

	TO:	Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Board
	DATE:	24 th September 2025
BRIEFING	LEAD OFFICERs:	Rachel Copley, Public Health Practitioner Paul Benson, Private Sector Housing Coordinator Sally Jenks, Public Health Improvement Principal
	TITLE:	Healthy Homes Plan

1. Background

This briefing is to inform the Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Board of the full content of the Healthy Homes Plan. This topic area sits within Aim 4 of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

1.1 What is the Healthy Homes Plan?

The proposed Healthy Homes Plan will be an annually refreshed document outlining the significance of poor housing on health and wellbeing in Rotherham and the key steps being taken to improve the housing sector. It represents a collaboration across three council directorates (Public Health, Housing and Regeneration & Environment) and a variety of voluntary and community sector organisations. There will be an action plan attached to this covering three main themes:

- Theme 1 Intelligence and Evidence Gathering
- Theme 2 Reducing Fuel Poverty in Rotherham
- Theme 3 Increasing Support and Assistance to Tackle Housing Related Health Risks
- 1.2 A draft iteration of the plan was initially approved by Housing SMT on 4th December 2024, Public Health SMT on the 12th December 2024 and Regulation & Enforcement Managers meeting on 27th March 2025. The initial briefing is attached as appendix 1.
- 1.3 The 2025 version of the Healthy Homes Plan has been written, and the full version of the document and action plan is attached as appendix 2.
- 1.4 The action plan will be a regular agenda item on the Rotherham Energy Network meetings which take place every 6 weeks and any major changes to the action plan or full document will be brough to Public Health SMT and Housing SMT.

2. Key Issues

2.1 Updates to needs assessment section

Since the first round of approval with Public Health SMT, Housing SMT and Regulation & Enforcement Managers meeting and subsequent consultation with various RMBC staff, NHS partners and voluntary sector partners there have been some edits to the core content including:

- Addition of more public health related data such as mental health issues, isolation, substance use and pharmacy access.
- Addition of links to future RMBC housing planning documents and related Supplementary Planning Documents.
- A full refresh of the support section including information on all of the services in the Rotherham Energy Network Group.
- A more detailed breakdown on tenancy split in Rotherham.
- A full overall refresh of any data that was out of date.

2.2 Updates to the Action Plan

Each of the three themes now have two sections to them, one for actions that have been completed in the previous year and one for the actions still to be completed.

2.3 Publication

This document will be published on the Rotherham Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) page on Housing.

2.4 Housing Health Cost Calculator Data

The 2020-2025 selective licensing scheme has been evaluated using the Housing Health Cost Calculator tool. This has provided us with the following financial benefits to the selective licensing scheme:

- £148,543 savings to the NHS from removing hazards
- £1,860,797 wider societal benefits from preventing ill health

2.5 Future selective licensing

There is a plan to continue with selective licensing in Rotherham for 2025-2030. A Cabinet paper on 15th September 2025 will inform the future outcome of this scheme following consultation.

3. Key Actions and Timelines

3.1 | Previous Approval

This briefing was approved at Public Health SMT on 14th August and Adult Care, Housing & Public Health DLT on 26th August.

3.2 Action Plan

The action plan attached to this work will be constantly monitored to ensure progress is being made across the three key themes.

3.3 Housing Health Cost Calculator

The Council will need to review the findings gained from using the Housing Health Cost Calculator prior to committing funding to continue having access to the tool for subsequent years.

3.4 Future Briefings

An annual update on the plan, including new statistics and new and completed actions can be brought to the attention of SMT before a new version is released each year.

3.5 | 2026 Document

The full document will be updated in Summer 2026 and will continue to be done so annually.

4. Recommendations

4.1 Approve that the plan can be escalated to DLT on 26th August for subsequent approval for Health and Wellbeing Board on 24th September.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Briefing on creation of the Healthy Homes Plan to Public Health SMT on 12th December 2024 <u>Healthy Homes Briefing Public Health SMT.docx</u>

Appendix 2 – Rotherham Healthy Homes Plan 2025