

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Social Care, Health & Housing Scrutiny Committee**

**9<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH & HOUSING**

#### **Matter for Monitoring**

**Wards Affected:** ALL

#### **Report Title**

**Corporate Improvement Objective – Prosperity for All - Highlight Report – Quarter 3 (April 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> December) 2016/17**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

To provide Members with the Prosperity for All Highlight Report – Quarter 3 2016/17 for Housing which provides a progress update for the first nine months of 2016/17 for one of the Corporate Improvement Plan objectives which fall within the remit of the Social Care, Health & Housing Committee. This will enable the Social Care, Health & Housing Committee Scrutiny Members to discharge their functions in relation to performance management.

The Prosperity for All improvement Objective covers three areas, Regeneration, Anti-poverty and Housing. Anti-poverty and Regeneration progress will be reported to their relevant scrutiny committees.

#### **Summary**

The continued interest in the Houses into Homes Loan Scheme has seen a significant improvement and the delivery process for the issuing of Home Improvement Loans is continually being reviewed and is on target to exceed the number of properties that were made warm safe and secure during 2015-16.

The Review of the Homelessness Service has been delayed to coincide with a planned wider service area review but will be implemented in early 2017/18. Ongoing preparatory work remains on target for the production of a draft Homelessness Strategy in 2017.

NPT Homes continues to make excellent progress in the delivery of its major investment programme and remains on target to achieve WHQS.

## **Financial Impact**

The performance described in the attached highlight report is being delivered against a challenging financial backdrop.

## **Equality Impact Assessment**

There are no equality impacts associated with this report.

## **Workforce Impacts**

There are no workforce impacts associated with this report.

## **Legal Impacts**

To support the discharge of the duty placed on the Council, as contained within the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009, to 'make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of its functions'.

## **Risk Management**

Failure to have robust performance monitoring arrangements could result in poor performance going undetected.

## **Consultation**

No requirement to consult on this item.

## **Recommendation**

For Members to note the progress report for the Prosperity for All corporate improvement objective as contained within the attached highlight report.

## **Reasons for Proposed Decision**

Matter for monitoring. No decision required.

## **Implementation of Decision**

Matter for monitoring. No decision required.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Prosperity for All - Highlight Report – Quarter 3 2016/17

## **List of Background Papers**

The Neath Port Talbot [Corporate Improvement Plan - 2016/2019](#) “Rising to the Challenge”;

### **Officer Contact**

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**Highlight Report – 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

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**Corporate Improvement Priority:** To support and invest in our town centres and communities to promote economic growth, regeneration and sustainability, maximise job opportunities and improve access to employment.

<b>RAG Status</b>	<b>Summary of Progress</b>
<b>Green</b>	<p><b>Housing</b></p> <p>The continued interest in the Houses into Homes Loan Scheme has seen a significant improvement and the delivery process for the issuing of Home Improvement Loans is continually being reviewed and is on target to exceed the number of properties that were made warm safe and secure during 2015-16.</p> <p>The Review of the Homelessness Service has been delayed to coincide with a planned wider service area review but will be implemented in early 2017/18. Ongoing preparatory work remains on target for the production of a draft Homelessness Strategy in 2017.</p> <p>NPT Homes continues to make excellent progress in the delivery of its major investment programme and remains on target to achieve WHQS.</p>



**Highlight Report – 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

What will be different? (Outcomes)	Lead Officer	RAG Status	Progress
<b><u>Housing</u></b>			
1. NPT Homes will continue to meet the Council’s promise (as detailed in the ‘offer document’) to bring all former council housing up to the Welsh Housing Quality Standard and to regenerate communities.	<b>A.Thomas</b>	<b>Green</b>	The percentage of properties WHQS compliant at 31.12.16 is 86.4%. NPT Homes continues to make excellent progress in the delivery of its major investment programme and remains on target to achieve WHQS.
2. We will provide loans to effectively target empty properties to bring them back into use and make sure existing housing stock is safe, warm and secure.	<b>A.Thomas</b>	<b>Green</b>	The continued interest in the Houses into Homes Loan Scheme has seen a significant improvement in the number of empty properties being brought back into use and has already exceed the number of properties brought back into use in 2015/16 (8 properties). During this reporting period a total of 20 units were brought back into use through rental accommodation or made available for sale ( <i>see Figure 2</i> ). The delivery process for the issuing of Home Improvement Loans is continually being reviewed and is on target to exceed the number of properties that were made warm safe and secure during 2015/16 (5 properties). During this reporting period a total of 7 properties received a Home Improvement Loan to make their property warm, safe or secure ( <i>see Figure 3</i> ).



**Highlight Report – 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

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<p>3. A) We will undertake a homelessness review.</p>	<p><b>A.Thomas</b></p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p>The overall Review of the Homelessness Service has been delayed to coincide with a planned wider service area review but will be implemented in early 2017/18.</p> <p>The establishment of a Gateway Officer to manage the single point of access arrangements remains on target for April 2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase the % of all potentially homeless households for whom homelessness was prevented for at least 6 months. Comparative performance: 92.1% during the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015 and 92.4% during the same period this year.</li></ul> <p>The Welsh Government has recently approved a virement of funds across its ring-fenced grants in payment locally that is thus far enabling the Homelessness Service to maintain preventative performance.</p>
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**Highlight Report – 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

<p>3. B) We will prioritise those most in need by implementing single point of access arrangements for Supported People-funded homelessness prevention support services.</p>	<p><b>A.Thomas</b></p>	<p><b>Amber</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of private rented tenancies made available that were suitable and likely to be available for at least six months. Comparative performance: 66 during the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015 and 53 during the same period this year.</li> </ul> <p>The decrease in comparative performance at the end of Quarter 3 is not necessarily a cause for concern as it is anticipated that the availability of the vired funding referred to above will enable the Homelessness Service to make available additional properties in Quarter 4.</p>
<p>4. We will develop a Homelessness Strategy that will ensure co-operation agreements are in place with our Housing Association partners to deliver the requirements of the Housing (Wales) Act and monitor the contribution they make to help the Council fulfil its duty.</p>	<p><b>A.Thomas</b></p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p>The Homelessness Strategy does not need to be in place until April 2018 however ongoing preparatory work remains on target for the production of a draft document later this year.</p> <p>At a Welsh level, a draft cooperation agreement is being piloted and will provide the basis of NPTCBC’s agreements when available.</p> <p>% of Housing Association partners with stock in the county borough the Council has a co-operation agreement with (Nil - see above).</p>

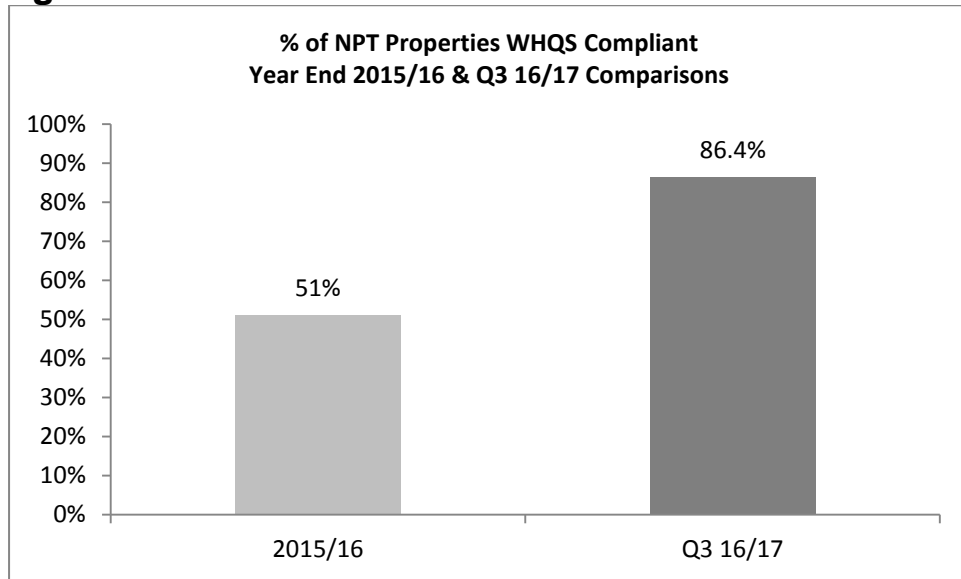


**Highlight Report – 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

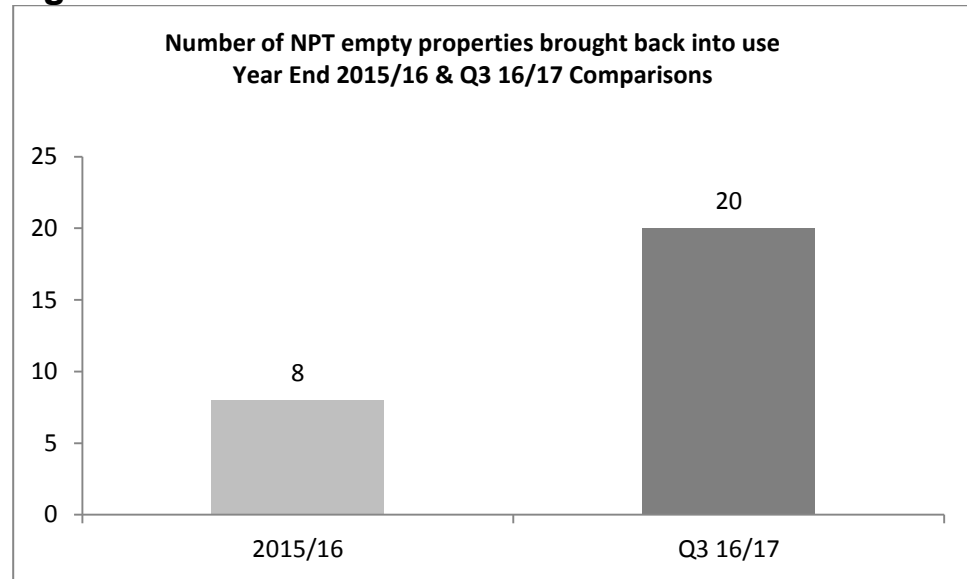
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**Measures: Graphs**

**Figure 1**



**Figure 2**



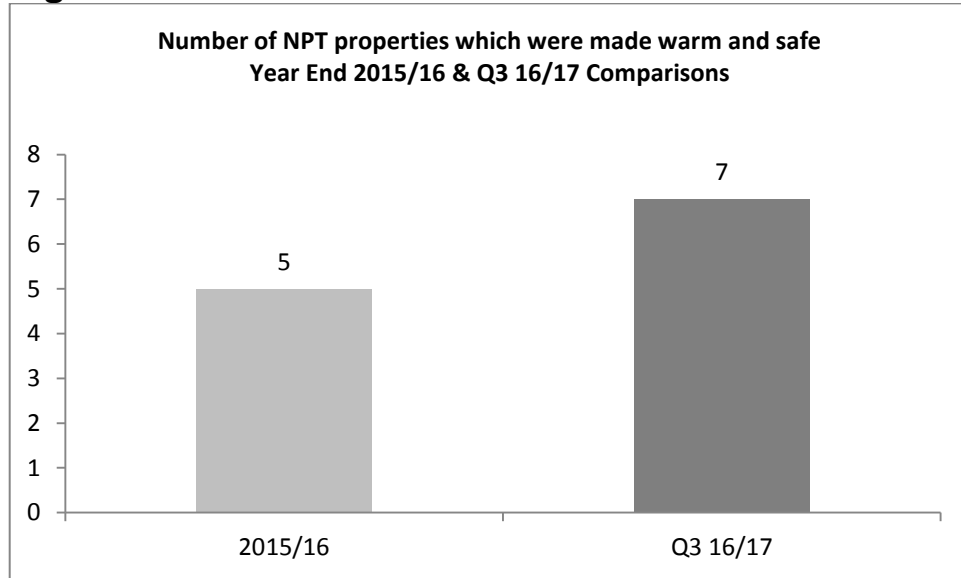




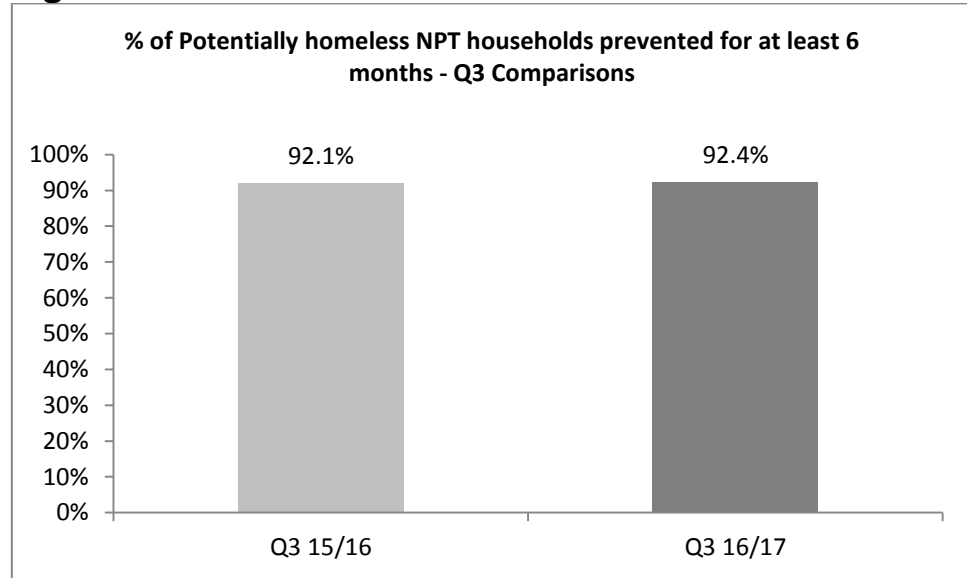
**Highlight Report – 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

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**Figure 3**



**Figure 4**





**Highlight Report – 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

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**Figure 5**

