Consultation Report – Tenancy Strategy

Who was consulted?

A wide variety of stakeholders were consulted, including Registered Providers, Statutory and Voluntary agencies, Council members and members of the public. A full list is found at the end of this report.

How were they consulted?

A variety of consultation methods were used, including email, letter, face to face and telephone, depending on the audience.

What was the feedback?

There was a general acceptance of the principle of Affordable rents. Members of the public felt that this was a fair way of setting rents. Registered Providers appreciated the support offered by Cherwell in setting out its strategy at an early date and in enabling the provision of more affordable housing through the acceptance of Affordable Rents. Council Members have expressed some concerns about Affordable Rents, which were discussed at a Council Member consultation.

Generally, respondents supported the use of flexible tenancies. Again this was strongly supported by members of the public who felt that flexible tenancies offer a fair way of dealing with a scarce resource.

How was the Tenancy Strategy changed?

As a result of consultation, several changes were made, including:-

- Strengthening the requirement that supported housing overall charges remain within Local Housing Allowance rates to enable vulnerable residents to continue to afford the support they need
- The section explaining how restricting the rate of conversion of void properties to Affordable rent will secure social rent lettings was extended and the explanation made clearer
- The section on disposals was extended to include the possibility of an RP disposing of a property to the existing tenant. This could happen during or at the end of a flexible tenancy, if the tenant's circumstances allow. Some RP partners plan to encourage this solution in areas of low home ownership
- The section on open market disposals was strengthened to improve Cherwell District Council's negotiating position on keeping investment within the District, when social housing properties are sold.

Consultation

Beacon Centre CAB **Connections FS** Connexions Habitat for Humanity Home Group Home Group Making Life Work **Oxfordshire County Council** SHG Shifa Trust Supporting People Shelter Hometrack Rethink local faith groups and churches from Bicester, Banbury, Kidlington and rural areas (Zaraostrian, Christian, Baha's, Muslim and more **TV Police** Frank Wise School **Changing Faces** Restore Oxford City Council Oxfordshire Rural Community Council, Chairman of Transport for All, Oxfordshire LCD Oxford Brookes University **Oxfordshire County Council** SCOPE Oxford Brookes University **Oxfordshire County Council** Oxfordshire Learning Disability **Oxfordshire County Council** Oxford and Cherwell Valley College **Redlands Centre & Special Olympics Club** Unlimited Hft (Home Farm Trust) Mill Centre Banbury MDS Banbury Local Support Group Bardwell FC **Circles Network** Lexicon Signstream The Kingwood Trust Oxfordshire Learning Disability Partnership Board NHS Let's Play Project Oxford Brookes University CDC Restore Shaw Trust Frank Wise School OASIS Cherwell CVS

Macular Disease Society Macular Disease Society Banbury Oxoneyes Bardwell FC Mind in Banbury Home Farm Trust (HFT) CCVS service The Kingwood Trust **Rugrats and Half Pints** OCC (Learning Disability Team) The National Autistic Society RNIB (blind people) Bardwell FC Royal Institute of Blind People **INDI South East** Cherwell CVS Oxford University BADSAD meet every Thursday at 13 at Lakeside Bowling Club Mencap Guide Dogs Carers Centre (North & West Oxfordshire) **Oxford Brookes University** Rethink Carer Support Service National Autistic Society North Oxfordshire School Sports Partnership Lets Play Project Bardwell FC Banbury CAB **Banbury Phab Club Redlands Gateway** INDI South East (infrastructure for disability information) Oxfordshire Neurological Alliance SID Lexicon Signstream **Reading University Museums Ryder-Cheshire Volunteers** Chamber of Commerce **Bardwell School** National Volunteer Manager Leonard Cheshire Disability Transport for all Oxfordshire Unlimited SCOPE Hft (Home Farm Trust) North Oxfordshire School Sports Partnership North Oxon Carers Centre Wheel Chair Basketball Club Oxfordshire Boccia Academy Abingdon Fencing Club Oxford Fencing Club Banbury United LD Football Team Bloxham Football **Coasters Football Group**

Henley YMCA Casuals Football Club Oxford City Casuals Summertown Stars VI Football Section Active8 Abingdon Junior Multi-Sports Club KEEN - Kids Enjoy Exercise Now Oxfordshire Deaf Children's Society OXSRAD Oxford Adapted Rowing Club Witney Wolves Inclusive Rugby Sailability Downs Syndrome International Swimming Organisation **Oxford Otters** Oxford Swans Swimming Club Age UK **Circles Network** A2Dominion Ability Advance Anchor Bromford Catalyst **English Rural** GLOSHA Greensquare Hanover Housing 21 Jephson OCHA Paradigm Raglan Residents' panel Sanctuary Sovereign TVHA Customer Services Development Control and Major Developments Director of Development Eco Bicester economic development Equalities equality and access to services panel Health Housing older people Planning Policy

Planning Policy Recreation and Health (Young People) Reneration and Housing Revenues and Benefits Revenues and Benefits Safer communities Safer Communities (antisocial behaviour) Safer Communities (rural) Valuer Parish Councils Cherwell Landlords' forum Oxford City South and Vale South Northants West Oxon Developer database