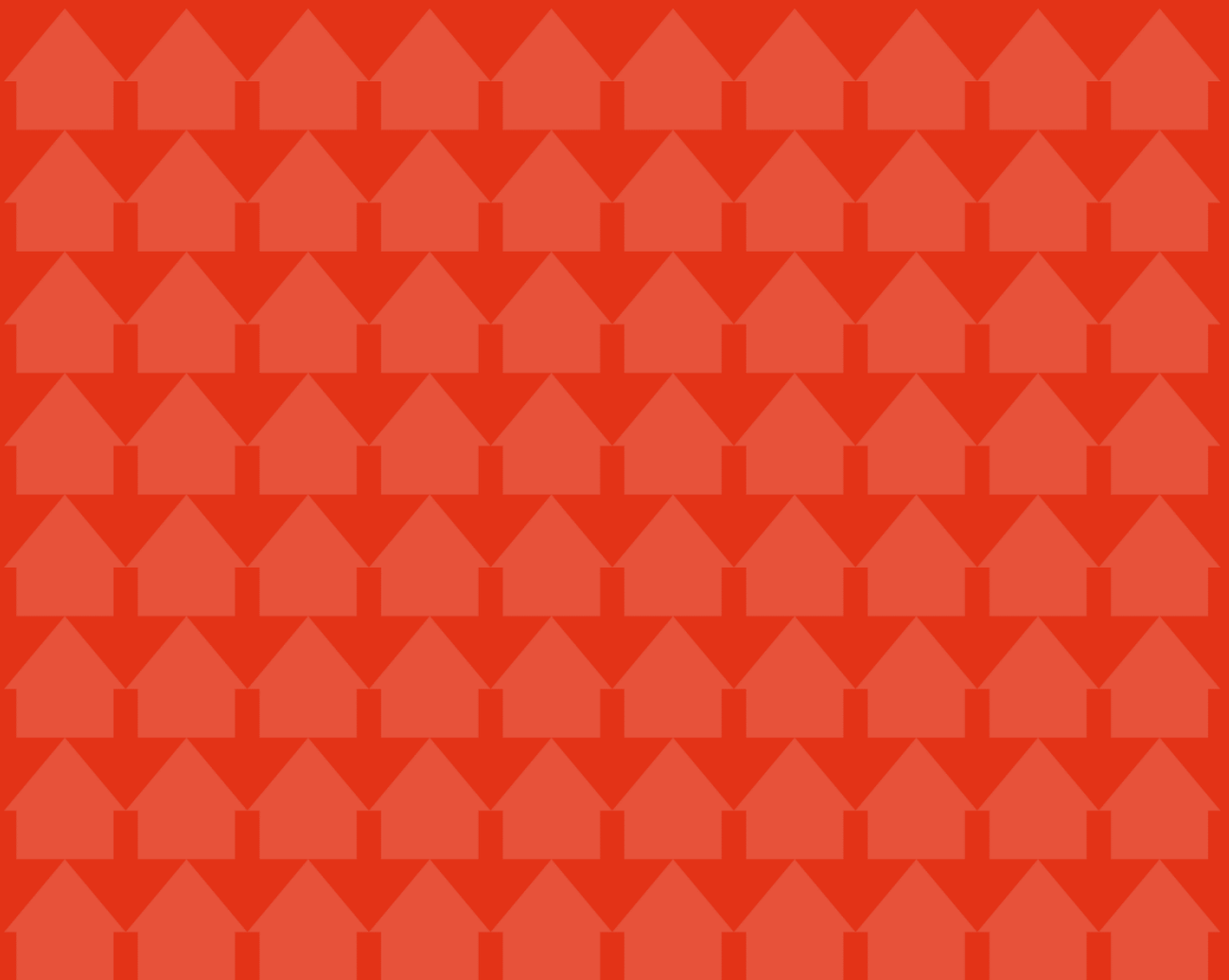


# Implementation Plan

Greater Manchester Housing Strategy 2019-2024

At end December 2021



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To find out more about the Greater Manchester Housing Strategy, see here:

[Housing Strategy - Greater Manchester Combined Authority \(greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/housing-strategy)

or email us at [planningandhousing@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](mailto:planningandhousing@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)

## **Strategic Priority A1: Tackling homelessness and rough sleeping**

### **Desired outcomes: reducing homelessness, ending the need for rough sleeping**

**Lead: GMCA Public Service Reform Team**

We have a strong track record of innovation and collective action to tackle homelessness. Our effort is backed by strong political and community desire to end rough sleeping and increase the focus on preventing homelessness. A lot of progress has been made. We have invested in new ways of working through regional programmes, including A Bed Every Night, Housing First, Community Accommodation Programme (Tier 3) and the Young Persons Homelessness Prevention Pathfinder. We have reduced rough sleeping by 57% in four years and have learned more about what is required to prevent homelessness for good.

As part of the new Mayoral term, there is a marked focus on ensuring that we reform public services to better prevent homelessness, considering both universal and targeted risks that people face in Greater Manchester, with a more detailed understanding of intersecting inequalities. The development of a Greater Manchester Homelessness Prevention Strategy codifies this ambition and sets key missions and principles for embedding homelessness prevention. The Homelessness Prevention Strategy complements and builds on this Housing Strategy and should be seen as a progression of the commitments in this implementation plan.

We are at a juncture in trying to maintain and continue to progress the reduction in rough sleeping that has been achieved leading up to and throughout the worst of the pandemic. A wide range of significant risks challenge this target however. The economic and social impacts of Covid-19 are yet to be fully realized, alongside the reversal of supportive policy changes that impacted on evictions, access to asylum and immigration accommodation, and enhances financial help for households and businesses.

The under-supply of social rented homes and the loss of existing properties through Right to Buy contribute to the shortage of appropriate and affordable accommodation

that people can access as a route out of homelessness. The role of the private rented sector is being increasingly explored and a necessary means for permanent rehousing. However there are increasing concerns about the impact of benefit restrictions on the ability of households to access stable tenancies in the private rented sector. We need to invest in reversing the decline in our social housing stock, to increase the supply of stable, well-managed homes at the right quality - and where long-term costs are less than providing subsidy to private landlords for an often lower quality product (see Strategic Priority A4 and B2).

### **Making the case to Government**

- Multi-year funding settlement being realised through various funding streams as part of 3-year Spending Review process to enable strategic and joined up commissioning to deliver necessary integrated services and respond to local and regional priorities for crisis, emergency and recovery responses, and upstream prevention.
- Use the PRS white paper process to ensure Government commits to plans to end 'no-fault' evictions through the repeal of Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988, rebalancing the rights and responsibilities of landlords and tenants.
- COVID-19 pandemic has multiplied the requirements for additional accommodation and support services for people at risk of and experiencing homelessness.
- In addition, the Homelessness Prevention Strategy prioritises lobbying for: significant changes to welfare and asylum and immigration policies that drive people into homelessness; enabling an approach to health that tackles inequality; reducing homelessness and repeat offending for people in the criminal justice system

### **Progress**

- Housing First accommodated and supporting 300+ individuals
- Funding secured to extend A Bed Every Night to March 2023 with planning budget to 2025

- Ethical Lettings Agency 200 properties milestone reached

### **Challenges**

- COVID-19 conditions of delivery and increased homelessness demand
- Considerable lack of genuinely affordable housing and pressure on expansion of temporary accommodation
- Systems change needed to build preventative approach reducing homelessness

### **Partnerships**

- GM Homelessness Programme Board; GM Homelessness Action Network; GM Private Rented Sector Partnership

### **Data**

- Work ongoing to bring together data from variety of sources to better track demand, outputs and outcomes of services, including GM Dashboard, DLUHC DELTA returns and rough sleeping relief dataset.

## Actions

Key- (R)= Stalled, (A)= Delayed, (G)= Met/on track, (C) = Complete

**Rough sleeping reduction-** To reduce the number of people new to rough sleeping, returning to rough sleeping, and experiencing entrenched rough sleeping.

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Embedding A Bed Every Night approach and enabling sustainability (C)	Cross-sector workforce development programme for homelessness and rough sleeping workforce (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable
Implement inclusion health priorities (C)	Securing Housing First extension/ expansion (G)	Further establish and embed inclusion health priorities within ICS structure (G)	Not applicable

### Affordable housing supply via private rented sector to homeless households-

Homelessness reduction and prevention via affordable and secure PRS tenancies

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Delivery of Next Steps Accommodation Programme (C)	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Not applicable	Delivery of Rough Sleeper Accommodation Programme (RSAP) (phase 1) (G)	Delivery of RSAP (phase 2) (G)	Not applicable

## Affordable housing supply via housing providers to homeless households-

Homelessness reduction and prevention via affordable and secure social tenancies

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Ensure tracking of Housing Provider commitments, including Homes for Cathy through data assurance mechanism (C)	Embedding flexible, multi-agency approach to allocations for people with multiple and complex needs or entrenched homelessness (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable
Not applicable	Improving access to social housing across boundary where domestic abuse is a factor (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable

**Homelessness prevention-** Activity to prevent homelessness and provide a framework for homelessness prevention

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Implement homelessness Prevention activity priorities (G)	Implement homelessness Prevention activity priorities (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable
Approval and development of Homelessness Prevention Strategy action plan (C)	Youth Homelessness Prevention Social Impact Bond commences (C)	Not applicable	Not applicable

## **Strategic Priority A2: Making a positive difference to the lives of private tenants**

### **Desired outcomes: improving conditions and more secure tenancies in the private rented sector**

#### **Lead: GMCA Planning and Housing Team**

We need to work together to drive up standards at the bottom end of the private rented sector (PRS), encouraging local authorities to use their enforcement and licensing powers up to their legal limits, not least to ensure safety of residents in the sector. Where tenants are in receipt of Local Housing Allowance, the private rented sector is arguably operating in the absence of social housing, but without most of the access to additional support and regulatory safeguards and security of tenure a social tenant can expect to enjoy.

Resources available to tackle enforcement work in local authorities are stretched, and a recent independent review found the national regulatory framework 'confused and contradictory'. We need to find ways to address the lack of capacity available to enforce and raise standards in the private sector as it grows, especially in light of the extended definition of houses in multiple occupation expands local authorities' role. Housing providers can make a significant contribution, such as One Manchester and Arawak Walton, working with local authorities on a neighbourhood basis, and we are working with Greater Manchester Housing Providers to explore potential to apply those models more broadly.

Given the scale of the sector, it is important that we do all we can to encourage greater and more effective self-regulation for the remainder of the market. We will work with the national and regional professional landlord and lettings agency bodies to help them deliver high quality market lettings, and bring forward plans for a Greater Manchester good landlord scheme. But we will also adopt more collaborative approaches to actively deal with rogue landlords and agents who are seriously or persistently failing in their responsibilities to tenants.

We need to help tenants have the confidence and knowledge to do that, and to make their individual and collective voices heard without the threat of retaliatory eviction.



There are opportunities arising from the work of Fair Housing Futures to explore new models and interventions in the sector to transform tenants' experience, and the proposed expansion in the coverage of the 'ethical lettings agency' model on a more structured basis across the city region.

These varying approaches reflect the diversity of the private rented sector, and we will explore the benefits of establishing a partnership body to bring key stakeholders together at a Greater Manchester level to ensure progress is made and good practice shared across the city region.

### **Making the case to Government**

- Utilise the PRS White Paper, announced in the 2021 Queen's Speech, to seek progress on our PRS priorities
- More ambitious interventions in the PRS, moving away from piecemeal national changes to a more strategic approach.
- A full, national register of PRS homes and landlords, with the opportunity to pilot the Rugg Review proposal for 'property MOTs' for PRS homes
- Seek devolved powers to designate areas for selective landlord licensing, arguing for Scottish models of security of tenure
- Lobby for greater resources to enforce and raise standards in the private sector.
- Greater influence over the welfare system, including piloting the linking of payments of Housing Benefit/housing element of Universal Credit to the condition of properties, especially given COVID-19 impacts.
- Additional powers for local authorities to intervene, especially where the safety and security of our residents is at risk from the effects of poor housing or rogue landlords, or where we can see ways to remove barriers to delivering the new homes we need.

### **Progress**

- Consultation with councils on implementation of Good Landlord Scheme

- Engagement with DLUHC processes on development of White Paper on the future of private renting to make the case to government
- ELA growth supported by Resonance investment and Rough Sleepers Accommodation Programme
- PRS Partnership meeting quarterly with good engagement from the sector

### **Challenges**

- Enforcement capacity across GM
- Impact of COVID-19 still being felt through system (e.g. courts and tribunals)
- Competitive market conditions for one-bedroom properties for ELA acquisition

### **Partnerships**

- GMCA/GMHSCP/GMHP
- PRS Partnership

### **Data**

- Supporting research for Good Landlord Scheme development

## Actions

Key- (R)= Stalled, (A)= Delayed, (G)= Met/on track, (C) = Complete

**GM Private Rented Sector Partnership-** Bring stakeholders together to devise solutions to challenges faced by tenants, landlords and the sector as a whole

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
PRS Partnership to provide a focus for discussion of lobbying agendas for White Paper and Renters Reform Bill (C)	PRS Partnership to provide a forum for sector discussion on developing national agenda and engagement on key projects (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable

**Good Landlord Scheme (GLS)-** To encourage and support landlords to provide a safe, decent and secure home to their tenants

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Implementation commenced with audit of existing services and identification of key opportunities for improvement (C)	Investment propositions agreed (G)	Good Landlord Scheme projects in process (G)	Not applicable

**Rogue Landlord Hub-** Consistent, coordinated approach to enforcement of standards in the PRS across GM by districts and key partner agencies, including targeted interventions against rogue landlords

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Rolling out the Rogue Landlord information sharing protocol (A)	Determination on continuation of Rogue Landlord information sharing protocol in context of national push for adoption of Trading Standards Intelligence Database (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable

**Ethical Lettings Agency-** By 2024 bring additional 800 units in the private sector to applicants who are homeless, threatened with homelessness or on social housing registers

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
ELA workshops to explore development of different delivery models and closer partnership working with LAs (C)	Work with ELA on Growth Strategy to continue to offer constructive solutions to applicants ineligible for social housing (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable

**Place-based intervention-** GMHP bringing forward place-based investment in neighbourhoods with high risk PRS markets in partnership with districts

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
GMHP develop routes to deliver four place-based investment areas (A)	Scope with LAs appetite for partnership in place-based model (G)	Areas working in partnership with GMHP bringing forward place-based investment in PRS markets (G)	Not applicable

## **Strategic Priority A3: Developing Healthy Homes Services to support vulnerable households**

**Desired outcomes: enabling residents to live independently in their homes for longer**

**Lead: GM Health and Social Care Partnership (GMHSCP)**

The right home helps us to live happier, healthier, more independent lives for longer than would otherwise be possible. The health of older people, children, disabled people and people with long-term illnesses is at a greater risk from poor housing conditions. Variable quality of homes is a driver of health inequalities, with those living in poverty more likely to live in poorer housing, unstable housing circumstances or lack accommodation altogether. Unsanitary and unhealthy living conditions are a major long-term contributor to chronic health conditions, and lack of suitable supported or temporary accommodation prevents timely discharge of people otherwise ready to leave hospital. Unsuitable homes can be dangerous for residents in need of support, poor heating can lead to illness in winter, and vulnerable or older residents in need of support are prone to injury and preventable hospital admission.

In 2017 Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership established a Housing & Health work programme, to make the most of our unique opportunity as a devolved Health and Social Care system to truly embed the role of housing in joined up action on improving health. Committed to furthering Greater Manchester's pioneering work on health and social care integration, we will work to champion the role of housing and promote investment in such services through the new integrated commissioning system. We will use these opportunities to influence development of new housing and communities with the right physical, social and green infrastructure that promote healthy lifestyles and more specialist accommodation for those who require it (see Strategic Priority B3), and to use the housing sector's workforce as key agents of behaviour change.

Ensuring our existing housing stock is suitable, accessible and fit for the future is integral to improving and maintaining our population's health. Research tells us that older households living in non-decent homes with at least one member with a long-term illness or disability are found in greatest numbers in owner occupation. We

need to find ways to ensure more of our homes across all tenures are energy efficient and comfortable to occupy if we are to maintain independence and improve quality of life of older households.

We see the potential for 'Healthy Housing Services', a reimagined version of the familiar home improvement agency or care & repair model, as being the potential key mechanism to bring together and develop the services and support available to vulnerable households in all tenures. This should be part of the responsive, integrated delivery of services for households whose home is adding to the daily challenges they face, but where often relatively minor interventions can make a major difference to their wellbeing and independence.

### **Making the case to Government**

- Campaign for neighbourhood renewal investment on a business case based on the costs of poor housing in terms of health and social care, to provide the tools, capacity and sources of funding to directly intervene in raising standards of homes across all tenures.
- Use Comprehensive Spending Review and other routes to make the case for urgently dealing with unsuitable, inaccessible and/or unhealthy homes in the context of the widening health inequalities, the impact of the pandemic, domestic retrofit, and the findings of the Good Home Inquiry.
- GMCA response submitted to Government consultation on raising accessibility standards for new homes

### **Progress**

- Approval and commencement of Tripartite Partnership between GMHP, GMHSCP and GMCA
- Future delivery of Healthy Homes considered within prioritisation of wider Housing and Health Programme.
- Consultancy support to develop Healthy Homes Services tendered

## **Challenges**

- COVID-19 impact on Business-as-Usual activity
- Limited capital resource available to improve poor quality private sector homes
- Limited capacity within GM programme to progress key activity

## **Partnerships**

- Tripartite Partnership: GM Housing Providers, GMHSCP and GMCA.
- GM Ageing Hub Housing, Planning & Ageing Group

## **Data**

- Evidenced baseline of GM housing stock completed and preparing for dissemination

## Actions

Key- (R)= Stalled, (A)= Delayed, (G)= Met/on track, (C) = Complete

**Business case for neighbourhood renewal-** Capture the impact of housing improvements on health and wellbeing

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Explore opportunities to leverage statements made on regeneration in the Levelling Up White Paper (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

**Develop baseline model proposal for Healthy Homes services across all**

**localities-** To support vulnerable households and improve their health and wellbeing

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Agree a framework and outline standards for delivery of baseline Healthy Homes service (G)	Not applicable	Marketing and awareness campaign on availability of services across GM (G)	Not applicable

**Support localities to establish baseline services (where required)-** To ensure consistent service provision across 10 localities

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Plan transition to baseline services for individual localities (G)	Confirm implementation of baseline services across localities (A)	Not applicable	Not applicable



**Review and implement policy changes required to deliver Healthy Homes baseline services-** Ensure policies in relation to private sector capital spend are consistent and flexible

<b>July-Dec 2021</b>	<b>Jan-June 2022</b>	<b>July-Dec 2022</b>	<b>Jan-June 2023</b>
Develop and agree consistent Greater Manchester Housing Assistance Policy Framework (G)	Approval process and begin implementation in localities where required (A)	Develop and approve additional policies e.g. Housing Provider policies and GM Equity Loan (A)	Not applicable

## **Strategic Priority A4: Improving access to social housing for those who need it**

**Desired outcomes: deliver at least 50,000 additional affordable homes by 2037**

**Lead: GM Strategic Housing Group**

The social housing sector in Greater Manchester has been reducing in size for decades – falling from over 330,000 at the 1981 Census to around 245,000 now. 95,000 social rented homes have been purchased through Right to Buy, many subsequently finding their way into the private rented sector. As the sector has become less dominant, the role it has played in the overall housing market has evolved. Combined with the well documented growth in older households over the next few decades, there are powerful practical drivers for a greater level of integration between social housing providers and the health and social care system. In Greater Manchester, with devolution around health and social care, we should be able to adopt a more strategic approach to the commissioning of new social housing, and particularly supported housing.

As social housing becomes an increasingly scarce resource, the systems used to allocate the homes that become available require additional scrutiny to ensure they are fair and effective. Research into the allocation policies and processes operating around Greater Manchester will help to inform that debate, particularly as Universal Credit rolls out and adds to the impact of other welfare changes (including benefit caps, under-occupancy penalty (bedroom tax), and lower housing benefit payments for under 35-year-olds). Building and managing allocations processes to deal fairly with a complex mix of people with varied needs is a huge challenge for local authorities and housing providers alike. We will explore the benefits of a coordinated Greater Manchester housing allocations framework as one way to improve the accessibility and availability of social housing.

The reintroduction of a CPI+1% rent formula from 2020 potentially allows housing providers greater financial scope. But welfare reforms mean that tenants on Housing Benefit/Universal Credit will increasingly be expected to find a proportion of rent from the rest of their household budget. The development of the Greater Manchester

Housing Providers group, combined with devolved powers in areas such as health and social care and city region wide approaches to homelessness prevention and rough sleeping, offers the potential for more strategic and collaborative responses. The consensus about the central importance of social housing within the broader housing system will continue to drive innovation and good practice, including work to overcome the barriers to delivery of new social housing (see Strategic Priority B2).

### **Making the case to Government**

- Lobbying for access to stable devolved funding to allow a strategic programme of investment and innovation in new supported housing, housing for older people and associated support services, building on the successes of GM's Housing Investment Loan Fund.
- Lobbying for specific additional and ringfenced Adult Social Care revenue budget for supported housing and housing related support to allow for market certainty and longer term commissioning relationships
- Continue to make the case for increasing the supply of social housing. GMCA is committed to finding ways through a problematic legislative and financial environment to maximise the delivery of social housing. We will work with housing providers, local authorities, Homes England and government to maximise investment in new social housing.
- Continue to campaign to scrap the Government's Right to Buy policy in Greater Manchester. As a minimum seek to pilot a different model with control over discounts to guarantee one-for-one replacement of social rented homes, preventing former RTB properties being privately rented and protecting new build via Housing Revenue Account borrowing from future RTB.

### **Progress**

- Further development of Tripartite Partnership between GMHP, GMHSCP and GMCA
- AHP Strategic Partnership allocations announced
- GMHP Homeless Prevention Strategy framework development

## **Challenges**

- Continued loss of social housing and financial resources through Right to Buy
- Diverse control of systems makes change difficult to achieve
- Additional pressure in system from COVID-19 impacts

## **Partnerships**

- Tripartite Agreement: GM Housing Providers, GMHSCP and GMCA.

## **Data**

- Gathering evidence of experiences of different groups in the allocations system

## Actions

Key- (R)= Stalled, (A)= Delayed, (G)= Met/on track, (C) = Complete

**Establish task and finish group of key partners to develop action plan, including exploration of coordination of district allocation policies-** Bring working group together to devise solutions for testing and consultation with stakeholders

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Agreement and engagement with LAs on allocations policies through thematic workshops (C)	Engagement with GM Youth Network on Care Leavers' workshop and with GMHSCP Experts by Experience group on mental health and housing access, working with GMHP to commit to meeting needs of vulnerable tenant groups (G)	Engagement with GM Youth Network on Care Leavers' workshop and with GMHSCP Experts by Experience group on mental health and housing access, working with GMHP to commit to meeting needs of vulnerable tenant groups (G) Begin to explore potential areas of consistency for framework for allocations (G)	Not applicable
Not applicable	Set up GM Allocations Network in partnership with LAs and GMHP for colleagues to work through issues for collective benefit (G)	Develop GM Allocations Network to support delivery of allocations framework and GMCA /GMHP Homelessness Prevention Strategy priorities (G)	Not applicable
Not applicable	Engagement with GMHP around co-operation and nominations with LAs (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable

**Develop better understanding of current and future need for social housing to help direct commissioning-** Ensure evidence base in GM SHMA, supported housing census, etc. is maintained and updated to inform policy and decision-making, and to aid delivery of localities' supported housing strategies

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Development of GM Supported Housing offer to localities based on local understanding of need, working with H&SCP and Homes England. (C)	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

**Improve supply and accessibility of high quality temporary accommodation for households in priority need-** Find routes to raise quality and quantum of temporary accommodation available to districts

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Implementation of GM Homelessness Prevention Strategy (C)	Support LAs to undertake TA reviews to understand gaps in provision and use results to support investment proposals (G)	Target social investment to support TA supply and affordable housing (G)	Not applicable
Not applicable	Support LAs to develop joint commissioning capability for TA (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable

## **Strategic Priority A5: Identifying pathways to volume domestic retrofit and reducing fuel poverty**

**Desired outcomes: residential sector makes full contribution to Greater Manchester becoming a carbon neutral city region by 2038**

**Lead: GMCA Environment Team**

We need a clear multi-tenure approach to retrofit and improving the energy performance of our existing homes. The Decent Homes Standard and longstanding investment by housing providers has raised the bar in the social housing sector, and the proposed review of Decent Homes Standard is likely to further drive efforts to reduce fuel poverty and carbon emissions. But we know our biggest issues remain in the private sector, and particularly the private rented sector. With the Greater Manchester Low Carbon Hub, we will explore and exploit any levers at our disposal to raise the standards in private homes and integrate fuel poverty into our wider work with private landlords and owner occupiers.

We published a Five-Year Environment Plan for Greater Manchester at the second Green Summit in March 2019. This sets out our aim for a carbon neutral city region by 2038 and a set of urgent actions over the next five years – for residents, businesses, and other organisations (including the public sector) – to put us on a pathway to achieving that longer term aim. A key part of this plan is a step-change in improving the energy efficiency of Greater Manchester’s homes and buildings.

We’re clear that our challenging targets will only be delivered through the alignment of sustained proactive national policy and a prioritised Greater Manchester programme to generate and apply resources to maximum effect. We will need to find or develop new tools if the required investment in energy efficiency of both new and existing homes is to be achieved. The health, poverty and productivity impacts of inefficient stock need to be addressed, and our existing building stock will remain our most significant challenge.

Identifying cost effective pathways for the domestic retrofit of energy efficiency and low carbon heating systems to our existing homes as part of a coherent whole systems approach is essential to support Greater Manchester’s long term

decarbonisation targets. Modelling for our 5-Year Environment Plan shows the scale of the challenge, with on average 61,000 of our existing residential properties needing to be retrofitted each year between now and 2040 if we are to achieve our aims for carbon neutrality. Local energy generation will also be an important part of that approach. We're developing innovative finance and delivery mechanisms to retrofit homes, making them more energy efficient and reducing carbon emissions and fuel bills for residents in Greater Manchester. This includes exploring different models including modular retrofit of existing stock.

### **Making the case to Government**

- Our challenging targets can only be achieved through a combination of sustained proactive national policy and aligned priorities and resources from Greater Manchester. New mechanisms to balance up-front investments in energy efficiency with the rewards of increasing comfort are needed in both new build and existing home and building refurbishment activities if the ill health, poverty and productivity impacts of inefficient stock are to be addressed
- Make case for retrofit as a national infrastructure priority to open up potential of long-term investment models

### **Progress**

- Retrofit of 517 homes completed under Phase 1A of BEIS Green Homes Grant (GHG) Local Authority Delivery Scheme (LADS)
- £5.6m GHG LADS Phase 1B bid underway to retrofit 821 homes
- GM allocated £17.6m to deliver GHG LADS Phase 2 to retrofit c.1300 homes
- Procurement of additional delivery agents for GHG (in addition to EoN)
- GM Retrofit Taskforce Action Plan developed
- £19m Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Wave 1 bid submitted
- MoU with Octopus Energy to explore low carbon heating and smart energy tariffs



## **Challenges**

- Absence of mainstream, long term grant funding to provide strategic direction for residential retrofit
- Local EON delivery capacity hindering delivery of the GHG LAD scheme to homeowners

## **Partnerships**

- GM Green City Region Partnership
- GM Low Carbon Buildings Challenge Group
- Retrofit Taskforce

## **Data**

- Evidenced baseline of GM housing stock completed and disseminated

## Actions

Key- (R)= Stalled, (A)= Delayed, (G)= Met/on track, (C) = Complete

### Improving understanding of condition and challenges of GM housing stock and opportunities for early progress and innovation

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Not applicable	Develop business case and update schedule for refresh of housing stock modelling data (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable

### Provide clear strategic and governance framework to take retrofit agenda forward in GM

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Seek to procure partners to deliver a Retrofit Accelerator (C)	Procurement of partners to deliver a Retrofit Accelerator (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable
Retrofit Taskforce established (C)	Launch of Mayor's Retrofit Action Plan (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable
Not applicable	Completion of Local Area Energy Plans for all ten districts (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable

### Identify and pilot scalable finance and delivery mechanisms to retrofit homes

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Pilot innovative finance approach for retrofit in Stockport (C)	Explore potential to trial Green Bonds (G)	Launch of GM Green Mortgage	Launch of GM Green Mortgage
MoU with Octopus Energy to explore low carbon heating and smart energy tariffs (C)	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

### Identify and explore local levers to achieve further progress

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Local levers included in Retrofit Accelerator scope (G)	Procure Retrofit Accelerator delivery agent (G)	Identify and potentially launch Solar PV offer	Not applicable
Not applicable	Explore and potentially launch heat pump offer (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable

### Encourage and support the expansion and reskilling of the construction and retrofit sector and associated supply chain

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Not applicable	Release of Green Economy Skills Intelligence Report (G)	Evaluation of skills funding programmes and potential re-development of funding	Evaluation of skills funding programmes and potential re-development of funding

### Access Government funding for retrofit programmes

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Bid developed for SHDF Wave 1 – Led by GMHP Group (C)	Delivery of SHDF Wave 1 retrofit programme (if successful)	Delivery of SHDF Wave 1 retrofit programme (if successful)	Delivery of SHDF Wave 1 retrofit programme (if successful)
Not applicable	Examine scope for GM-led SHDF Wave 2 bid (including potential bid development and submission) (G)	Potential delivery of SHDF Wave 2 if a GM-bid is successful (G)	Potential delivery of SHDF Wave 2 if a GM-bid is successful (G)
Delivery of GHG LADS Phase 1B (G)	Delivery of GHG Phase 2 (G)	Delivery of GHG Phase 2 (G)	Not applicable
Delivery of GHG LADS Phase 2 (G)	Delivery of GHG LADS Phase 2 (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable

## **Strategic Priority B1: New models of housing delivery**

**Desired outcomes: delivery of new homes outlined in Places for Everyone and Stockport Local Plan, including up to 10,000 units from the Greater Manchester Housing Investment Loan Fund; Greater Manchester to be a centre of modern building practices and techniques, and a pioneer of models of community-led housing**

**Lead: GMCA Delivery Team**

There is a growing diversity in the means of housing delivery in Greater Manchester. The GMCA-managed GM Housing Investment Loan Fund provides a £300 million revolving pot to support private sector-led development of new homes. It has invested alongside ten housing providers in a new joint delivery vehicle, intended to build 500 new homes per year, part of GM Housing Providers' collective commitment to deliver 18,000 new homes over the next five years. We are also utilising our Brownfield Housing Fund to unlock brownfield sites for development across the city-region as well as maximising the potential of modern methods of construction. There has also been significant delivery of new homes for long term management as private rented properties, backed by financial institutional investment.

We will explore options to aid delivery of the homes we need, including through a closer and stronger relationship with Homes England as the arm of Government charged with 'making homes happen'. This will include the use of devolved powers such as establishing Mayoral Development Corporations, the potential for a Greater Manchester direct delivery vehicle, and One Public Estate work to deliver housing on public land. Greater Manchester is committed to finding ways through a problematic legislative and financial environment to maximise the delivery of social housing.

We need to work with the construction sector and education and skills providers to deal with evident skills gaps, and with key developing partners to use the power of their supply chains to encourage skills development and retention within the industry, for new build and maintenance and retrofit of existing homes. Our Local Industrial Strategy points to the potential for Greater Manchester to be a centre for new manufacturing technologies, helping minimise inefficiencies and delays that affect on-site construction, and raising the carbon and energy performance of homes. This could change perceptions of construction careers, and help diversify the sector's

workforce. Supply chains located in Greater Manchester will capture economic benefit from housing growth.

We will explore alternative models of community ownership of housing. Community-led housing can promote community resilience and cohesion, tackle loneliness, provide affordable accommodation and give residents of all ages real influence over their homes. We will work with partners to provide support and guidance for groups, including help to seek grant and loan funding. Our goal is to institute a permanent Community-Led Housing Hub, to facilitate community-led housing across Greater Manchester.

### **Making the case to Government**

- Seek flexible resources to bring forward new housing land and development to meet local needs and demand, tying together the Housing Infrastructure Fund, Shared Ownership and Affordable Homes Programme, and loan/investment funding at a Greater Manchester scale to ensure strategic approach to a pipeline of residential land and development, better tied to development of necessary infrastructure.
- Through the Levelling Up White Paper, Local Industrial Strategy and Comprehensive Spending Review, make the case for a partnership with Government to achieve better alignment of education, training and employment activity in Greater Manchester, including for the construction sector.

### **Progress**

- £19.3m actual spend of Brownfield Housing Fund (BHF)
- Contracting and delivery of BHF schemes
- Hive Homes Joint Venture with GM Housing Providers fully operational
- Places for Everyone consultation underway
- Growth Locations work programme and governance structure established

## **Challenges**

- Delivery capacity
- Operational impact of COVID-19 and Brexit on supply chain and delivery
- Changes to government planning policy

## **Partnerships**

- GM Housing Providers Group and Tripartite Agreement
- GMCA/Homes England Partnership
- Community-led Housing Hub

## **Data**

- Wider piloting of site analytics

## Actions

Key- (R)= Stalled, (A)= Delayed, (G)= Met/on track, (C) = Complete

### Help to ensure supply of sufficient appropriate sites for the delivery of new homes from 2021 – 2037

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Regulation 19 Consultation on Places for Everyone (G) Consultation on Stockport Local Plan (G)	Submission of Places for Everyone to Secretary of State for Examination (G)	Examination in Public of Places for Everyone (G) Stockport Local Plan Regulation 19 consultation (G)	Not applicable

**Establish a GM community-led housing hub-** To support the development of co-operative and other community-based housing projects to deliver new homes

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
GM Community-Led Housing Hub established as Community Benefit Society (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

**Work with partners to find new delivery models and sources of investment-** Including the joint venture with GM Housing Providers, better use of public sector assets, provision of finance from the GM Housing Investment Loan Fund and supporting the contribution of smaller house builders

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Hive Homes – first units completed and on sale, contracting the first Brownfield sites (G)	Growth locations – bringing together options for new models to support long term strategic development of key locations around GM, including routes to	Growth locations – bringing together options for new models to support long term strategic development of key locations around GM, including routes to	Not applicable

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
	bringing land to market and development (G)	bringing land to market and development (G)	
Continue to develop land supply opportunities with public service partners (including Stations Alliance) (G)	Chester House: progress to JV to bring forward opportunity on key GMCA-owned brownfield site (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable

**Encourage and support the shift to modern methods of construction (MMC), increased innovation, and the expansion and reskilling of the construction sector and supply chain-** To raise productivity and the quality and pace of delivery of new homes, and to assist in achieving our target that all new buildings in GM will be net zero carbon by 2028

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Offsite Alliance undertaking business planning, including identification and selection of methods to use in future delivery phases (G)	Offsite Alliance undertaking business planning, including identification and selection of methods to use in future delivery phases (G)	Work with Homes England's Strategic Partner housing providers to support delivery of 25% MMC (G)	Not applicable
Help in developing Off-Site Performance Centre concept and business plan with OSHA, University of Salford and other potential partners (G)	Help in developing Off-Site Performance Centre concept and business plan with OSHA, University of Salford and other potential partners (G)	Work with Homes England's Strategic Partner housing providers to support delivery of 25% MMC (G)	Not applicable



## **Strategic Priority B2: Investing in truly affordable housing**

**Desired outcomes: set out a Greater Manchester approach to affordability; deliver at least 50,000 additional affordable homes by 2037, with at least 30,000 for social or affordable rent**

**Lead: GMCA Delivery Team**

There are several different groups of households under particular pressure to meet the cost of their homes. Through our supply of new homes we should be providing better choices to ease those pressures. That should include adding to the stock of social rented housing to reverse the losses from Right to Buy. There is a need to develop more supported housing to provide more effective routes away from homelessness, and for a range of others whose needs are currently being inadequately met in mainstream housing, or in expensive and inflexible institutional settings. We should also explore new models that help households to access home ownership in a way they can afford and sustain, or providing homes of all tenures better matched to the need of older households who are currently living in homes which present a risk to their wellbeing and continued independence.

We know the cost of housing can be a challenge to different cohorts within the housing system across Greater Manchester - including those needing access to social rent or trying to maintain a tenancy as welfare rules are squeezed, private renters sharing and saving as prospective first time buyers looking for routes into home ownership, people in unstable employment in any tenure, older owner occupiers without the resources to maintain a decaying property, and people living in overcrowded properties because they cannot afford or access a home large enough to meet their needs. This is coupled together with the barriers and constraints to the delivery and supply of affordable housing.

We will set out our approach to increasing the delivery of truly affordable housing in Greater Manchester, to help us in our work to deliver homes and a housing market that is truly affordable to all our residents and which supports our ambitions for a net zero city region by 2038.

## **Making the case to Government**

- Seek flexible resources to bring forward new housing land and development to meet local needs and demand, tying together the Government capital grant and loan/investment funding at a Greater Manchester scale to ensure strategic approach to a pipeline of residential land and development, better tied to development of necessary infrastructure.
- Continue to make the case for a devolved strategic partnership arrangement with Homes England to fairly allocate housing investment and give Greater Manchester local control of funding to accelerate the delivery of new homes to meet our housing needs.
- Lobby for the freedom to develop a strategic approach to developer obligations and viability issues that fits within the Greater Manchester market.

## **Progress**

- GM Delivery Team in place with capacity to support districts
- Announcement of AHP Strategic Partnership allocations
- GM Housing Solutions Group established

## **Challenges**

- Unavailability of selected Homes England programmes in parts of Greater Manchester
- Right to Buy disincentive to invest in new supply
- Resourcing of zero-carbon homes

## **Partnerships**

- GM Housing Providers Group and Tripartite Agreement
- GMCA/Homes England Partnership

## Data

- Bringing together information on potential future delivery pipeline of social and affordable homes to identify potential gaps in delivery

## Actions

Key- (R)= Stalled, (A)= Delayed, (G)= Met/on track, (C) = Complete

### Relationships with Homes England and GMHSCP to lever investment to progress 50,000 additional affordable homes by 2038 including 30,000 net zero carbon social rented homes

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Proposed approach set out for the delivery of 30,000 net zero carbon social rented homes by 2038, and the adoption of the whole system challenge approach to deliver these ambitions as part of plans for delivery of 50,000 affordable homes in the same period (G)	Develop initial implementation plan to deliver 30,000 net zero carbon social rented homes by 2038, as part of plans for delivery of 50,000 affordable homes in the same period (G)	Commission work with partners to co-produce a more detailed partnership implementation plan to deliver 30,000 net zero carbon social homes (G)	Not applicable
Not applicable	Work commissioned and completed with HE to better understand barriers to delivery of the forward pipeline and identify how best to go beyond business as usual delivery (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable

**Develop a clearer, more consistent and systematic approach to capturing and recycling value generated by market development in the form of additional affordable housing & other community benefits**

<b>July-Dec 2021</b>	<b>Jan-June 2022</b>	<b>July-Dec 2022</b>	<b>Jan-June 2023</b>
Brownfield Housing Fund projects include clawback and overage mechanisms to recycle excess profits back into affordable housing delivery. (G)	Brownfield Housing Fund projects include clawback and overage mechanisms to recycle excess profits back into affordable housing delivery. (G)	Review Clawback and overage from schemes to enable investment in affordable housing delivery (G)	Not applicable

**Find routes to invest in provision of additional affordable housing, including for social rent-** To reduce LAs’ reliance on expensive and often poor quality temporary accommodation, and to provide stable, high quality homes for GM residents unable to access decent market housing, and meet PfE commitment to delivery

<b>July-Dec 2021</b>	<b>Jan-June 2022</b>	<b>July-Dec 2022</b>	<b>Jan-June 2023</b>
GMCA, Local Authorities and Homes England Challenge Group to accelerate affordable housing delivery established (G)	GMCA and Homes England to work with district Planning Officers Group and social housing providers to ensure planning have early visibility of pipeline to proceed with applications in a timely manner (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable

## **Strategic Priority B3: Increasing choices in the housing market for Greater Manchester households**

**Desired outcomes: delivery of new homes outlined in Places for Everyone and Stockport Local Plan, including up to 10,000 units from the Greater Manchester Housing Investment Loan Fund; deliver at least 50,000 additional affordable homes by 2037**

**Lead: GMCA Delivery Team**

Given the mismatch between our existing housing stock and our future needs, new homes must help us to offer broader choices to our residents, in a variety of ways. The Mayor's Town Centre Challenge has focused attention and brought different stakeholders and communities together to plot a new future for town centres across Greater Manchester. Increased town centre living is a common theme - and we need to think about how we make town and district centres attractive places to live. Using brownfield sites in and beyond town centres for housing is a vital part of the Places for Everyone strategy. Brownfield sites are within the grain of existing communities, so are often ideal locations for new homes to meet the needs and aspirations of those communities. We need to find the right tools and funding models to make that happen including support for smaller, local developers who are often well placed to identify and deliver these opportunities. Some sites will pose significant challenges to make them financially viable and will need public sector intervention and investment.

The need to explore diverse housing options for our ageing population means we need new homes to provide options for older households thinking about 'rightsizing' as a means to live independently for longer. New homes need to be more adaptable, and designed with potential care needs in mind. Places for Everyone specifies that all new dwellings must be built to the 'accessible and adaptable' standard, so homes can respond to the changing needs of residents. More broadly, we need to develop a more strategic approach to market provision and public sector commissioning of housing suitable for a range of groups with distinctive housing needs currently not being fully met. Recognising the challenge many Greater Manchester households face in accessing the homes they aspire to in the current market, we need to develop

alternative models and pathways which will assist key groups to achieve secure, high quality homes (see Strategic Priority A3).

### **Making the case to Government**

- Seek flexible resources to bring forward new housing land and development to meet local needs and demand, tying together the Government capital grant and loan/investment funding at a Greater Manchester scale to ensure strategic approach to a pipeline of residential land and development, better tied to development of necessary infrastructure.
- Continue to make the case for a devolved strategic partnership arrangement with Homes England to fairly allocate housing investment and give Greater Manchester local control of funding to accelerate the delivery of new homes to meet our housing needs.
- Developing and piloting new models to meet Greater Manchester households' aspirations in partnership with Homes England and Government.
- Joint lobbying / influencing with Social Care leaders on changes to supported housing policy and investment, including; change to the existing Homes England grant regime to allow for grant to be utilised for development of short term accommodation to facilitate discharge from acute settings; increased and ringfenced social care revenue and higher grant rates for supported housing development.

### **Progress**

- £19.3m actual spend of Brownfield Housing Fund
- Contracting and delivery of Brownfield Housing Fund schemes

### **Challenges**

- Delivery capacity and availability of sites
- Impact of COVID-19 on delivery

### **Partnerships**

- GM Housing Providers Group and Tripartite Partnership
- GM Ageing Hub Housing, Planning and Ageing Group
- Housing Solutions Group

#### **Data**

- GM Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) revised and updated
- Monitoring and identifying how to support delivery of small sites in PFE allocations



## Actions

Key- (R)= Stalled, (A)= Delayed, (G)= Met/on track, (C) = Complete

### Creating attractive new residential choices in and around our town centres

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Progress and develop Towns Fund bids. Utilise other funding e.g. Brownfield Housing Fund, Levelling Up Fund, Resilience Innovation Fund) to support housing development in town centres (G)	Work with local partners to ensure strong bids submitted to expected future rounds of Levelling Up funding, including connection to Growth Locations strategies as appropriate (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable
Places for Everyone to include focus on housing supply in town centre locations (C)	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

### Unlocking the potential of Greater Manchester's brownfield land supply

July-Dec 2021	Jan-June 2022	July-Dec 2022	Jan-June 2023
Delivery underway on first round sites (G)	Additional funding secured from DLUHC for Brownfield Fund (share of £30m and £120m). Tranche 2 schemes funding agreements in place (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable

**Develop alternative models and pathways which will assist key groups to achieve secure, high quality homes-** Recognising the challenge many GM households face in accessing the homes they aspire to in the current market

<b>July-Dec 2021</b>	<b>Jan-June 2022</b>	<b>July-Dec 2022</b>	<b>Jan-June 2023</b>
Development of clear GM supported housing offer for commissioners. (G)	Develop GM and locality response to ASC Reform White Paper funding opportunities to improve strategic relationship between housing and care and upscale offer of supported housing (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable
Development and delivery of accommodation options to support move on from in-patient settings for those with complex mental health, learning disability and autism (G)	Development and delivery of accommodation options to support move on from in-patient settings for those with complex mental health, learning disability and autism (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable

**Growing options to meet future aspirations of older households-** Develop a more strategic approach to market provision or public sector commissioning of housing suitable for specific groups, including older households looking for better 'rightsizing' choices in their own communities or families with children in the private rented sector

<b>July-Dec 2021</b>	<b>Jan-June 2022</b>	<b>July-Dec 2022</b>	<b>Jan-June 2023</b>
Not applicable	MMU to launch formation of Agency; seeking alternative funding, working with Innovation Partnership on Healthy Ageing (A)	Not applicable	Not applicable
Engagement with key stakeholders (incl. planners, developers) on research and evidence-base (Design for Life, Right Place, Victoria North) (G)	Engagement with key stakeholders (incl. planners, developers) on research and evidence-base (Design for Life, Right Place, Victoria North) (G)	Not applicable	Not applicable
Complete and disseminate learning from RightPlace prospectus (G)	Working with local authorities on district, local and neighbourhood plans (G)	Working with local authorities on district, local and neighbourhood plans (G)	Not applicable