

# East Herts Housing Priorities at a Glance – 2019/20



## Tackling homelessness

- finding solutions for homeless single people with complex needs including drug/alcohol use, arrears, eviction histories
- joint working on homelessness prevention – we will shortly be re-establishing a homelessness forum with stakeholders to deliver our Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy
- improving housing and homelessness knowledge throughout partner agencies so maximise opportunities for customers to receive up-to-date and detailed advice/information
- devising an early intervention protocol with all Registered Providers to address factors such as rent arrears and anti-social behaviour to prevent evictions where possible
- reducing repeat homelessness
- finding multi-agency solutions to minimise rough sleeping

## Increasing affordable housing supply – rented and home ownership

- working with Registered Providers to limit the extent of affordable rents above LHA
- maximising affordable housing delivery – our policy is 40% on sites of more than 15 homes and 35% on sites of 11-15 homes
- promoting shared ownership and any other forms of low cost home ownership
- maximising housing solutions within a context of very limited affordability in the private rented sector
- promoting a greater understanding of, and supporting the delivery of, community led and custom build housing

### **Meeting older persons' housing needs**

- working with the county council and partners to increase the supply of extra care housing and innovative housing solutions for older people
- encouraging downsizing in all sectors so as to improve options for older person households

### **Increasing the supply of specialist housing**

- providing specialist housing solutions, notably for those with learning disabilities
- working with partners to review current, and identify new, sources of supported accommodation to meet the needs of groups who are particularly at risk of homelessness
- increasing the provision of accessible and adaptable housing
- working with partners to promote our status as a Dementia Friendly District

### **Better understanding local needs and sharing best practice**

- better understanding the needs of different market segments in the district
- promoting shared learning among all partners

### **Promoting community safety and high quality neighbourhoods**

- maximising resident engagement on estates
- tackling anti-social behaviour, gangs and knife crime
- ensuring Registered Providers' properties are well-maintained with good repairs and maintenance services
- encouraging Registered Providers to bring forward estate regeneration proposals
- promoting the use of e-vehicles / seeking to have e-chargers installed across the district