

# **COMMUNITIES AND PLACE OSC**

## **REPORT TO CABINET**

**7 SEPTEMBER 2021**

### **Private Sector Housing Strategy 2021-2023**

This report was presented to the Committee by Colin Horncastle, Cabinet Member for Community Services at a meeting of the OSC held on 4 August 2021. Philip Soderquest, Head of Housing and Public Protection was in attendance to respond to questions or comments from members.

Whilst the Committee supported the Strategy, members were concerned that it appeared that some areas had a high percentage of empty properties and felt powers were needed to address exterior problems, in addition to internal standards, particularly where landlords were absent, as it impacted on attracting new residents.

The Committee also discussed the impact of the Governments “green” agenda and noted that refurbishing sub-standard properties in the public and private sectors was challenging as well as making properties more energy efficient and contributing to climate change aspirations. Members noted that a report on progress against the Council’s Climate Change Action Plan would be presented to the Committee in October and agreed to explore this issue further.

The Committee agreed to advise Cabinet that it supported the recommendations in the report.

**COUNCILLOR NICK OLIVER**

**CHAIRMAN**