

COUNCIL, 25 November 2015

REPORT OF CABINET

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PLAN – STRATEGIC OVERVIEW

Cabinet, at its meeting on 23 September considered a proposal in respect of a request seeking Members' agreement to a direction of travel that would increase the number of units of council houses built within the London Borough Havering to around 526 over the next three years. The longer term plan was to deliver over 1,000 units over the next 10 years.

The Council's Housing Needs and Demand Assessment had concluded that it would have to build 1,288 affordable homes each year over the next five years to meet the borough's total demand. Cabinet accepted that this was an unrealistic theoretical requirement but also recognised that, with increasing demand, the Council had to set itself an ambitious target for affordable housing development.

Accordingly, Havering's Affordable Housing Sub-Strategy of its Housing Strategy 2014-2017 programme outlined the Council's strategic aspirations for ensuring an ambitious increase in social housing delivery to meet housing pressures, expand its housing options and improve property standards. The Council aimed to meet its visionary statement: '*To build new, good quality homes in Havering that we know local people need and can afford*' through a fulfillment of its strategic objectives.

Cabinet accordingly refers to Council for its approval the requested increase in the Capital Budget set out in the appended report.

Recommendation: That Council approves the requested increase in the Capital Budget set out in the appended Cabinet report.