

Report of the Executive Manager – Neighbourhoods

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. This report will provide Members an opportunity to review the partnership with Metropolitan, the main housing provider in Rushcliffe.
- 1.2. Metropolitan representatives will provide a presentation to Members on performance during 2017/18 across key services and outline future plans and initiatives.
- 1.3. Members are requested to comment on performance to date and any areas where the partnership could be strengthened to achieve joint priorities.
- 1.4. The partnership with Metropolitan was last scrutinised in October 2017. At the meeting it was agreed that the work of the partnership with Metropolitan be endorsed.

2. Recommendation

It is **RECOMMENDED** that Members consider and make comments on the presentation made by Metropolitan and endorse the work of the partnership.

Reasons for Recommendation

- 2.1. Metropolitan is the main provider of social housing within the Rushcliffe area, with just over 3,500 properties and is an important partner to the Council. The partnership is well established and has continued to assist the Council in meeting its corporate priorities. Highlights, and activities in the last year include:
 - Enabling the development of new affordable homes, including a review of garage sites to deliver a second re-development programme which will deliver 23 units of affordable housing across 6 sites in the borough during 2018-19.
 - Innovative work on the Cotgrave town centre regeneration project
 - Participation in the Choice Based Lettings Scheme ensuring this remain one of the Council's main homelessness prevention tools
 - Wider partnership working with Nottingham City and Nottingham Refuge Forum to support the Government's Syrian Vulnerable Persons

Relocation Scheme, including the resettlement of 5 families (23 individuals) to date and ongoing work to meet the national target pledge

- Attendance at joint partnership meetings to tackle anti-social behaviour
- Participation in community projects and initiatives, including 'Metroployment' to help people get back to work and 'Recovered' a social enterprise in Nottingham to offer affordable reconditioned furniture
- Successful partnership working over the applicability of the Voluntary Right to Buy Scheme in the borough to address the continued demand for affordable rented housing.

3. Supporting Information

- 3.1. Members were asked to submit questions for discussion with Metropolitan. In addition to their presentation to Members, Metropolitan representatives will take questions on the above areas and any other matters as requested.

4. Risks and Uncertainties

- 4.1. Registered Providers eligibility criteria may result in an increasing number of applicants on the waiting list (including applicants threatened with/or homeless) having restricted access to social rented housing due to previous failed tenancies and/or rent arrears. Limited access to floating support services and increasing affordability issues in the private rented sector will further limit the rehousing options available to these individuals which may result in higher temporary accommodation costs where the Council has a statutory duty to rehouse.

5. Implications

5.1. Financial Implications

- 5.1.1. The current programme (£1,146,000,000 for 2018/19) is for the delivery of affordable housing with Metropolitan and Waterloo Housing and includes a second programme of garage sites developments and the continuation of the rural exceptions site programme.

5.2. Legal Implications

- 5.2.1. None.

5.3. Equalities Implications

- 5.3.1. None.

5.4. **Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Implications**

5.4.1. The Partnership Agreement aims to assist in developing a more strategic approach to delivering against our Section 17 obligations and help in the reduction of crime and anti-social behaviour.

5.5. **Other implications**

5.5.1. None.

6. **Link to Corporate Priorities**

- **Delivering economic growth to ensure a sustainable, prosperous and thriving local economy** – Effective partnership working to increase the supply of affordable housing will meet a range of needs across the borough which in turn will generate economic growth and deliver other significant benefits (New Homes Bonus).
- **Maintaining and enhancing our residents' quality of life** - Strong partnership working will enable residents to have safer, healthier and live longer lives in which they are able to fulfil their aspirations. The continued supply of affordable housing will reduce the instability caused to families and communities by preventing homelessness

7. **Recommendations**

It is RECOMMENDED Members consider and make comments on the presentation made by Metropolitan and endorse the work of the partnership.

For more information contact:	Dave Banks Executive Manager – Neighbourhoods 0115 914 438 dbanks@rushcliffe.gov.uk
Background papers available for Inspection:	None.
List of appendices:	None.