**Present**: Sharon Williams, Chair & Ashford BC; Tracy Allison, Vice Chair & WKHA; Rebecca Smith, KHG; Kerry Newbury, Optivo & KHG Events; Mark Breathwick, Medway Council; Mel Anthony, Jeanette Young & Tim Woolmer, KCC; Brian Horton, SELEP; Rebecca Smith, KHG; Simon Thomas, KCPOG; Helen Miller (KHG PM Successor); Jane Lang, TWBC;

**Apologies:** Clare Maynard, KCC; Tamara Robertson, MHS Homes; Christy Holden, KCC;

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|  |  | **By** | **Who**  | **Action/Decision** |
| **Matters Arising Full KHG & EXB May 2021** | JL has met with Andrew from KCC regarding Safeguarding, asked JL to join Adult Safeguarding Board (Housing representative) JL asked colleagues if anything to relay? Colleagues to share with JL as issues come forward to feed into the Board. JL to provide a safeguarding feedback at KHG EXB as required. MB raised a common theme of access to services to keep people safe, raising this an issue to raise awareness suggested. MA advised that circulating the learning and hosting themed events from the learning to share amongst the networks to work on prevention angle. To add Safeguarding feedback as a standing item to the KHG EXB agenda.Nick Murphy is Mike Whiting replacement and is aware of KHG; BH suggested an approach from SW as Chair (and CC BH) to introduce KHG. He is also Housing Portfolio Holder at Dover DC.White Paper Event for KHG – work to continue on this.YP leaving care – MB has contacted Kim Davis at MHCLG and will chase with regards to an event.William Campbell-Wroe is attending KHOG in June, ST to attend KHG in July. |  | **JL****KN** | **JL to keep liaison bet KHG and KMASGB & to feedback comments from MB and MA****To consider as joint event for late 2021 (KHG Events Group)****KN to note for KHG Events Agenda** |
| **KHG Budget** | The Budget Sheet and Paper was shared in advance of the meeting, with all actions highlighted in yellow on the paper. RS talked through the income and expenditure with regards to subscriptions and KHG Events. Not a huge update since the last budget sheet shared in May 2021. RS to liaise with ABC about the costing for hours spent on KHG since moving roles in May.Reinforced the necessity to continue the relationship with Kent Public Health, especially in respect of the financial contribution for the part time post for the HHSC SG. TW stressed that KHG should be sharing the success of the HHSC SG to reflect the outcomes and links to the funding received. SW suggested a mentor from KHG EXB or all colleagues to support this group as pivotal to the funding. MA attended the group recently, smoke free tenancies is one of the priorities set by Kent Public Health through the group, MA happy to liaise with AD and set the context. SW happy to participate in a call with AD and MA, invite ST and bring priorities that can be achieved through this group. TA has met with Cathy McCarthy, as Chair of HHSC SG, raising linkages with the KMHS and priorities from Kent PH.To add to feedback from HHSC SG as a standing item on the KHG EXB agenda – MA to feedback as attends the meeting.ST advised that it could be possible to widen the remit of the group, how engage with health authority about future development and shaping this, with regards to health and wellbeing/climate. Raising awareness around this issue, BH suggested creating a dotted line between this sub group and the Planning Policy group would be beneficial.  | **ASAP****ASAP****ASAP****As approp** | **RS****MA/AD****RS/MA****ST** | **RS to liaise with accounts at ABC****MA to set up call with AD and SW (to invite Cathy McCarthy/Sarah Tickner) – once priorities are agreed from Housing perspective through a pre meet.****RS and MA to note for the agenda****ST to contact Cathy McCarthy about links between groups** |
| **KHG Recruitment & new HA Reps** | HM is the new KHG Partnership Manager, is attending the meeting as part of the induction, colleagues introduced themselves and their role within KHG. Currently waiting for Maidstone BC to make a decision on hosting on the role for HM, to update as soon as more news comes forward.Three HA’s have nominated themselves for the HA seat on the KHG EXB, HA colleagues have been asked to vote by week commencing 21st June.  | **ASAP** | **RS** | **RS to feedback on the outcome of the vote when available** |
| **Agenda Plan for July 2021** | MA would like to talk about the recommissioning of Kent Homeless Connect and DA Act gaining royal ascent – setting out the changes and impacts on commissioning. First Homes – increasing tenure on the future agenda, as Homes England to provide a speaker for this.Phosphates and Nitrates – predominately East Kent and the stall on development in these areas is a good update, a double act with ST and NF.SW suggested a theme for September main KHG meeting is the White Paper. Is there an identified lead Regulator for Kent? Is there someone who could speak at the September meeting to focus on the changes coming with the White Paper and Regulation?TA to contact the CEX of the Regulator Fiona McGregor to see if she would attend or send a representative. JL agrees about the White Paper, CIH Professional Standards that broadly echo the standards in the Charter and how a Housing Professional should conduct themselves. TW advised membership with LGIU – supporting KCC on work streams, could offer to speak to KHG or part of a discussion, to feedback on their intelligence from around the country. TA has a contact for the CEX of the consultancy arm for Cipfa and guiding LA’s on getting ready for consumer regulation – TA to approach to be part of an event on the White Paper. |  |  | **MA to liaise with RS about speakers****RS to ask for a speaker (via Tim)****RS to liaise with ST and NF****TA to contact Fiona McGregor and feedback to RS. RS to find contact for CIH****TA to contact and feedback to RS** |
| **KCC Housing Unit Update** | TW advised that the Housing Unit stalled slightly due to the elections, last progress update to TW from another KCC colleague was April. Derek Murphy, replacing Mike Whiting, was part of the KCC Affordable Housing Select Committee, which is good background for the unit and taking it forward. NF and BH reminded Derek Murphy about the importance on the Housing Unit when they met last week. |  |  |  |
| **SELEP Update** | Engagement with MHCLG and Homes England. BH shared a copy of the letter sent to Chris Pincher on 1st June; state of the market (price inflation for materials and labour) will affect productivity and completions. The Governments view is that this is a temporary position but recognise the impacts currently. Buoyant markets in areas of high demand following the impact of Covid. Also Spoke about Build Out, Phosphate and Nitrates and First Homes (15,000 in the pilot then £10,000 + per year is the expectation around First Homes).  |  |  |  |
| **Medway Update** | Formal launch of City of Culture for Medway, from a corporate perspective, Housing supporting this programme, MUGA’s and play area designs, working with local communities, engaging with hard to reach residents. DA Commissioning a reasonable pot of money to commission in line with new duties, making sure commissioning can absorb new pressures on the HOT. Big gap is accommodation is for those in Medway who want accommodating in Medway having fled DA. First Homes, presentation from Dave Harris (Head of Planning at Medway) and the impact for Medway. |  |  |  |
| **Commissioning Update** | Recommissioning of Kent Homeless Connect Service, with opportunities to participate in the review, the Steering Group role is critical and making engagement meaningful. The contract expires in 2022, using a Governance timetable to get this commissioning completed on time. The new monies £3.1m in Kent, looking at how to move investment to look at additional to services/support, how to expand Sanctuary, One Stop Shop and keep people safe at home.Thanks to KN for work on the Extra Care Housing event with KHG with good interest in this event following the Hold the Date email shared by RS yesterday.The Wellbeing Offer is working at Pace, there are three providers appointed currently with some outstanding to award to. How managing the market post Covid. Shift around how to move to locality working moving forward. |  |  |  |
| **Kent Homechoice Update** | JL advised that Vicky Hodson is working on the differing elements of the role, the annual KHC Project Board meeting next week (22/6). A report has been produced for over the last year including – enhancements around the size of documents to be loaded to the system (bigger capacity); recent changes to eligibility for British Nationals from Hong Kong so changes to reflect this underway; housing register applications. There are currently 26,945 on the register, an increase over this year of 15.3% in new applications on the register, 4,592 homes let over the last year, backlog of housing register processing with over 5,000 waiting to be put on the register (more applying and additional pressures on the teams). The partnership agreement has a few outstanding signatories. Will be asking the Board about retendering the contract from next year. JL to liaise with VH about approaches for new members, such as Legal and General, who are a registered provider.SW raised whether issues around context and demand out weighing supply and the need for rented accommodation and are sitting on housing registers should be shared with Chris Pincher? What is the demand for particular types of accommodation? Currently in Ashford, there is a demand for housing with larger homes that cater for disabilities. How can we understand the demand pictures across Kent and the length of wait, this could enable a conversation to tackle the pressure areas. MB suggested proactive work about expectations and aspirations for those on the housing registers. SW suggested an issue for the Housing Unit moving forward – links to Social Care and Health and Wellbeing. TA raised understanding the nominations policy for developments and make better use of the housing stock available – using the information available through KHC to inform these decisions. ST advised this information could aid the debate from the planning perspective, in the context of First Homes, which is likely to reduce the availability of other forms of tenure. Discussion about One Public Estate and inviting Rebecca Spore to an event or meeting. The Housing Unit will likely be one full time post, have to be aware of this in terms of expectation. Also linking this to the Infrastructure Proposition that is being developed, which is going back to Kent Leaders today. JL advised that there is an automated message that goes to applicants, an a Behavioural Insights letter that is being used by 4 authorities to manage expectations and happy to revisit sharing this more widely again. Call for Evidence about Allocations – the outcome to be announced soon by Government – could feed into this work further.TWBC had a press enquiry earlier in the week, FOI request on waiting times that has been published on social media and the backlog noticed too, so good timing. | **As Approp****Next Events Meeting** | **JL****KN/****BH** | **JL to share copy of annual report for circulation with the EXB when ready****Agreed to take to the Events Group for discussion about how to form an event on this agenda, with a clear ask on the data sets required, from KHC and/or BIU at KCC, working with JL** |
| **KHG Events** | Asset Management Event on the 30th June with over 25 attending. Hold the date shared yesterday for the EC Housing event in September; also, Strategic Partnership Event is taking place in October. KN has a new role within Optivo so will stand down from the role of KHG Events Chair. RS and HM to put out a request to the membership about this opportunity and encourage colleagues to come forward. KN happy to ask her replacement if there is no interest from the wider membership. To include indication of the time commitment and support from the Partnership Manager. BH suggested reaching out to the existing Events colleagues as well.White Paper session to be scoped out, Diversity and Inclusion is another session to follow up on the initial request to Housing Diversity Network.Housing Planning and Development event – needs scoping and sharing with a date to be agreedThe LIFT event took place in May and the Shared Ownership event has been postponed. 71% scored 9/10 for how it was organised, with some feedback for events group to consider. Over 70% gave a 9/10 for the overall event and how to plan. 12 people requesting in person, 7 responded easier virtually, with lots of positive feedback about the event.  | **ASAP****ASP** | **RS****KN** | **RS to share request on behalf of HM and the EXB for a new Chair or member of events group** **KN to share summary of the feedback from the Awards Survey** |
| **AOB** | Will need to decide about virtual meeting or meeting up in person moving forward. Agreed to decide at the next meeting for what the meeting should look like. SW proposed to maintain a virtual approach, especially for the wider meeting where attendance has been so high since moving virtual. How we can use the Events to bring the members together in person.  |  | **ALL** | **To add to the July KHG EXB agenda** |