

## APPENDIX 1: Housing and Residential Growth Equalities Update

### **Progress to date 2019/20**

Housing and Residential Growth's continued commitment to ensuring all residents benefit from the city's investment in housing and neighbourhoods is evident in the number of housing projects being developed to meet specific needs and the way learning from this is being embedded in new large scale projects.

The age friendly element of the Northern Gateway development continues to evolve in partnership with Age Friendly Manchester, academics and practitioners. MICRA (Manchester Institute for Collaborative Research on Ageing, part of the University of Manchester) has carried out original research for the development. The subsequent findings and recommendations will inform the Northern Gateway project and lay the foundations for the learning to be rolled out across other projects in the city. This will create more neighbourhoods with age friendly design embedded from the very beginning.

During 2019, Housing and Residential Growth have continued to work with registered housing providers (RPs) to deliver accommodation to meet specific housing requirements. Manchester's Extra Care development programme, giving greater housing choice for older people, has progressed well. Five of the seven schemes in the programme are under construction. Four of these are scheduled for completion in 2020, providing an additional 223 extra care apartments, and the fifth, a large scheme of 106 apartments, will come on line in late 2021. Following need analysis and consultation, the gap in accessible accommodation for older people in Newton Heath will be met by a new development of MCC owned age exclusive apartments on Silk Street, plus a new extra care scheme on Millwright Street.

The developments will complement an existing sheltered scheme and all older people in the area will be welcomed into, and encouraged, to use the communal facilities at the extra care scheme, creating a focal point for the older community. The former hospital on the site purchased for the LGBT extra care scheme on Russell Road in Whalley Range has now been demolished and the design process with the LGBT and local communities will begin following the appointment of a managing RP. Work has begun with the LGBT Foundation to develop an LGBT Affirmative quality kite-mark (Pride in Practice) for all extra care schemes in the city.

Of the four new supported accommodation schemes for citizens with learning disabilities, three schemes, totalling 50 apartments, have their first occupants. Feedback from tenants, families and advocates has been extremely positive and the residents are beginning to settle into and make connections with their new communities. The final 20 apartment scheme is due for completion in January 2020. In response to winter pressures, the 10 apartment scheme at Dalbeattie Street in Harpurhey is being used temporarily for hospital discharge for homeless people who have experienced a significant change in health. Support staff at the scheme enable them to stabilise and improve their health following discharge and begin the process of preparing to move to appropriate, accessible accommodation.

The larger property acquisition project, a partnership between the council and RPs, is gathering momentum. Set up to reduce the number of large homeless families waiting for long periods in temporary accommodation, this project enables the families to move to suitable, settled accommodation. In establishing a permanent home, the social, educational and health outcomes for the children in these families greatly improve.

At a citywide level, the review of the city's social housing allocation policy included extensive consultation and engagement. The EIA was completed and identified one potential, relatively disproportionate impact on Asian/Asian British families in respect of the new definition of who can be in a moving group as this broadly excludes adult children. However, if adult children have lived at home continuously they will qualify as part of the moving group and the impact will, therefore, not be as significant as anticipated. The mitigation for this is increased and more effective communication regarding the improved prospects of rehousing for smaller moving groups will be provided and management discretion will be applied where appropriate.

The increased target for new affordable housing in the city has focussed resources on driving delivery. The accompanying strategy and scheme EIAs will be started during 2020/21 and will continue as appropriate through the delivery of the programme. The team will also be supporting Adult Services to develop a new supported housing strategy to improve housing choice for citizens with specific needs or vulnerabilities.