HOUSING & NEW HOMES COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 13

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Annual Report 2017

Date of Meeting: 14 June 2017

Report of: Executive Director Neighbourhoods, Communities &

Housing

Contact Officer: Name: Ododo Dafe Tel: 01273 293201

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Ward(s) affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The Annual Report has been provided to council tenants and leaseholders since 2010. The regulatory framework for social housing in England from the Homes and Communities Agency sets out the requirements for the areas that must be covered in the report, these include:
 - Information on the repairs and maintenance budget
 - Timely and relevant information
 - Support for tenants to build capacity and be more effectively involved

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

2.1 That the Housing & New Homes Committee approves the draft Annual Report 2017 to council tenants and leaseholders (attached as Appendix 1). The report will be sent to all residents with the summer edition of Homing In and will also be available to view on the council's website.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The annual report contains key performance and other information for the financial year 2016/17 along with illustrative quotes from residents.
- 3.2 The presentation and appearance is very similar to last years report. Information for each service area is presented under the three headings 'What we have achieved', 'How your feedback makes a difference', and 'Next we will be'.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

4.1 An easy to view video will also be produced to provide residents with an alternative way of accessing the annual report that may suit their needs better.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The draft annual report was discussed at the Special Area Panel Meeting on 25 May. The draft report was well received and there were no suggested amendments.
- 5.2 The draft design copy of the annual report was discussed at the Homing In Editorial Board meeting on 30 May. The final draft has been amended to reflect the suggestions from this group.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 Residents' comments, as detailed in section 5, have been incorporated into the final draft.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

7.1 The cost of printing and sending out the annual report is estimated to be £900. This will be met from the 2017/18 Housing Revenue Account budget for resident involvement. The video will be made in-house by the Policy and Performance Team and the majority of the cost will relate to staff time. All costs will be met from current resources.

Finance Officer Consulted: Monica Brooks Date: 18/5/2017

Legal Implications:

7.2 The Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 established the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA). Acting as the regulator of social housing, the HCA can set standards in relation to consulting with tenants and leaseholders and providing them with information. The Tenant Involvement and Empowerment Standard requires an annual report. The Annual Report 2017 satisfies that requirement.

Lawyer Consulted: Name Liz Woodley Date: 04/05/17

Equalities Implications:

7.3 There are no specific equalities implications arising from the annual report. However, in providing the services outlined in the report due regard has been paid to provisions under the Equality Act to ensure that tenant's diverse needs are met; for example through building wheelchair accessible homes, undertaking deaf awareness training and adaptations to existing properties.

Sustainability Implications:

7.4 There are no specific sustainability implications arising from the annual report. However, the report makes reference to work being done or planned, to increase sustainability. This includes SHINE, the sustainable houses in an inclusive

neighbourhood project, tackling carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions and helping tenants to reduce their fuel costs.

Any Other Significant Implications:

7.5 None identified.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Draft Annual Report 2017

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

Crime & Disorder Implications:

1.1 No specific crime and disorder implications have been identified from the annual report. However, Housing will continue to work closely with colleagues in the Corporate Fraud Team to tackle tenancy fraud. We will also be continuing with our commitment to make best use of legal powers available to us to reduce antisocial and criminal behaviour and protect our communities.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

1.2 There are no risk and opportunity management implications arising from the annual report.

Public Health Implications:

1.3 Good housing promotes higher levels of health and wellbeing. The report gives illustrations of this, for example, Brooke Mead extra care scheme for people with low to moderate dementia helping to enable independent living for longer.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

1.4 The council's corporate plan 2015-19 sets out the vision and aims for housing in the city. This includes: investment in new and existing council housing; support for residents to live independently and improve health and well being, providing decent homes, repaired to a good standard and to increase energy efficiency. Our progress and plans for the year ahead to achieve these aims are outlined within the report.