

Sefton's Housing Strategy looks at improving access to housing and the services linked to these homes over the next 5 years and beyond. To achieve these aims, this strategy looks at implementing a range of priorities which are outlined below:

**Improving the quality of housing in Sefton** - This priority looks at **improving homes** for all residents but focuses specifically on those houses with the worst conditions. These can include homes which are privately or socially rented or classed as homes in multiple occupation. This section of the strategy also looks at tackling climate change through improving energy efficiency in homes and aims to reduce the number homes which are left empty for long periods of time.

**Providing homes to meet people's housing needs** - This priority addresses how we can **increase the number of available homes** in Sefton. This increase in the supply of housing will help to provide a greater choice of homes that will meet the needs of current and future residents in Sefton. This priority also highlights the Council's desire to directly oversee the development of social housing, providing high-quality homes in areas where people want to live.

**Enabling people to live independently** - This priority addresses the **housing needs of Sefton's increasing older population**. More specifically, how appropriate homes including the development of specialist housing or adaptations to existing homes can be used to ensure that people can continue to live independently and healthily lives.

**Tackling Barriers to Obtaining Suitable Housing and Services for the most vulnerable.**

This priority looks at **providing appropriate homes** and housing services for those people **where their housing needs are more specific**. The Council's ambition is to ensure that best housing outcomes are achieved for Sefton's most vulnerable

groups, such as those with mental health issues, learning and physical disabilities or those leaving care.

**Effectively using council-owned properties and assets to support additional housing** - This theme continues the work of the previous housing strategy by addressing how Sefton can **maximise the use of its existing land and property to support the delivery of additional homes**. This includes looking to enhance and grow properties being provided by Sandway Homes (Sefton’s housing development company). Additionally, the Council is also looking to provide Social Housing directly, as a social landlord. Finally, the Council will work closely with external partners to help secure funding to help deliver new homes on sites that are potentially more difficult to develop.

This Housing Strategy document helps support other housing-related work and strategies across Sefton and the wider Liverpool City Region. Sefton’s overall Housing Strategy consists of three distinct documents to:

- Identify Strategic Housing Priorities (outlined above)
- Provide details and specific methods of how these priorities will be achieved in an Action Plan
- See if our aims and priorities are being achieved by producing an Annual Monitoring Report.

