

AUDIT COMMITTEE

24 March 2022



Title	Homes England Compliance Audit
Purpose of the report	To note
Report Author	Marta Imig, Strategic Lead, Housing
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards
Exempt	No
Exemption Reason	<i>N/a</i>
Corporate Priority	Affordable Housing
Recommendations	To note the outcome of the Compliance Audit
Reason for Recommendation	Homes England requires the outcome of the Compliance Audit to be brought to the attention of the relevant committee within 3 months of the audit result release.

1. Key issues

- 1.1 Spelthorne Borough Council (the Council) was selected to have the White House scheme audited in the 2021/22 Homes England Compliance Audit programme. The Council has passed the Compliance Audit.
- 1.2 The purpose of the Compliance Audit exercise is to carry out a comprehensive review of a sample of Homes England funded schemes to confirm that grant recipients have met all of Homes England's funding conditions and contractual requirements and have properly exercised their responsibilities as set out in the Capital Funding Guide Options analysis and proposal.
- 1.3 As the grant recipient, the Council is responsible for using the grant funds for the purposes stated in the grant agreement, maintaining proper records which comply with Homes England's terms and conditions of grant and providing relevant information to Homes England in accordance with the requirements of the grant conditions.
- 1.4 Homes England use the Compliance Audit findings (which are confidential between Homes England and the grant recipient) to inform their future investment decisions and to reassure the Homes England Chief Accounting Officer that public funds have been properly used.
- 1.5 The outcome of the 2021/22 Compliance Audit for the Council has now been agreed by Homes England's Strategic Investment Board and the final Compliance Audit report is enclosed in Appendix A. The Council has passed the Compliance Audit.

1.6 The Compliance Audit lead for the Council, (Marta Imig, Strategic Lead, Housing), is required to bring the outcome of the Compliance Audit, any breaches, and recommendations to the committee's attention at the earliest opportunity. Once the report has been brought to the attention of the committee, the Compliance Audit lead will need to confirm the committee's acknowledgement of the report and the committee's acknowledgement of any actions being undertaken to address the breaches and recommendations. This must be completed within three calendar months of receipt of the report.

2. Financial implications

2.1 There are currently no financial implications in noting the Compliance Audit outcome. The Council has passed the Compliance Audit and sufficiently documented that the funds have been appropriately spent, conditions met and records correctly maintained.

3. Other considerations

4.1 N/A

4. Equality and Diversity

4.1 N/A

5. Sustainability/Climate Change Implications

5.1 The Compliance Audit process has been completed electronically and does not have an impact on the sustainability or climate change.

6. Timetable for implementation

6.1 Once the outcome of the Compliance Audit is noted, the Compliance Audit Lead will log this with Homes England to complete the process.

Background papers: There are none.

Appendices:

Appendix A: Compliance Audit Report