

# Hackney is Building

- Hackney was one of the first councils to start building our own council homes
- Estate Regeneration Programme (ERP) started in 2011, Housing Supply Programme (HSP) started in 2016, New Homes Programme (NHP) started in 2024
- By April 2018, 660 new and refurbished homes had been completed mostly estate regeneration schemes
- Between May 2018 and May 2022, the Council started, completed or received planning permission for 1,984 homes
- Direct delivery model mainly D&B with inhouse sales team, plus some development agreements
- Skilled inhouse delivery team established, along with the infrastructure to deliver

## **Our objectives**

- Deliver high quality mixed tenure developments including homes for social rent, shared ownership and outright sale alongside a range of nonresidential uses, public realm improvements and socio-economic outputs
- Build additional, high quality homes within existing estates by building on underused land, typically car parks, garages and depots.



#### Our commitments to residents





## **Our manifesto targets**

- During the last manifesto period,
  2018 2022 target of 1,984
  homes
- Of these homes, 956 are affordable - Social Rent and Shared Ownership
- The current manifesto 2022 2026 target is to deliver 1,000 new Social Rent homes
- Our current and new sites building programmes are contributing 568 Social Rent homes to this target



# Our building programme

- More than 3,400 homes across more than 30 sites
- ERP, HSP & NHP a mix of large and small sites - including estate regeneration, infill and brownfield
- Social rent, shared ownership and outright sale to pay for it
- A portfolio, self-funding approach
- ERP and HSP 50% affordable
- NHP programme 75% social rent









### **→ Hackney**



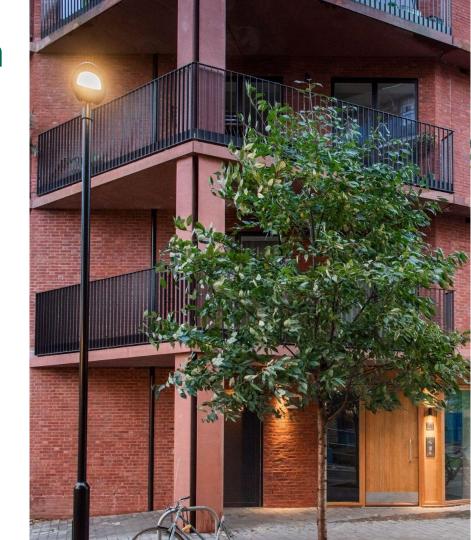
### **New Homes Programme**

- In Dec 2022 Cabinet approved the New Homes Programme (NHP)
- Key plank in the '1,000 new Council homes for social rent' target
- 15 underused sites on housing land
- c.400 new homes, 75% for social rent
- Resident participatory design
- Surrounding improvements and alignment with capital works in existing homes



### Our approach to design

- to deliver well designed, high quality homes that support attractive, functional, safe and sustainable neighbourhoods - places where people want to live and that make a positive contribution to the Borough
- to build characterful, cost effective, robust and well-loved homes that age well and stand the test of time.
- to deliver resilient, high performing and energy efficient homes that lower the energy burden of the residents and contribute to the Council's net zero targets
- to be informed by the views and knowledge of the local community to make the best possible housing for those in need whilst bringing benefit for existing residents.











#### Financial rules

- Overall, the programme should be financially self-sustaining
- Should break even over 50 year investment
- This is to protect the Council's finances and front line services
- Rents and services charges of residents in existing homes do not pay towards the cost of building new homes
- Hackney's council rents are amongst the lowest in London
- We seek to maximise inward funding from GLA and other sources



### **Financial realities**

- The cost of building has increased significantly over the last few years
- Each square metre of new building now costs at least £4,000 to build
- The total cost of each new home is £500,000+
- Council rents don't pay back the full cost of a new home over 50 years
- We don't receive enough government funding to fill the gap
- Outright sale homes are needed in the programme to cross-subsidise the social rent homes, to make them viable



# Viability = income - costs

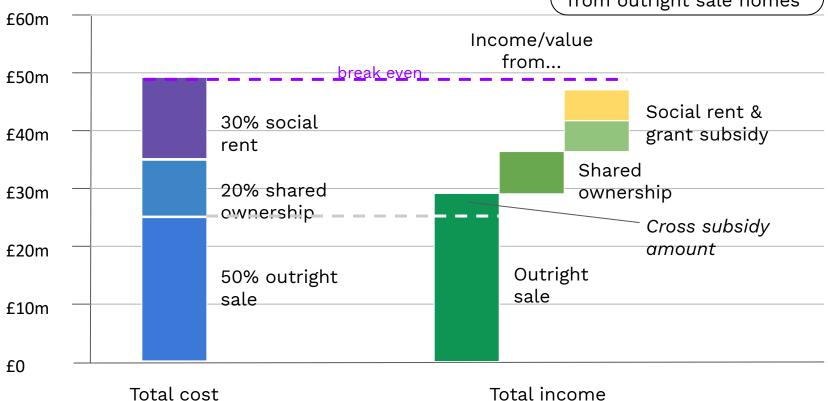
If income is greater than costs (over 40 years) the programme is financially viable

If income is <u>lower</u> than <u>costs</u> (over 40 years) the programme is not financially viable

## **Example**

#### 50% affordable housing

100 homes example: Achieving 50% affordable housing with cross subsidy from outright sale homes



### **Challenges**

#### **Viability**

Cross subsidy model challenging in current market - construction cost inflation/property prices plateauing

#### **Dwindling RTB receipts**

The number of RTB sales is expected to reduce significantly over the coming years - 75% reduction expected

#### **Changing regulatory framework**

Building safety, energy efficiency

#### **Grant rules**

GLA eligibility criteria in relation to ballots and additionality



### **Opportunities**

#### **Diversifying our model**

Working with the market to respond to current challenges, bringing contractors and partners into the process earlier

#### Evolving and developing our skills as a developer

Boosting commercial and construction expertise

#### Seeking further subsidy

GLA, other sources

#### Refining our approach to design

Efficiency, standardisation, MMC





### **→ Hackney**