

## Charnwood Housing Strategy 2005-2010: 'Successful, Thriving and Inclusive'

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## Foreword by Councillor Betty Newton

We are pleased to introduce **'Charnwood Housing Strategy: Successful, Thriving and Inclusive'**, which sets out the vision, priorities, plans and actions for housing in the Borough for the next five years.

The Government's modernisation agenda has set new challenges in the way the Council delivers its services. A number of key policy developments and drivers of change, including Best Value, Community Planning and Comprehensive Performance Assessments have heralded the beginning of a new approach to housing within Charnwood.

Learning from the past and looking to future opportunities the Council has begun a process of strengthening its role as the strategic housing authority. Underpinning this process the Council has worked in close partnership with the local community, partner organisations and other local stakeholders to ensure we deliver reliable, cost effective, and quality services whilst providing the infrastructure to enable other services and housing providers to deliver services that reflect the aspirations of local communities

This Housing Strategy aims to put the foundations in place to give everyone in the Borough the opportunity of a decent affordable home and so promote well being and self-dependence. This is a key element in the Council's vision as set out in our Corporate Plan 'Leading in Leicestershire' and in delivering the Council's main priority:

**'Ensuring the Borough is recognised as Leading in Leicestershire for the quality of its living environment for all'**

Housing is about more than physical structures - it extends to the local community and the quality of

life the home provides. One of our six corporate aims is that of 'Decent Homes and Neighbourhoods'; raising the standards of homes and the surrounding environment, fostering sustainable communities, and providing quality advice to those in housing need. This strategy is integral to delivering the Council's vision and the aims of the Corporate Plan, and the links to the corporate policy framework are highlighted throughout.

This promises to be a time of change, and implementing change. This Housing Strategy has been developed with and approved by our key partners and local stakeholders. They will also be involved in taking this strategy forward and monitoring its progress. We look forward to the continued involvement of the local community, partners and other interested parties in successfully delivering these priorities and turning our shared vision into reality.



Councillor Betty Newton  
Lead Member for Housing