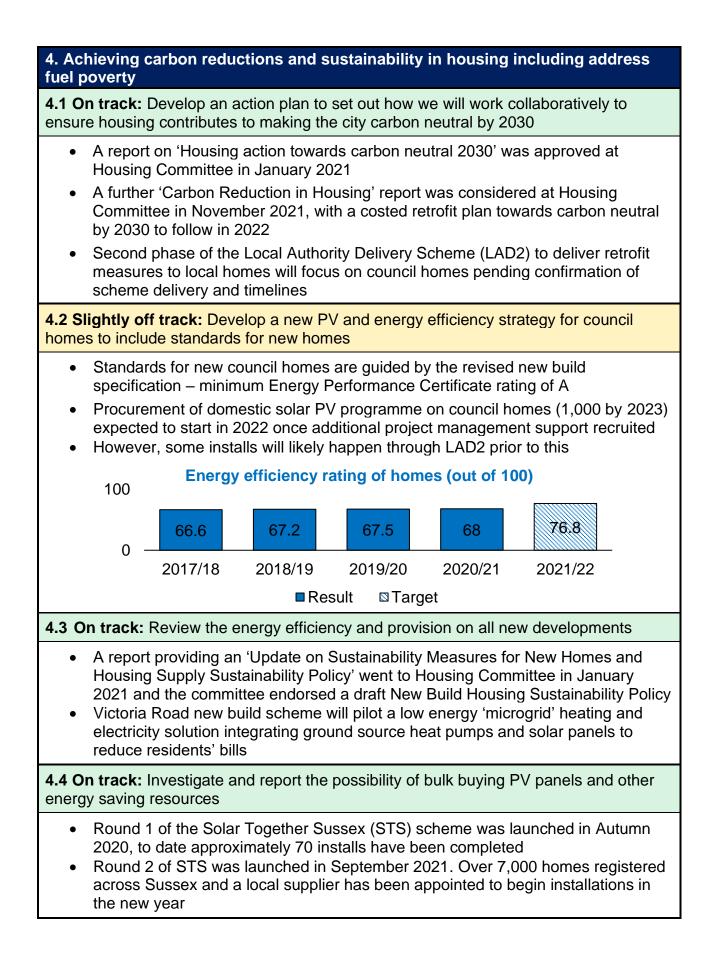
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5. Improving council housing and community involvement

5.1 Slightly off track: Work with tenants to develop a 'decent environment' standard

• Delayed due to service pressures and other priorities due to Covid-19

5.2 On track: Develop a fire safety programme in conjunction with tenants and residents

- Sprinklers are now fitted as standard in all council new build homes
- Sprinkler systems at St James's House and Essex Place currently reviewing following feedback from residents
- Council is working to consider the likely impacts of the proposed Building Safety legislation including proposed resident engagement strategy for building safety
- Fire Risk Assessments are carried out regularly to council housing buildings
- Currently engaging consultancy services to support a review of the new building safety guidance and implementation

5.3 On track: Review and develop a new tenant and community involvement policy/strategy for housing, ensuring we learn from the lived experience of our clients, meet the 'Involvement and Empowerment' standard and that co-production is at the heart of our tenant and resident involvement work

• New Tenant and Leaseholder Engagement Strategy was approved at Housing Committee in March 2021

5.4 On track: Extend participatory budgeting

• Report approved at March 2021 Housing Committee including development of a policy for extending participatory budgeting

5.5 Slightly off track: Develop the work undertaken with leaseholders to develop a new leasehold involvement policy, setting out how leaseholders can be supported to be more proactively involved in capital works and other leasehold matters

- Consultation with leaseholders on new planned maintenance and improvement programme contracts has concluded and contracts are now operating. Leaseholders are being consulted where the council has plans to undertake works under these contracts on a block-by-block basis
- Engagement with tenants and leaseholders is underway for proposed projects that will be tendered through the major works framework.
- The council is continuing to update tenants and leaseholders that sit on the 'task and finish' group that is working on the programme. Online sessions are now operating for this group
- The council has completed a survey of all leaseholders and will share the results of this with the Leaseholder Action Group shortly

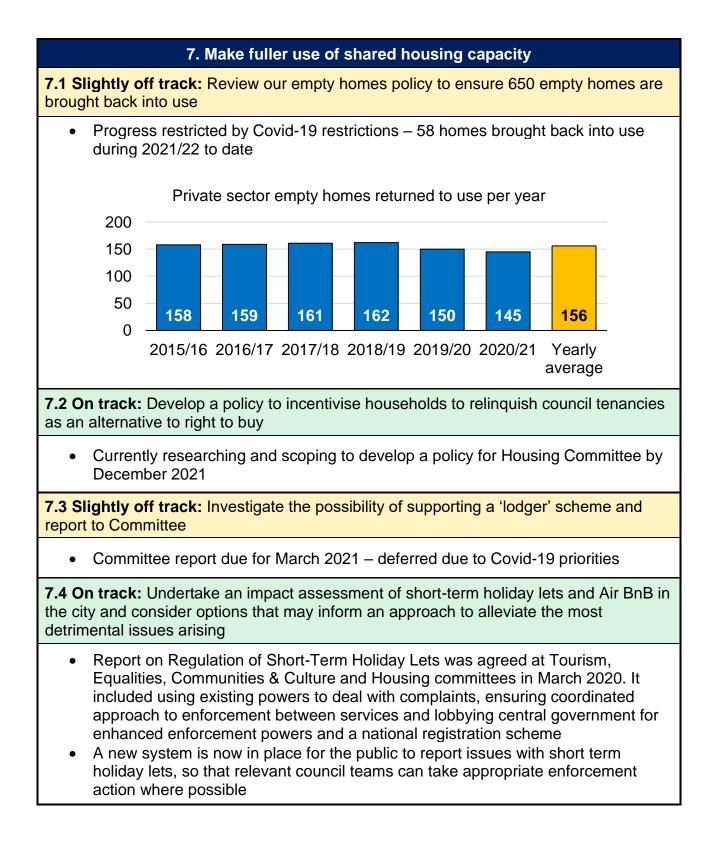
6. Enabling more affordable home ownership

6.1 On track: Work with Community Land Trust (CLT) to develop self-build opportunities

• CLT focus is on affordable rented homes which are likely to be self-build

6.2 On track: Work with Homes for Brighton & Hove and registered providers in the city to develop 500 shared ownership properties for essential workers who live and work in the city

- 721 shared ownership homes are projected for development by March 2023
- The Living Wage Joint Venture, Homes for Brighton & Hove, has started construction on its first two sites totalling 346 homes
- Homes for Brighton & Hove is becoming a delivery company, with 168 Hyde shared ownership homes and 178 rented homes (176 council and 2 Hyde) expected for completion in 2023/24



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8. Alleviating poverty

8.1 Slightly off track: Ensure the in house repairs services include measures to: provide opportunities for young people to develop skills for example through apprenticeships; maximise community benefits, including through use of local firms and labour for supply chain as well as planned and major works; and, develop pathways to employment that are inclusive in offering opportunities to all the communities we serve

- Due to the Covid-19 outbreak, the planned and major works procurement was paused as were other areas of the programme, including taking on apprentices
- Some existing apprentices were moved to empty property works so they could physically distance while working, but it has not yet been possible to recruit many additional apprentices
- However, the service is currently recruiting two electrical apprentices

8.2 Slightly off track: Review arrears policy to ensure all action is taken at the earliest stage, support given and eviction is used as a last resort

- Business Process Review of income collection, including arrears policies, has been delayed while resources have been diverted to the Covid-19 response
- Rent collection from council tenants during Q2 is to be confirmed (TBC)
- No tenants evicted during Q2

8.3 On track: Develop an arrears policy for temporary accommodation, which gives tenants the same level of support and assistance as those in permanent accommodation

 Policy is in place for long term temporary accommodation which matches that in council owned housing

Part two: Performance indicators

The council is responsible for managing 11,716 council owned homes and 2,316 leaseholder homes, as well as providing temporary accommodation for 2,012 households.

There are several indicators which are temporarily absent from this report while work is underway to develop new reporting systems following the switchover of our main housing management IT system since the start of July 2021. Once this work is complete, we intend to be able to retrospectively provide results starting from this time in future versions of this report. These indicators are as follows:

- Council housing average weeks taken to approve applications and commence works
- Rent collected from council tenants
- UC tenants in arrears who have an alternative payment arrangement
- Arrears of UC tenants as a proportion of total arrears
- Surveyed ASB victims satisfied with how their case was handled
- New ASB cases reported
- Closed ASB cases
- Average days taken to resolve ASB cases
- Active ASB cases (quarter end)
- Emergency repairs completed within 24 hours
- Routine repairs completed within 28 calendar days
- Average time to complete routine repairs (calendar days)
- Appointments kept as proportion of appointments made
- Tenants satisfied with standard of repair work
- Repairs completed at first visit.

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	Customer feedback – all Housing services	Target	Q1 2021/22	Q2 2021/22	Status against target	Trend since Q1				
9.1	Compliments received from customers	Info	73	59	n/a	n/a				
9.2	Stage one complaints responded to within 10 working days	80%	81% (83 of 102)	85% (84 of 99)	G	$\hat{\mathbf{U}}$				
9.3	Stage one complaints upheld	Info	58% (59 of 102)	46% (46 of 99)	n/a	n/a				
9.4	Stage two complaints upheld	18%	9% (1 of 11)	47% (9 of 19)	R	\bigcirc				
improv proces	There is an increased focus on how complaints are handled across the council, especially on improving the overall quality of complaint responses in the early stages of the complaints process, in order to reduce the need for cases to be escalated from stage one to stage two for further investigation.									

	Private sector housing	Target	Q1 2021/22	Q2 2021/22	Status against target	Trend since Q1			
10.1	New licences issued for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)	Info	56	147	n/a	n/a			
10.2	HMOs where all special conditions have been met (for licences issued over 12 months ago)	47%	52.38% (1,069 of 2,041)	53.05% (1,019 of 1,921)	G	$\widehat{\mathbf{U}}$			
10.3	Private sector empty homes returned to use	32	32	26	R	\bigcirc			
The Q1 figure above has increased from 28 to 32 since last reported. This is because Council Tax records have identified more homes brought back in use during this period, and there is a reporting lag between the date they were back in use and the date this could be confirmed.									

بر	Housing adaptations	Target	Q1 2021/22	Q2 2021/22	Status against target	Trend since Q1
11.1	Private housing – average weeks taken to approve Disabled Facilities Grant applications	10	23.6	21.3	R	\bigcirc

A high number of private sector clients have chosen to defer making the grant application and have works start due to Covid-19, and there have been restrictons on visits to clients' homes. Alongside remote working to progress applications, staff are reassuring clients of the health and safety measures put in place by staff and contractors, and rescheduling deferred applications.

	Housing Needs – Housing Options and allocations	Target	Q1 2021/22	Q2 2021/22	Status against target	Trend since Q1
12.1	Households prevented from becoming homeless (by council and partner agencies)	424	404	445	G	\bigcirc
12.2	New households accepted as homeless	Info	49	77	n/a	n/a
12.3	Number of households on the social housing waiting list	Info	4,800	TBC	n/a	n/a

	Housing Needs – temporary accommodation	Target	Q1 2021/22	Q2 2021/22	Status against target	Trend since Q1				
13.1	Total households in temporary accommodation (homeless and through service level agreements)	Info	2,113	2,012	n/a	n/a				
13.2	Rent collected for emergency accommodation (year to date including loss from empty homes)	89.21%	73.90% (£1.2m of £1.6m)	73.30% (£2.6m of £3.6m)	R	$\overline{\Box}$				
This indicator includes rent loss from empty emergency accommodation dwellings, which is higher than usual while people who were placed in response to Covid-19 are moved on from 'block booked' accommodation such as hotels and hostels, ahead of handing some of them back. The collection rate excluding this type of rent loss is 94.89% which is above target.										
13.3	as above but excluding rent loss from empty homes	For info	92.56% (£1.2m of £1.2m)	94.89% (£2.6m of £2.8m)	n/a	n/a				
13.4	Rent collected for leased temporary accommodation properties (year to date)	96.10%	94.57% (£1.6m of £1.6m)	87.28% (£3.3m of £3.8m)	R					
our ma	reporting system has recently been do in housing management IT system, a current financial year.									
13.5	as above but excluding rent loss from empty homes	For info	99.60% (£1.6m of £1.6m)	93.33% (£3.3m of £3.6m)	n/a	n/a				
13.6	Rent collected for Seaside Homes (year to date)	91.00%	90.31% (£1.1m of £1.3m)	90.74% (£2.6m of £2.7m)		\bigcirc				
13.7	as above but excluding rent loss from empty homes	For info	94.30% (£1.1m of £1.2m)	95.49% (£2.6m of £2.6m)	n/a	n/a				
13.8	Empty temporary accommodation homes	For info	135	115	n/a	n/a				
13.9	Seaside Homes with a valid Landlord's Gas Safety Record	100%	99.3% (423 of 426)	99.8% (425 of 426)		$\widehat{\mathbf{U}}$				
13.10	Leased properties with a valid Landlord's Gas Safety Record	For info	91.4% (571 of 625)	89.1% (554 of 622)	n/a	n/a				
leased	Canadra of Cab									

	Council housing – supply	Q1 2021/22	Q2 2021/22
14.1	Additional council homes	24	27
14.2	at Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rents	33% (8 of 24)	22% (6 of 27)
*All six	homes at LHA rates from Q2 were buy backs for use as te	mporary hous	sing
14.3	at 37.5% Living Wage rents	42% (10 of 24)	37% (10 of 27)
14.4	at 27.5% Living Wage rents	25% (6 of 24)	41% (11 of 27)
14.5	at social rents	0% (0 of 24)	0% (0 of 27)
14.6	Council homes sold through the Right to Buy	10	11
	21 homes sold during 2021/22 to date, 10 were for leaseho d (houses)	ld (flats) and	11 were for
14.7	Net change in the number of council homes – all rent levels	+14	+16
14.8	Net change in the number of council homes – social and 27.5% Living Wage rent homes only	-4	0
14.9	Total council owned homes	11,700	11,716
	tock of 11,716 includes 10,706 general needs, 877 seniors ary housing (including dwellings not yet handed over).	housing and	133

Buy backs by application date	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 to date	Total
Total applications	5	53	88	158	85	389
Of which, became purchases	2	32	53	78	7	172
Council declined	1	13	11	15	5	45
Owner declined offer	1	5	12	15	6	39
Owner withdrew	1	3	12	30	18	64
Outcome pending	0	0	0	20	49	69

14.10 Council housing – buy backs (Home Purchase and Next Steps / Housing First)

Completed buy backs by rent level	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 to date	Total
Completed purchases	1	13	43	64	51	172
general needs social rent	0	0	1	4	0	5
general needs 27.5% Living Wage	0	0	5	17	17	39
general needs 37.5% Living Wage	1	5	24	14	20	64
temporary housing at LHA rates	0	8	13	29	14	64

Summary of all buy backs since start of programmes, September 2017

Total purchases	Social rent	27.5% LWR	37.5% LWR	LHA rate	No. rent reserve applied	Total rent reserve applied	Net modelled subsidy (surplus) over all properties to date (£)
172*	5	39	64	64	26 **	£1.233m ***	£104,000

* Of which 154 are flats (4 studio, 58 one bed, 78 two bed, 14 three bed) and 18 are houses (3 two bed, 14 three bed, 1 four bed)

** Following Housing Committee decision to use rent reserve to keep rents as low as possible

*** Applied during 2019/20 – a further £827k is anticipated to be used during 2021/22

Ľ	Council housing – management	Target	Q1 2021/22	Q2 2021/22	Status against target	Trend since Q1
15.1	Tenants known to claim Universal Credit (UC)	Info	25% (2,837 of 11,292)	24% (2,717 of 11,290)	n/a	n/a
15.2	Tenants evicted due to rent arrears	Info	0	0	n/a	n/a
15.3	Tenants evicted due to anti-social behaviour (ASB)	Info	0	0	n/a	n/a
15.4	Calls answered by Housing Customer Services	85%	87% (4,573 of 5,271)	82% (5,385 of 6,596)		\bigcirc
15.5	Average call answering time (seconds) for Housing Customer Services	Info	97	ТВС	n/a	n/a
15.6	Tenancies sustained following difficulties	90%	92% (22 of 24)	97% (31 of 32)	G	\bigcirc
15.7	Average re-let time (calendar days) excluding time spent in major works	21	88 (108 lets)	66 (103 lets)	R	
let duri means time ex	ery efforts are continuing to tackle th ng Q2 had been empty for long perio that although the re-let time includir ccluding major works has decreased between November 2021 and Janu	ods of time ng major we to 66 days	with 59% und orks has incre s. Three new r	dergoing majo ased to 206 o members of s	or works. days, the taff are ex	This re-let ‹pected
15.8	Average 'key to key' empty period (calendar days) including time spent in major works	Info	122 (108 lets)	206 (103 lets)	n/a	n/a
15.9	Empty general needs and seniors council homes (includes new homes)	274	268	273	n/a	n/a
15.10	Empty council owned temporary accommodation homes (includes new homes not yet handed over)	Info	27	15	n/a	n/a

and the second s	Council housing – repairs and maintenance	Target	Q1 2021/22	Q2 2021/22	Status against target	Trend since Q1		
16.1	Calls answered by Repairs Helpdesk	85%	94% (19,144 of 20,277)	93% (19,888 of 21,410)	G	$\overline{\Box}$		
16.2	Average call answering time (seconds) for Repairs Helpdesk	Info	45	TBC	n/a	n/a		
16.3	Dwellings meeting Decent Homes Standard	100%	91.9% (10,750 of 11,700)	92.9% (10,884 of 11,716)	R	\bigcirc		
The stock condition survey identified many dwellings which did not meet the standard, and there was a lack of planned installations of new kitchens and bathrooms through 2020 due to Covid restrictions, shortages of supplies and components, and the mobilisation of new contractors. However, performance has increased since kitchen and bathroom replacements resumed under new contracts, focusing on empty homes (in order to reduce the backlog) then occupied homes.								
16.4	Energy efficiency rating of homes (out of 100)	76.8	68.0	68.1	R	\bigcirc		
A very ambitious target was set in line with performance by other local authorities (the median for our HouseMark peer group was 76.8 at the end of March 2021). A retrofit plan is being prepared for Housing Committee to show how Housing can contribute to the Carbon Neutral 2030 objective, and a programme to install solar panels on 1,000 council homes is to begin in 2022.								
16.5	Council homes with a valid Landlord's Gas Safety Record	100%	100% (10,043 of 10,043)	100% (10,017 of 10,017)	G			
16.6	Lifts restored to service within 24 hours	95%	91% (215 of 236)	91% (292 of 321)	R			
There have been delays in repairing some lifts due to aging equipment and difficulty sourcing spare parts. Aging equipment is being modernised at Seniors schemes during 2021/22 and 2022/23; and the lift contactor will investigate potential to retain a greater stock of critical spares from European supply chains.								
16.7	Lifts – average time taken (days) to restore service when not within 24 hours	7	9	12	R	$\mathbf{\nabla}$		

New performance indicators relating to planned and major works are currently being developed and will accompany future versions of these performance reports.

- ×	Leaseholder disputes	Q1 2021/22	Q2 2021/22
17.1	Stage one disputes opened	0	7
17.2	Stage one disputes closed	3	4
17.3	Active stage one disputes (end quarter)	19	22
17.4	Stage two disputes opened	3	0
17.5	Stage two disputes closed	1	0
17.6	Active stage two disputes (end quarter)	3	3
17.7	Stage three disputes opened	0	0
17.8	Stage three disputes closed	0	1
17.9	Active stage three disputes (end quarter)	2	1