

Health and Well Being Board

22 January 2026

Public Questions

Question from John Palmer

re: agenda item 7 - Housing and Health Action Plan update

The outstanding progress outlined in the housing action plan (Appendix A) is invigorating, and reverberates positively, a testament to the energies, professionalism and caring attitudes of all those involved at the council and its partners.

Decent Homes 2 Standard - a commitment to 90% fulfil; housing stock now fully compliant with Awaab's Law; progress on prioritising housing for essential workers. All to be celebrated!

Ahead of the Renters Rights Act 2025 becoming law on 1 May, will the Board be actively encouraging the council and its partners to be alert, smart, get ready to challenge landlords at every turn, and hold them to the highest standards?

It's what the public across the age ranges passionately want, especially younger people - inspired in our campaigning focus by such essential books as Kwajo Tweneboa's "Our Country In Crisis: Britain's Housing Emergency and How We Rebuild" from 2024.

Locally, only the left are vocal and active in pursuing positive changes in our communities. You never hear a constructive peep on these vital issues from the inarticulate clueless morass.

Sent To Rachel Robinson/Louisa Jones 15/01

RESPONSE -

A working group for all of the services affected by the new statutory duties and powers is actively working on preparation for implementation of the act. New investigatory powers are already in force and the next phase of the implementation due in May of this year concerns the tenancy relations and anti eviction requirements. The government has awarded the Council £92000 in New Burdens Funding this year to help prepare, and a business case is being worked up to restructure the Housing Enforcement Team and bolster the tenancy relations role. The board can be assured that the Council is actively planning for the implementation of all parts of the Act and that landlords will be held to account against the new requirements, as they currently are with existing legislation.