



Easy Read Information

Medway Council Housing Strategy 2011-2014

Housing



Good housing for everyone will lead to a better tomorrow.



However - just by a person having good housing does not mean that they will have a good life so it is important that housing plans link to other Medway plans.

Medway Strategic Housing Plans



The current Medway Council strategic (big plan) housing strategy for Medway will end in September 2011.



There will be a new Medway Council Housing Strategy starting October 2011.



The new Medway Council strategy will be called

“Housing Strategy 2011-2014: Housing for A Better Future”.



How was the new strategic housing strategy made?



It was made:

1. Involving local Medway people
 - Working with different Medway stakeholders for example, Medway Learning Disability Partnership Board
 - Having focus groups



2. Including lots of housing information from different Medway plans



3. Including Government policies (nationally and locally) to do with housing and how local authorities should be run.



More information on “Housing Strategy 2011-2014: Housing for A Better Future”



The aim of the new housing strategy will be to:

1. Let everyone know the housing vision of Medway Council



Show a clear plan (based on evidence) about how Medway Council wants this housing vision to happen.



The new housing strategy will have information on:

- What housing we have in Medway Council
- What housing we need for Medway
- Housing needs of the different people of Medway (Demographic issues)
- Medway 'Housing priorities' (things that need to be done first)
- Housing targets
- How Medway Council will work with its partners to make things happen
- How the housing strategy fits with other plans and policies



It is important that Medway has a housing strategy that is:

- Used
- Up to date
- Shows the need of Medway communities
- Regularly checked and reviewed



The new Medway strategic housing strategy has been written to try and make sure this happens.



More information about the new Medway Council housing strategy



The new Medway Council housing strategy has **3 main themes**

Each theme has **clear outcomes**.



An outcome is “something that we want to happen”



There will be a **one-year action plan** to check on the strategy.

‘Task-and finish’ groups will be set up to make sure work in the Housing Strategy happens.



Information on the Themes and Outcomes of the new housing strategy



Theme 1 – Bridging the Gap



This is about:

- Increasing housing choice – so that more people in Medway live in suitable housing.
- Increasing the number of people who own the place where they live.



Theme 1 outcomes:

1. A range of housing choices will be provided to meet the housing need of people in Medway.
2. Make the best use of existing housing property (housing stock)
3. The way that housing is planned and supported will help Medway communities to get along better.



Theme 2 – Early Prevention



This is about:

- Providing suitable, appropriate and timely housing advice to support people to make the right housing choice.



Theme 2 outcomes:

1. Provide advice and support to stop housing crisis, to increase housing choice and access.
2. Make sure that there are lots of different types of housing choice to meet a wide range of housing needs.



Theme 3 – Health and Housing



This is about:

- Improving health through quality housing and places.



Theme 3 outcomes:

1. Making sure Medway has good quality housing that is energy efficient.
2. Improving and supporting people in the Medway community to be as independent as possible.



Where can I get more information on “Housing Strategy 2011-2014: Housing for A Better Future”?



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