

South Kesteven District Council  
Housing Delivery Test Action Plan  
Addendum - August 2020

1. August 2020 update

1.1 The Council approved its Housing Delivery Test Action Plan in July 2019. This addendum provides an update to that Action Plan, in line with Government guidance.

1.2 The update is required as despite a positive increase in housing delivery during 2018/19 and 2019/20, South Kesteven's 2019 HDT results which were published on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 2020 give a result was 82%. This has the consequence that the Council must publish an action plan within six months and must also apply a 20% buffer to their 5 year housing land supply (see paragraphs 73 and 75 of the [NPPF](#) and [PPG](#)). As the Council approved a Housing Delivery Test Action Plan in 2019, it is appropriate to provide an update to this for the current year as this is considered to provide a robust framework.

1.3 South Kesteven District Council is responding to the challenge of housing delivery and has the ambition - recognised across its key strategic documents (particularly the Local Plan) - to increase and accelerate the delivery of new housing across the District. The attached Appendix 1 updates the action plan which was produced in line with Government guidance, provides an analysis of the key reasons for the historic under performance to deliver against the District's assessed housing requirement and identifies the measures the Council should seek to undertake to increase the delivery of new housing across the District.

1.4 The Council recognise that delivering growth is complex. Whilst a number of the actions identified in the action plan are solely within the remit of the Council to resolve, to successfully respond to the challenge of increasing, and then maintaining, housing delivery the Council will also need the support and co-operation of a range of third party stakeholders and those involved in delivering homes including landowners and house builders.

1.5 Since the publication of the HDT results in February 2020, more recent evidence indicates that 729 dwellings were completed within South Kesteven in 2019/20, well above the requirement and giving some encouragement to the Council's objective to increase and accelerate the delivery of new housing across South Kesteven. This follows on from the provision of 676 new dwellings completed in 2018/19, again well above requirement.

1.6 The impact of Covid-19 undoubtedly have an impact on rates of housebuilding from April 2020, both nationally and locally. This will be monitored closely by the Council. To seek confirmation of its housing supply, the Council has submitted an Annual Position Statement (APS) to the Government for assessment by the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020. This set out the provision of a 5 year housing supply within South Kesteven. There has been significant consultation with developers, landowners and stakeholders in producing the APS.

1.7 Despite the impact of Covid-19, it is considered that the analysis of housing delivery and the root causes of under-performance are still relevant and so justify the existing action plan framework.

1.8 The attached Appendix provides an update on the actions agreed by the Council in July 2019 within the Housing Delivery Test action plan.