

## **HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **Cabinet Lead Delegated Decision**

---

**Decision By: Cllr Narinder Bains Cabinet Lead for Neighbourhood Quality**

#### **EMPTY HOMES STRATEGY**

**Report by: Sam Ings**

**Key Decision: No**

---

#### **1.0 Purpose of Report**

1.1. This report is submitted to Cabinet Lead for policy decision.

#### **2.0 Decision**

2.1. Cabinet Lead is recommended to approve the Empty Homes Strategy.

#### **3.0 Issue**

3.1. Empty homes are a wasted resource and can have a detrimental impact on neighbourhoods and the environment, as they can become an eyesore that may also cause problems for neighbours. Empty homes can quickly fall into disrepair and become magnets for antisocial behaviour and vandalism.

With affordable housing and land in short supply in Havant it is necessary to ensure that empty homes do not remain empty unnecessarily and fall into misuse and dereliction.

3.2. The intention of this Strategy is to outline the council's approach to the issue of empty homes and provide focus as to how we will dedicate our resource.

3.3. The council is keen to avoid enforcement action and prefers to work with responsible property owners to rectify issues relating to their properties without the need for formal action, however enforcement action will be used where necessary.

3.4. This Strategy is designed to link in with and compliment the Council Tax Empty Homes Premium, and the council's Homelessness Strategy.

#### **4.0 Implications**

4.1 **Resources:** None

4.2 **Legal:** None

4.3 **Strategy:** None

4.4 **Risks:** None

5.0 **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 – ‘confidential’ or Exempt’ Information Indicator:** *(please complete as appropriate)*

5.1 This delegated decision contains neither confidential nor exempt information

6.0 **Is this an Urgent Decision?**

No

7.0 **Consultation with Portfolio Holder (as appropriate):**

Ward Member Informed: Cllr Bains

Cabinet Lead Informed: Cllr Bains

Date: 06/03/2020

**Agreed by Councillor Bains**

**Date 6 March 2020**

Appendices: Empty Homes Strategy  
Empty Homes Action Plan

Background Papers: None

Agreed and signed off by:

Monitoring Officer: 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

S151 Officer: 4 March 2020

Head of Service: 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Portfolio Holder: 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**Contact Officer: Sam Ings**

**Job Title: Environmental Health Service Manager**

**Telephone: 01730 234334**

**E-Mail: Sam.Ings@easthants.gov.uk**