

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

23 January 2020

COUNCILLOR ADRIAN LAWRENCE - CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING

For the period 28 November 2019 to 13 January 2020

Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy

The Council has a statutory duty to produce a homelessness strategy setting out the issues it faces locally and what it is doing to prevent homelessness. A draft strategy was produced in late 2019. It has a 5 year life span although the action plan contained within the strategy will be reviewed annually. The draft strategy was presented to the Environment and Community Panel on the 15th October 2019 – The Panel supported the draft Strategy.

The draft was then further consulted on with key stakeholders on 11th of December 2019. The event was well attended with over 50 attendees and overall feedback was very positive. The purpose of the event was to hear the views of partners on the priorities identified in the draft strategy and obtain their input on how we might deliver our objectives over the next five years. Of particular interest to the Council was their thoughts on our Action Plan contained within the Strategy.

The half day event not only provided a presentation on the strategy and gathered feedback but also allowed officers to update partners on some changes in our teams and services provided, as well as reflection on the last 12 months.

We obtained valuable feedback some of which will be incorporated into the Action Plan as we move forward.

The Strategy was adopted by Cabinet on 7th Jan 2020 along with that the role of the Environment and Community Panel group - Homelessness and Housing Supply Task Group in overseeing the delivery of the Action Plan being endorsed.

Custom & Self-Build Award

The Council scooped the Best Council for Self or Custom Build Award in December 2019.

This is fantastic news and I am really pleased, I will let my dear friend Cllr Richard Blunt fill you in on the details

King's Lynn and West Norfolk – Housing Needs Assessment

Work to finalise the Housing Needs Assessment is progressing well (formerly Strategic Housing Market Assessment) with a final draft expected by early February. A number of briefings are currently being planned and further consultation will take place as part of the Local Plan Review work. Emerging information from the draft was presented at a pre-Council briefing in December 2019. Information contained within the housing needs assessment should inform The Council's strategic policies

Meetings Attended

Full Council
Meetings with Officers
Cabinet