

Presentation to the Kent Community Safety Partnership

Sarah Robson, Chair of Kent Housing Group

Who is the Kent Housing Group?

pro-active housing forum with a broad membership
and representation from across Kent and Medway,
working to:

Collaborate on housing issues for the benefit of Kent
and its residents

Provide strong strategic leadership and outcomes

Share good practice & encourage innovation

Lobby for new powers and resources

Share a vision to deliver high quality, affordable
homes across all tenures in Kent

Provide policy, project management and training
resources

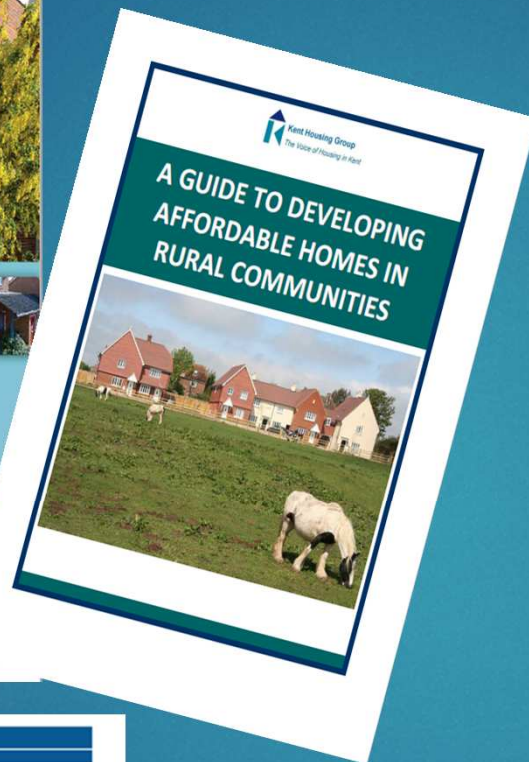
**We are unique and we
are respected by our peers
in central Government
and other regions**

Who is the Kent Housing Group?

KHG brings together a strong partnership that includes:

- 12 local authorities,
- Medway Unitary Authority,
- Kent County Council
- 15 Housing Associations
- Supported Housing Providers/Charitable Organisations
- Kent Public Health
- Homes England
- National Landlords Association
- Local Government Agency & National Housing Federation
- Kent Developers Group/Kent Planning Officers Group
- South East Local Enterprise

MHS & KHG achievements to date



- ✓ 2 Editions of the K&M Housing Strategy
- ✓ Affordable Rural Housing Protocol
- ✓ Viability Protocol
- ✓ Community Led Planning Guide
- ✓ The Planning Protocol
- ✓ Housing for the Third Age
- ✓ Accessibility Protocol
- ✓ Employment Support Protocol
- ✓ Creating Sustainable Communities in Kent
- ✓ Kent & Medway Tenancy Strategy
- ✓ KHG Eviction Protocol
- ✓ Kent Accommodation Strategy
- ✓ Responses to Select Committee Inquires
- ✓ Responses to Government Consultations
- ✓ Annual Seminars
- ✓ Workshop and Training Events

Headline Challenges for the Housing Sector

- House-building challenges...acceleration and delivery affordable homes and an increasing ageing population
- Delivery barriers...viability, RTB receipts, benefit reform, funding for supported housing
- Impact of Government legislation...Welfare Reform, Homelessness Reduction Act
- Future Funding for Supported Housing Delivery
- HRA Debt Cap Restrictions
- LHA Cap Freeze
- Out of London placements (temporary accommodation)
- Integration with Health and Social Care

Developing the Strategy

Desktop review of the evidence base to support the strategy

Liaison with Government departments, linking with the K&M GIF objectives & engagement across all Kent wide groups

Working across & engagement with the whole KHG membership to develop the themes and objectives

Kent and Medway Housing Strategy 2018 – 2023

Kent & Medway – 'A place where people feel proud to call home'

21st Century Kent -
Unlocking Kent's Potential



Better Homes:
Localism, aspiration and choice

2012 - 2015

A Housing Strategy for Kent and Medway



KMHS Priorities 2018 - 2023

KHG have commissioned a desktop review of the evidence base and data used to develop the last edition of the KMHS and also aligned this with other county wide data to help identify four key priorities for this developing strategy document. These are:

-) ***Accelerating housing delivery***
-) ***Affordability***
-) ***Health and wellbeing***
-) ***Infrastructure and investment***

Two workshop days in November this year will help identify and develop key actions and objectives for each of these priorities.

KMHS Refresh 2018 – 2023 Timescales

Workshop delivery – Mid November 2018

First Draft Action Plan – December 2018

First Draft KMHS Document – December 2018

Second/Final Draft Action Plan – by February 2019

Second/Final Draft Strategy – by February 2019

Launch of KMHS – March 2019

Housing and Community Safety

Strong multi-agency framework of statutory Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in the same vein as Kent Housing Group - includes local authorities, police, fire and rescue service, community rehabilitation company, national probation service, Public Health and clinical commissioning groups.

At the heart of supporting vulnerable complex service users and customers (housing >>> <<< domestic abuse, ASB, safeguarding, offenders).

Good links with Housing Associations and Local Authority Housing Options teams – information sharing across partners.

Homeless Reduction Act – for the first time, prisons, probation services, Jobcentres and NHS Trusts will be among the organisations that have a duty to help those at risk of becoming homeless and refer them to a housing authority in order to intervene at an earlier stage to prevent homelessness.

Invitation to attend KMHS workshops - where can we improve the synergies across housing and community safety?



Thank you & Questions

Sarah Robson, Chair of Kent Housing Group