

Consultation Process and outcomes

Strategy for Housing and Prevention of Homelessness and Rough Sleeping

The draft strategy was presented on the Council website between 12 January 2024 until 5 February 2024 for public comments. A copy of the draft strategy was sent to all elected members, key council officers, all Registered Provider partners, contacts in the local specialist voluntary sector and to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

The consultative process was pushed through several Council social media channels including Facebook and X (formerly Twitter) and shared on the Council's website.

To support respondents in the completion of the consultation, a set of questions were provided, these were:

1. Are there any priorities that you think are important that have not been included under any of the themes?
2. Are the objectives right and do they respond to the relevant priority effectively?
3. Do you think the actions we propose under each priority are the right ones? Is there anything else we should do?
4. Please tell us how you and your organisation could be engaged to help us address the priorities and fulfil the objectives of the Strategy.

In addition to the draft strategy, an evidence base document containing supporting statistics was also available online to consultees.

Outline of the responses received

Responses were received from a number of organisations and individuals. In keeping with accepted practice, we will not identify the respondents.

Overall, the Strategy has been very well received and this came through clearly from responses received during the consultation period from partners and key stakeholders.

Below noted are the comments received from Registered Providers (Housing Associations) and partner organisation:

- The Strategy is comprehensive and sets out the key data on the district and current operating environment.

- We are supportive of the overall approach and aspirations and will continue to work in partnership with Harborough District Council and other partners.
- I do not feel that there is any priority that has been omitted, that the objectives are right and proposed actions are appropriate. Everything reflects the nature of the district and is supported by an evidence base.
- A really robust Strategy, and we are happy to support its aims.

Resulting actions

Following the consultation some minor amendments were made to the Strategy these are noted below:

- Clarifying that 'the Kibworths' comprise both Kibworth Beauchamp and Kibworth Harcourt.
- In the introduction there was an amendment to take into account the current local plan consultation as follows.

The Harborough Local Plan 2011-2031 sets a target for additional homes across all tenures of 557 new dwellings per year. A new Local Plan is currently being prepared and is expected to be adopted during the lifetime of this strategy