

Date: 5th November 2024

Subject: Kent & Medway Housing Strategy

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Summary

The [Kent & Medway Housing Strategy](#) sets out a strategic direction for housing across Kent and Medway. It is prepared and owned by the [Kent Housing Group](#) (KHG). KHG is a membership forum of all the local authorities in Kent and Medway, the main active housing associations and a number of the housing related support providers.

KHG also works closely on a partnership basis with colleagues in the Kent Chief Planners (KCP), Kent Housing and Development Group (KHDG), South East Housing and Development Group (SEHDG), Homes England and MHCLG.

The strategy aims to establish and provide clarity about the major strategic housing challenges facing the county, identifying common areas of concern, and offering pragmatic and smart solutions to manage the challenges and achieve positive outcomes. The strategy was last published in 2020 and updated in November 2023.

KHG is refreshing the strategy. The approach is to engage with key stakeholders in autumn 2024 to seek their input into this iterative process, with a revised strategy to be published in Summer 2025.

What will happen at KMEP on 5 November?

Brian Horton, the Chair of KHG and Kerry Parr (Aecom) will give a presentation on the evidence base that will be used to support the development of the strategy and seek KMEP's input.

Recommendation

KMEP is asked to provide feedback and insight to KHG on the evidence base that will be used to support the strategy development. A full list of questions is provided in the evidence base survey <https://forms.office.com/e/diz4AKJ86U>

KMEP will specifically be asked to consider these questions:

1. Does the evidence presented align with your experience of housing delivery of both market and affordable housing in Kent and Medway?
 2. Can you provide any further evidence or insight to support the strategy development process?
 3. Do we have the skills, infrastructure and supply chain to deliver the strategy?
 4. Are there any actions that you feel the strategy should promote?
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1. Introduction & background information

- 1.1 The strategy will be shaped and owned by our members, recognising that they will each have their own strategies and local ambitions.

2. Engaging with partners

- 2.1 We are seeking to engage with a wide range of partners including those in health, development, planning and social care. This will help us understand the challenges and aims of these sectors and align our strategy where possible.

3. Kent Leaders Group

- 3.1 Kent Leaders will also receive a presentation at their meeting on 13th November 2024. The focus of the engagement with Kent Leaders Group will complement the dialogue with KMEP with an emphasis on the aspects most relevant to the Local Housing Authorities. The ask of KMEP is to focus on the capacity to deliver the strategy and challenges presented based on a business as well as public sector perspective.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 KMEP is asked to consider and comment the learning set out in the evidence base attached.
- 4.2 KMEP members is also invited to send further feedback using the survey available <https://forms.office.com/e/diz4AKJ86U>) which provides the full list of questions that will be sent to all stakeholders.
- 4.3 Note the KHG Dashboard of Indicators [here](#).