

Appendix C: Summary of Draft Housing Strategy

A Housing Strategy for Halton 2026 – 2031, Homes that drive Growth, Opportunity, and Fairness for all.

Vision: Our Housing Strategy will deliver access to quality, affordable, and sustainable homes. It will underpin a foundation for thriving, inclusive communities, stronger local economies, and greater opportunity and fairness for all in Halton.

Priority One: Driving Economic Growth through housing-led investment.

- Establish a one-stop-shop to support residential developers.
- Development sites will be brought together into a Housing Opportunity Prospectus.
- To guide delivery, the council will develop area specific Housing Delivery Plans.

Priority Two: Creating an inclusive housing market to promote fairness.

- Create a dedicated Affordable and Specialist Housing Needs Fund through s106 commuted sums.
- Work with Housing Associations to make better use of existing homes i.e. support right sizing.
- Creating more affordable homeownership pathways for local people, i.e. through a local connections policy.
- Raise standards in the private rented sector, i.e. through selective licensing and HMO article 4 direction.
- Tackling homelessness and housing insecurity, i.e. increase access to temporary accommodation.

Priority Three: Supporting Independent Living, Empowering People, and Strengthening Communities

- Produce a Specialist Housing Prospectus, including undertaking a thorough accommodation needs assessment and apply an 'invest to save' model.
- Improve delivery of specialist housing i.e. by working with Housing Associations and the use of Council land.
- Making homes work for every age, i.e. promote use of technology and increase number of accessible homes.

Priority Four: Promoting healthy homes, thriving communities and resilient neighbourhoods.

- Tackling fuel poverty by working with local partners to enhance energy efficiency by promoting and delivering retrofit measures across the borough.
- Bringing long-term empty homes back into use, i.e. through the use of Empty Dwelling Management Orders (EDMOs).
- Maximising our impact in delivering a healthy Halton, i.e. through closer working between health practitioners, housing associations, and blue light partners to make every contact count.