

**To:** The Management Committee  
**From:** Housing Services Manager  
**Subject:** Equalities Strategy Update

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## **1. Introduction / Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Committee with the progress made in the development of the Equalities Strategy.

## **2. Background**

- 2.1 The previous Housing Services Manager had produced a draft version of the Equalities Strategy prior to leaving Rosehill. As Committee will be aware this is a key piece of work that was due to be completed by the end of March 2022.
- 2.2 Since taking up the post of Housing Services Manager on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 I have been familiarising myself with both the content of the Strategy and the key issues to be addressed/updated. I have produced an action plan ensuring that realistic targets are being set for achieving the specific tasks required as well as liaising with our Data Protection Officer in relation to our data collection form.

## **3. Updates**

- 3.1 Since my last update on 23<sup>rd</sup> February we have been advised that the deadline for implementing the Strategy has been extended until June 2022.
- 3.2 Earlier in March, the SHR recognised the scope for flexibility, in that it's not necessarily the case that data has to be collected for all nine protected characteristics and all five groups. As a result of this we are currently reviewing our data collection form to reflect this.
- 3.3 Guidance in relation to Part 8: Human Rights has not yet been published however this is expected at some point in March.
- 3.4 I will continue working on updating the Equalities Strategy as necessary including finalising our Data Collection Form, to ensure we are ready to

implement the Strategy as soon as possible. We are ahead of the implementation date of June 2022.

#### **4. Risks**

4.1 Failure to have regard to human rights and equalities will mean that the regulatory requirements for the ARC will not have been met.

#### **5.0 Summary**

5.1 Committee is invited to note this update.