

Rother District Council

Report to:	Audit and Standards Committee
Date:	28 February 2024
Title:	Homes England 2023/24 Compliance Audit Programme
Report of:	Joe Powell, Head of Service Housing & Regeneration
Purpose of Report:	To present an update from a recent Homes England audit of the Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme (RSAP)
Officer Recommendation(s):	It be RESOLVED : That the report be noted.

Introduction

1. This report provides the outcome from the Homes England audit of the Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme (RSAP). The RSAP was delivered by Homes England in collaboration with the Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) in support of the Government's wider objectives to end rough sleeping.
2. The Council was successful in its bid to the RSAP 2022 and was awarded £391,050 of match funding. The Council was able to use this match funding to purchase four properties and provide supported accommodation to former rough sleepers. As part of RSAP 2022, we were also awarded funding of up to £30,000 so that residents can be supported in their homes. The support is delivered through the local East Sussex Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI), which brings together a range of service providers and agencies from across Housing, Health, Social Care and the wider voluntary and community sector.

Details

3. The purpose of the Compliance Audit report is to confirm that grant recipients have met Homes England's funding conditions and contractual requirements and have properly exercised their responsibilities as set out in the Capital Funding Guide.
4. Homes England selected one of our RSAP schemes that was purchased in Spring 2023, and that joined the RSI support contract from June 2023.
5. The report has to be noted by the Audit and Standards Committee by 17 April 2024, before the Compliance Audit Lead can acknowledge the report with Homes England.
6. We achieved a green rating with no breaches identified (please see Appendix A).

Financial Implications

7. Homes England use the audit findings to inform their future investment decisions and to reassure the Homes England Chief Accounting Officer that public funds have been properly used.

Conclusion

8. On review of the evidence provided, the outcome of the audit has shown we have complied with all the programme requirements and guidance. A GREEN grade has been assigned and no breaches were identified.

Other Implications	Applies?	Other Implications	Applies?
Human Rights	No	Equalities and Diversity	No
Crime and Disorder	No	External Consultation	No
Environmental	No	Access to Information	No
Risk Management	No	Exempt from publication	No

Chief Executive:	Lorna Ford
Report Contact Officer:	Kathryn Harlow
e-mail address:	kathryn.harlow@rother.gov.uk
Appendices:	A Compliance Audit Report 2023/24
Relevant Previous Minutes:	None
Background Papers:	None
Reference Documents:	None