



<b>HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM No: 2.1</b>
<b>22 JUNE 2020</b>	<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>

## **£70M CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAMME UPDATE**

### **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1. This report provides an update on the £70 million Affordable Housing Programme being led by Cambridge City Council as part of the Devolution Deal for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
- 1.2. The update is based on the report 'Update on the Programme to Build New Council Homes Funded through the Combined Authority' most recently presented to Cambridge City Council Housing Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.3. Cambridge City Council provides performance updates to the Combined Authority on its housing programme and the next is proposed to be in September 2020.

<b><u>DECISION REQUIRED</u></b>	
<b>Lead Member:</b>	<b>Councillor Chris Boden, Portfolio Holder Housing and Chair of Housing and Communities Committee</b>
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	<b>Roger Thompson, Director Housing and Development</b>
<b>Forward Plan Ref: n/a</b>	<b>Key Decision: No</b>
The Housing and Communities Committee is recommended to:  (a) Note the report on spend and outputs for the £70 million Affordable Housing Programme, and the next report will be provided in September 2020.	<b>Voting arrangements</b>  A simple majority of all members.

## **2.0 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1. The Affordable Housing Programmes for both the Combined Authority and City Council run for five years from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2022.
- 2.2. The Combined Authority is the Accountable Body for the Devolution Deal and all funding that comes from Government as a result. Cambridge City Council makes claims against expenditure incurred within its programme to the Authority on a quarterly basis and provides performance updates on the same frequency.

## **3.0 CURRENT REPORTING POSITION & PROGRAMME PROGRESS**

- 3.1. Due to the Covid -19 pandemic, all construction work was halted for a period at the end of March. At the time of writing all sites have now recommenced work however handover delays are anticipated as a result of work stopping and a slower pace of building to meet social distancing on site. Work on schemes at pre-contract stage progressed as much as possible in this period.
- 3.2. Cambridge City Council have advised that they will continue to provide update reports on progress against the £70m programme. These are issued to the Combined Authority once they have been through the City Councils scrutiny process. Due to the timings of the respective meetings the latest position reported on the Cambridge City programme may not always align with the CPCA Housing & Communities meeting, so the most recent report will be presented. The June report can be found at appendix 1.
- 3.3. Cambridge City Council has made claims to the Combined Authority under this programme to end Q4 2019/20 totalling £29,477,659 to date.
- 3.4. MHCLG paid £17 million of the Devolution funding directly to the City Council in March 2020. The City Council will continue to report to the Combined Authority and future payment drawdown arrangements have been agreed until the £17m is used.
- 3.5. 323 units have Started on Site with 46 Units Completed across four sites.

## **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1. There are no financial implications other than those set out in the body of the report.

## 5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. The obligations within the devolution deal require the Combined Authority to ensure the funds are spent in line with its Assurance, Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks.
- 5.2. The Combined Authority has authority under section 1 Localism Act 2011 to exercise a general power of competence. The Combined Authority can exercise this power by virtue of Part 4, Article 11 of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017 (SI 2017/251). This power permits the Combined Authority to make grants to providers in order to deliver the terms of the Devolution Deal signed with Government.
- 5.3 The meeting shall be conducted in accordance with Parts 2 and 3 of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus)(Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings)(England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

<b><u>Source Documents</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>
Cambridge City Council Housing Scrutiny Committee 23 June 2020 (Item 11)	<a href="https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/">https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/</a>
DCLG Approved Business Case	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, Alconbury Enterprise Campus, Alconbury Weald, Huntingdon PE28 4XA
Devolution Deal 2016	
Assurance Framework	
Monitoring and Evaluation Framework	<a href="http://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/">http://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/</a>