

Councillor Richard Musgrave, Deputy Leader of the Council Report to Council on 27 September 2022

Repairs

Work is continuing to address the backlog of repairs resulting from the Covid lockdowns and resource shortages experienced earlier in the year. Overall, 91.09% of the original backlog has now been cleared and there are currently 2,173 open repair entries within the Council's repairs management system. On average, the Council operates with an ongoing repair rate of approximately 1,850 'live' repairs; hence there are currently 373 more open repair entries in the system than usual.

The recent success in recruiting additional resources to the team following implementation of the service restructure is however now starting to have an impact and open repair numbers are slowly starting to reduce as our new staff become fully conversant with their roles.

Voids

The number of voids being received continues to see high levels within the refurbishment category which significantly impacts our ability to bring these properties back in to use in a timely manner. Notwithstanding, performance at the end of Q1 remained within targets with a total of 31 voids having been handed back and all categories delivering within agreed Key Performance Indicator targets.

Planned

The primary focus of the Council's capital investment programme in the HRA stock for this year is around compliance related works to ensure we can deliver a 'safe and legal' portfolio to the new council for North Yorkshire on day one.

To this end, we have now issued over 2,000 stock condition surveys and electrical tests to our contractor who is making good progress completing them. The programme is being issued in batches of circa 500 to ensure it remains manageable for the contractor and our available resource.

We have recently agreed a programme of energy efficiency improvements to be installed in 30 non-traditional construction bungalows in Sherburn in Elmet. These measures, which are tailored towards improving the overall thermal efficiency of the properties, will help to ensure these properties remain affordable for the residents living there.

Edgerton Lodge

Following extensive marketing of Edgerton Lodge, Tadcaster earlier this year and completion of a sealed bids tender process, I am pleased to be able to report the Council

has now accepted a bid to sell the property to a locally based property development company.

Officers are now working with the successful bidder and respective solicitors to progress the sale of the property as swiftly as possible; with exchange of contracts scheduled to take place before the end of September.

Councillor Richard Musgrave, Deputy Leader and Lead Executive Member for Housing