
TITLE OF REPORT: **Review of the Role of Housing in Improving Health and Wellbeing – First Evidence Gathering Session**

REPORT OF: **Alice Wiseman, Director of Public Health**

Summary

This report gives details of the evidence gathering session that will take place on 1st November 2016 and outlines the framework for future sessions. The views of the Committee are being sought on the evidence presented and the future plans outlined.

Background

1. Care, Health & Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed that the focus of its review in 2016-17 will be the role of housing in improving health and wellbeing.

Purpose of this session

2. This is the first in a series of evidence gathering sessions being undertaken for this review. The purpose of this session is to examine the role of the supply of housing in Gateshead in terms of issues regarding:
 - the current supply of housing, with a particular focus on stock managed by The Gateshead Housing Company, and
 - anticipating the demand for and supply of housing in the future.

The aim is to highlight particular issues regarding the supply of housing that are relevant to health and wellbeing, and activity that will address these issues in both the existing stock and through the supply of housing in the future.

3. The first evidence session will comprise of the following presentations, each of which will be of 10 minutes duration, followed by questioning from the Committee:-
 - Working with the existing stock – Anneliese Hutchinson, Service Director for Development and Public Protection, Gateshead Council

and Jon Mallen-Beadle, Managing Director, The Gateshead Housing Company

- Planning for future housing need – Anneliese Hutchinson, Service Director for Development and Public Protection, Gateshead Council and Neil Wilkinson, Spatial Planning and Environment Manager, Gateshead Council

Issues to Consider

4. When considering the evidence outlined above the Committee may wish to consider the following:

- What are the key local issues?
- What is currently being done?
- Are there areas of good practice which Gateshead can learn from or develop further?
- Are there any gaps, or areas for improvement that need to be developed?

Future evidence gathering sessions

5. It is proposed that future evidence gathering sessions cover the following:

December

- Provide an overview of the relationship between health and housing standards (ie. condition, management and energy efficiency)
- Particular focus on fuel poverty
- Consider the role of housing and place

January

- How housing support and advice services maintain and improve health and wellbeing

Recommendation

6. It is recommended that the Committee:

- Gives its views on the evidence presented.
- Agrees the proposals outlined at section 5 of the report as the focus for future evidence gathering sessions.