Private Sector Group

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| **Date of update; January 2023** |
| Ref |  | General Contribution | Action this period |
| **Theme Health and wellbeing –**  |
| HW4 | Share, enhance and promote the successful Hospital Discharge Schemes to enable all residents of Kent and Medway to benefit from this service |  | As per previous update, all local authorities now provide a Hospital Discharge Scheme, with the majority being provided through the HIA. Maidstone and Swale provide their own schemes. All schemes are running successfully and are likely to continue for the foreseeable future.  |
| HW5 | Promote and support the objectives of the Kent Fuel Poverty Strategy and the Kent Environment Strategy |  | The Fuel Poverty Strategy is still under review with various groups given specific tasks on updating/refreshing existing sections. Officer co-ordinating this work is no longer in post so work required on who will lead this taskAudit on how each LA is approaching retrofit with current funding opportunities has been undertaken  |
| HW9 | Ensure housing is resilient to the future changes in climate to give the best possible health outcomes and prevent overheating | For private homes | Councils are working in partnership on Solar Together, a group buying scheme for solar panels and battery storage. Phase 2 is currently being delivered and discussions have commenced around delivering Phase 3 in 2023.  |
| **Theme Working together for safer homes** |
| SH1 | Anticipate, influence and shape implementation of new legislation and regulatory regime to improve the quality and safety of homes across the public and private sectors | For private homes | Survey responses provided to DLUHC on housing standards in the private rented sector. Govt announced review of guidance on health effects of damp and mould in homes to be published in Spring 2023 |
| SH2 | Develop an even closer relationship with Kent Fire & Rescue around prioritising fire safety in all tenures, housing new and old, planning and infrastructure, prioritising any emerging legislation and regulation as a result of Grenfell | For private homes | Strong partnerships developed across all authorities with KFRS. Govt Tower casework team in regular contact with PSH and Planning to ensure resident safety in higher risk buildings and to obtain updates on any properties identified with unsafe cladding |
| SH3 | Share and learn from best practice locally, regionally and nationally to implement positive change to how homes are maintained | For private homes | KHG PSH meeting held in December 2022, items covered were Good Homes Survey, review of housing literature, introduction to Strategic Domestic Retrofit Group, and roundtable discussion on addressing damp and mould and the DLUHC letters requiring information National CIEH HMO catch up attended by various officers in January 2023.  |
| SH4 | Strengthen the partnership working to include how Kent Housing Group respond collectively to local or national consultations that will impact upon the safety and well-being of Kent and Medway residents |  | Covered in SH1 and SH3, nothing further to add |
| SH5 | Explore and learn about how new technology or approach can positively impact upon the delivery of new homes and enhance the condition of existing stock | For existing private sector homes | Sustainable Warmth Funding programme ends in March 2023, and there is the potential to use new technology to improve energy efficiency within homes e.g. air and ground source heat pumps. The final outcomes of this scheme and number of measures installed is awaited.  |
| **Theme Infrastructure First - possibly no actions for this sub group** |
| **Theme Accelerating Housing Delivery- possibly no actions for this sub group** |
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| **Theme Affordability - possibly no actions for this sub group** |
| A3 | Promote investment into the private rented sector, to raise the standard and profile of accommodation in this sector, ensuring it is an attractive for those in housing need |  | Nothing to add |
| **Other important matters since last update including any cross sub-group working;** |