

# Briefing Note

## REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

25 June 2020

### UPDATE ON THE COMMUNITY LED REGENERATION AND ESTATE RENEWAL STRATEGY CONSULTATION RESPONSES

#### Background

The consultation on the draft Community Led Regeneration and Estate Renewal Strategy commenced on 27 January for a period of 12 weeks. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, several engagement sessions with parish councils, residents' associations and resident steering groups had to be cancelled and so the decision was taken to extend the consultation to 30 June, to allow people more time to consider the draft strategy and respond.

#### Responses So Far

To date, 120 responses have been received. Respondents are a mixture of residents, businesses, partnerships, town and parish councils, and residents' associations. Detailed analysis of the responses has not yet taken place due to the consultation still being open and staff within the housing strategy team being redeployed to support front line services.

So far, the majority of responses (88%) are in support of the new approach and priorities, although 72% feel that the strategy is missing something significant.

#### Overview of Survey Results

The consultation asks three key questions and the tables below set out the results so far:

Do you agree with the new approach to regeneration?	Yes	No	NA
Number	105	15	0
Percentage	88%	12%	0

For those not in agreement with the new approach, key themes are:

- The importance of getting communication and engagement right;
- Ensuring the right infrastructure is in place;
- Consideration of the environment;
- Ensuring we learn from past experiences

Do you agree that the four priorities are the right ones?	Yes	No	NA
Number	105	14	1
Percentage	88	12	0

There are no consistent themes yet coming through from those not in agreement with the four priorities.

Do you feel the strategy is missing anything significant?	Yes	No	NA
Number	86	34	0
Percentage	72%	28%	0

For those who feel that something significant is missing, key themes are:

- The environmental impact of estate renewal;
- Detail about houses: mix, type, tenure, affordability;
- Infrastructure;
- Communication and engagement of others affected by changes e.g. homeowners and the Private Rented Sector.

In addition to the responses outlined above, we have received feedback from a number of town and parish councils through some face to face engagement events held before the government restrictions were put in place. They generally welcome the new approach and are keen to be involved as they know their communities well and have the resources to help. Their main concern is, if regeneration is to be genuinely community led, how we decide who speaks for the community and what happens if those groups don't represent the majority. Also, where there is a conflict between what the community wants and what resources are available, how this will be managed.

### Next Steps

Once the consultation closes on 30 June, we will carefully analyse all responses and reshape the strategy in line with the results. It is anticipated that a revised strategy will be presented to Cabinet for approval in October 2020. We will provide a more detailed report of the consultation findings to the Regeneration Scrutiny Committee in September.

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