

Overall objective: Improve the supply, quality and coordination of services to meet housing needs and demands.

| Housing and Homelessness: Identified Action | South Kestevens Action Plan | By When | By Whom | Completion Status | Progress as of September 2024 |
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| Coordinate the effective delivery of homelessness services through a partnership driven and evidence-based homelessness strategy. | Continue to work collaboratively with the Lincs Housing Partnership Manager to ensure that homelessness services are delivered in line with the Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy | Ongoing | Homelessness team | Ongoing | Ongoing regular meetings with Lincs Housing Partner Manager. SKDC are in attendance at these meetings and contribute to updates in relation to the Lincs Homelessness and Rough Sleeper strategy |
| | Lead on the quarterly Homelessness Forum partnership meetings to inform and shape a homelessness service based on recognised local demands | Ongoing | | Ongoing | Homelessness forum meetings are ongoing, now lead on my the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Manager. Good attendance by partners. |
| | Ensure new burdens funding is utilised to enable an effective response to increased service pressures. | Summer 2024 | | Ongoing | Funding extended until March 2025 and using to fund an officer |
| | Continue to lead on the Rough Sleeper initiative on behalf of South Kesteven, South Holland, North Kesteven and West Lindsey | Ongoing | | Ongoing | We still host Change4Lincs. Regular meetings are arranged with each district to improve communication and shape the service to operate until March 2025 when funding ceases. |
| Establish future investment strategies to meet current and emerging needs for care and support. | Continue with the sheltered housing review to identify possible investment opportunities | Ongoing | Beth Randall/Sheltered Housing Team | Ongoing | Options appraisal undertaken, report has been produced with recommendations in terms of which scheme we could perhaps convert to another type of housing. This is a huge project that is likely to last a for a few years |
| | Ensure applications are submitted whenever government funding is available | Ongoing | Victoria Herbert | Ongoing | |
| Bring more empty homes into use in order to improve the supply of properties available within the county. | Work collaboratively with colleagues in council tax to identify available empty properties | Ongoing | Ayeisha Kirkham | Ongoing | This is ongoing as part of the Empty homes project. The Strategy has been updated and approved in July 2024. There have been 3 officer working group meetings, we have finalised the RAG rating to prioritise the empty properties. The oldest properties are scheduled to be sent educational letters by November. |
| | Explore options around bringing those properties back into use | Ongoing | Ayeisha Kirkham | Ongoing | |
| | Build stronger relationships with landlords to offer support and advice to enable properties to be brought back into use | Ongoing | Ayeisha Kirkham | Ongoing | |

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| Deliver new housing to meet housing needs and demands, meeting zero carbon targets and recognising all levels of affordability. | Continue to explore acquisition opportunities to increase council housing stock | Ongoing | Debbie Roberts | Ongoing | The Council have adopted a hybrid approach with building and acquiring properties, including the completion of 4 x 1 bedroom units at Elizabeth Road, Stamford, works ongoing with 20 units at Swinegate, Grantham and construction works will commence on Larch Close in November. The Council have acquired 8 properties with Local Authority Housing Fund 2 money with 4 having been completed and the other 4 by the end of 2024. The Council have secured 36 affordable units in Corby Glen which will see the first phase handed over by March 2025. The Council also acquire former Right to Buy properties back and seek to buy homes off the market for specific needs which will be adapted using s106 monies. The Council set a target to build and acquire 100 units which is on course to exceed. |
| | Ensure that any properties acquired has satisfactory EPCs in place and rents are set at an affordable rate | Ongoing | | Ongoing | Properties that are purchased require an EPC certificate to be shared with solicitors and all are inspected to ensure they meet the Councils void standards. The affordable rents are set in line with Local Housing Allowance and are 80% of the open market rent. |
| Improve the quality of existing properties across all tenures and reduce the cost of poor housing to health, care and society. | Ensure a responsive and robust approach to any reports of properties in poor repair in private sector | Ongoing | Sarah McQueen/Tom Amblin-Lightowler | Ongoing | This is undertaken as part of business as usual as a statutory function. |
| | Ensure a responsive and robust approach to any reports of properties in poor repair in SKDC stock. | Ongoing | | Ongoing | We have a newly established damp and mould team to have increased focus on this issue. Earlier this year we had the regulatory notice lifted in relation to compliance with the housing regulator |
| | Effective monitoring of improvement notices. | Summer 2024 | | Ongoing | This is undertaken as it is a legal requirement under the housing Act 2004. |
| Reduce levels of overcrowding as a means of reducing health risks. | Ensure that any affected tenants are able to access effective housing and homelessness advice | Ongoing | Sarah McQueen/Ayeisha Kirkham | Ongoing | Homeless service is inclusive and accessible by anyone, we continue to monitor feedback from customers and aim to improve services based on this. |
| Improve services to extend people's housing choices in preparation for later life | Continue with the sheltered housing review to identify possible investment opportunities | Ongoing | Beth Randall/Sarah McQueen | Ongoing | Options appraisal undertaken, report has been produced with recommendations in terms of which scheme we could perhaps converted to another type of housing. This is a huge project that is likely to last a for a few years |
| Ensure services to support people to remain living in their current home complement each other as a system-wide | Effective management of the DFG application service | Ongoing | Ayeisha Kirkham | Ongoing | This is undertaken as part of business as usual. |

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| current home complement each other as a system-wide approach. | Work collaboratively with partner agencies to support and enable people to continue to live in their current home | Ongoing | Ayesha NIKHAI | Ongoing | This is undertaken as part of business as usual. |
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