

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Asset Management and the Portfolio Holder for Housing

Homes England Compliance Audit Report

1. Purpose of Report

For Cabinet to acknowledge the positive outcome of the Homes England compliance audit in accordance with the Council's Corporate Priority of Housing – a good quality home for everyone.

2. Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to NOTE the positive outcome of the Homes England compliance audit report 2025/26.

3. Detail

The Council was selected for a Homes England (HE) compliance audit. The purpose of the audit was to assess whether the Council, as the grant recipient, have met the HE funding conditions, contractual requirements and responsibilities as set out in the Capital Funding Guide. The Felton Close development site (a former garage site in Chilwell) was selected for the audit.

The outcome of the audit showed a very positive final grade as 'Green'. This means that the Council has complied with the requirements and obligations as set out in the HE grant agreement. The final judgment summary stated that 'On review of the evidence provided, the outcome of the audit has shown the provider has complied with all the programme requirements and guidance. A GREEN grade has been assigned and no breaches were identified'.

The Council's Development Delivery team has established a good working relationship with both HE and the East Midlands Housing Group as part of the wider Quantum Development Consortium. The aim is to continue building this relationship, ensuring the Council has mechanisms to report on its development progress and continue to secure further grant funding to build more affordable homes.

The HE compliance report can be found in the **Appendix**.

4. Key Decision

This report is not a key decision.

5. Updates from Scrutiny

Not applicable.

6. Financial Implications

The comments from the Chief Accountant were as follows:

The positive outcome of the Homes England compliance audit is encouraging and significant. It will help the Council to continue to build upon its strategic partnerships with development activity and allow further access to capital grant funding that will support the Council's investment in its ambitious Housing Delivery programme.

7. Legal Implications

The comments from the Head of Legal Services were as follows:

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

8. Human Resources Implications

The comments from the Human Resources Manager were as follows:

Not applicable.

9. Union Comments

The Union comments were as follows:

Not applicable.

10. Climate Change Implications

The climate change implications are not applicable for the purpose of this report.

11. Data Protection Compliance Implications

This report does not contain any OFFICIAL(SENSITIVE) information and there are no Data Protection issues in relation to this report.

12. Equality Impact Assessment

Not applicable.

13. Background Papers

Nil.