Kent Home choice Operational Group

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| **Date of update; 29 Sept 2023** |
| Ref |  | General Contribution | Action this period |
| **Theme Health and wellbeing – none identified for this group** |
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| HW7 | Inform and influence countywide strategies that impact upon housing support and care provision for all vulnerable clients groups, children, young people, adults and the ageing population | Relating to current or aspiring social housing tenants and providers |  |
| HW8 | Continue established countywide approach and partnership working to reduce and prevent homelessness | Relating to current or aspiring social housing tenants and providers | New partner Westree Road Housing has joined the Kent Homechoice partnership.Commenced work to support development of local nominations agreements and possibly a Kent wide SLA agreement between Councils and RPs. |
| **Theme Working together for safer homes** |
| SH6 | Promote and facilitate the sharing of information about services that can be offered to residents to support the countywide and individual health and wellbeing agendas | Relating to current or aspiring social housing tenants and providers | Promotion of Pre Tenancy Training Videos |
| **Theme Infrastructure First -**  |
| IF3 | Consider, respond and implement recommendations from Government reviews that promote a positive change in approach and outcome, e.g. Letwin Review | Relating to current or aspiring social housing tenants and providers |  |
| **Theme Accelerating Housing Delivery- possibly no actions for this group** |
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| **Theme Affordability -** |
| A2 | Explore what housing tenure and type/products are appropriate to meet diverse housing need, and how support can be provided to successfully sustain a tenancy | Relating to current or aspiring social housing tenants and providers | Kent Homechoice website updated with new affordable home ownership schemes |
| A6 | Support the County Council to determine and shape the market about future provision of accommodation care and support for social care client groups | Relating to current or aspiring social housing tenants and providers | New system will be able to provide improved information to support the County Council when requested |
| A7 | Understand and influence the development of affordable housing that is flexible to meet changing needs, including meeting the needs of those with physical disability | Relating to current or aspiring social housing tenants and providers |  |
| A8 | Challenge the stigma associated with regards to social or affordable housing |  |  |
| A9 | Continued commitment and support for Kent Homechoice, working to ensure choice and transparency with regards to access to affordable and social housing across Kent and Medway |  | The implementation of the new system has provided greater transparency to the customer in terms of accessing available homes. |
| **Other important matters since last update;****Other important matters since last update;**The new system went live on 1st July 2023. Initial transitional issues have been resolved and are continuing to be reviewed. Partners have worked together to produce a list of outstanding issues which Huume are fixing or adding to their development road map where this is possible.The Closed case system for closed HPA cases is operational **Historic Data**A contract has been put in place with Encompass who are a LATC of Sutton Council who will provide Kent (not Medway or Gravesham) with a historic housing data viewer system.They have been provided with a copy of the data and work has begun on this.**Lettings**There appear to be some challenges in managing lettings across Kent. Some of these issues have been resolved by reconfiguring dashboards to ensure that the correct information shows. However we have in excess of 200 properties waiting to be shortlisted.

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