

Subject: Strategy to Reduce TA and Empty Homes: Update
Cabinet Member: Cllr George Savva
Director: Joanne Drew

Purpose of Report

1. For information and discussion

Relevance to the Council Plan

2. Good homes in well-connected neighbourhoods:
 - a. Build more and better homes for local residents
 - b. Deliver new homes and regeneration programmes with our residents

Background

3. Following discussion at November Scrutiny meeting regarding reconsidering modular supply as a potential partial solution to increasing homelessness, the paper gives an overview of other schemes and issues for LBE in consideration of the possibility.
4. The paper also summarises the increasing homelessness pressures across London.
5. We also report back on the progress of the Empty Homes Strategy – another supply initiative to reduce homelessness demand.

Main Considerations for the Panel

6. *Key challenges include:*
 - a. *Significant reductions in PRS supply*
 - b. *Increases in homelessness demand*
 - c. *Continuing development cost challenges*
7. *Key opportunities include:*
 - a. *Potential to learn from other councils' work bringing forward modular homes*
 - b. *Opportunities to utilise vacant land*
 - c. *Opportunity to continue reducing numbers of empty homes in the borough*

Conclusions

8. While the situation in terms of PRS supply is immensely difficult, the council can and is deploying innovative solutions to bring forward suitable and affordable homes for residents

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Date of report 8 March 2023