



Housing Acquisitions Programme (Phase 4)

Business Case

**Outline Business Case (OBC):
Housing Acquisitions Programme (Phase 4)**

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1. Executive Summary

This paper outlines a proposed fourth phase of the Acquisitions Programme, to build upon the successes of the first three phases, and to provide the Council with an opportunity for growth that delivers wider financial benefits for the borough.

In 2013, Barnet Homes' developed a menu of options to tackle the problem of the increasing cost of temporary accommodation, and this was presented to the Council's Delivery Unit Board (DUB). One of the options proposed was the acquisition of out-of-borough properties – but the Delivery Unit Board decided to explore alternate options at the time, the majority of which have subsequently been implemented.

In July 2016 the Council approved an outline business case for the delivery of new affordable homes outside of the borough (Phase 1), and this was extended to include properties within London in November 2016. The programme saw the delivery of almost 50 new affordable homes for housing applicants. Building upon this success, the Council approved an additional phase of purchases (Phase 2) which saw the deployment of an additional 8m budget and plans to acquire an additional tranche of affordable homes outside London. By the end of Q1 2019-20, The Barnet Group had delivered 235 new affordable homes for Barnet's housing applicants in a little under 3 years.

	Locations	Acquisition Budget	No of Units
General Fund (Phase 1)	Bedfordshire	5m	28
HRA (Phase 1)	Greater London	6.4m	21
General Fund (Phase 2)	Bedfordshire & Cambridgeshire	8m	41
General Fund (Phase 3)	Greater London	40m	104
Cheyne leases	Greater London	50m	27*
HRA Phase 2	Barnet	31m	3*
Total		109.4m	235

**programme part completed and numbers correct at the time of writing*

The fourth phase will reflect learning and insights gained through the successful delivery of Phases 1, 2, and 3 and deliver:

- A robust procurement process that has been developed and refined over time
- Expertise and organisational knowledge that has been acquired through the delivery of successful programmes to date
- Scalability that affords the capacity to deliver new affordable homes in volume

The proposed Phase 4 is part of a raft of actions and mitigations introduced by The Barnet Group, in partnership with the Council to help address homelessness and General Fund temporary accommodation budget pressures. Initiatives such as the development of new affordable homes, investing in homelessness prevention activities and additional private rented sector supply through the successful let2barnet brand are key elements to the Council's approach to managing homelessness demand. The delivery of a fourth phase of acquisitions is another key mitigation measure that complements the range of actions undertaken and plays an important role in helping manage General Fund homelessness budget pressure.

2. Introduction and Strategic Context

With a lack of affordable housing supply, high private sector rents and the impact of welfare reforms, the last few years have been a challenge for all Local Authorities with increasing homelessness demand and growing numbers in temporary accommodation which has placed pressure on already limited housing supply.

This picture has been replicated at a local level, with Barnet experiencing increased high levels of demand for affordable housing, with limited sources of affordable supply. Demand has been exacerbated by the buoyant private rental market in the borough which is increasingly unaffordable for those on lower incomes. Loss of private rental accommodation is one of the most common reasons for a homelessness application, with residents who might previously have made their own arrangements in the private rental sector approaching the local authority. To further compound matters, the Homelessness Reduction Act has generated additional demand for the borough since April 2018.

Supply & Demand in Barnet: A Snapshot

- There has been a 39% increase in new Part VII homelessness applications between 2011/12 and 2018/19.
- There has been a significant increase (19%) in the number of households in temporary accommodation (numbers have increased from 2,172 in April 2012 to their current level of 2,579 at the end of June 2019).
- There was an overall 26% decrease in letting within Council stock from 2011/12 to 2017/18 and Barnet has below levels of social housing on average compared to other London boroughs.

This has posed a major challenge in trying to ensure that the limited supply of housing is provided to those with the greatest need, and that emergency and temporary accommodation is used effectively, whilst also attempting to identify new sources of housing supply. In addition, the cost of providing temporary accommodation has increased significantly. A key priority for Barnet Homes since 2013 has been to strive to reduce the impact that the high cost of temporary accommodation has on the Council's General Fund (GF).

To help provide affordable housing solutions, Barnet Homes has developed and delivered a range of solutions, including developing successful cost effective long-term temporary accommodation solutions. This proposal seeks to build upon the successes and framework established in the first three completed phases of our successful acquisition programmes to deliver a greater volume of affordable housing solutions.

Another key driver is the objective to deliver increased revenue and enhance the capacity to deliver more affordable homes. This proposal contributes towards that objective through the delivery of affordable housing stock and an asset base that will appreciate over time.

3. Rationale

The opportunity to acquire additional affordable housing has been revisited in line with the London Borough of Barnet's Housing Strategy and The Barnet Group's Business Plan.

The project will involve the use of borrowing to acquire additional properties and will provide the opportunity to further increase affordable housing supply relatively quickly at a lower cost than other temporary accommodation alternatives, as well as providing security of tenure to help satisfy Barnet's long-term housing needs and an opportunity to support the future growth of Open Door Homes.

This proposal supplements the previously approved Phase 3 programme and focuses on the acquisition of a further 500 properties purchased from Q3 2019/20 onwards funded through General Fund borrowing.

This approach aligns with the London Borough of Barnet's *Housing Strategy 2015-2025* that aims to:

- Increase the supply of affordable housing available to homeless households (page 27)
- Encourage institutional investment in the private rented sector (page 20)

And with the Council's Corporate Plan:

- Where services are delivered efficiently to get value for money for the taxpayer

4. Project Definition

Project Objectives

The key objectives of this project are to:

- Increase affordable housing supply by procuring affordable homes from the open market
- Reduce the cost of temporary accommodation and subsequent pressure on the Council's General Fund
- Increase the asset base and affordable housing portfolio of Opendoor Homes, a subsidiary of The Barnet Group which is wholly owned by the Council

Project Deliverables & Outcomes

The key project deliverables are listed in the table below:

Deliverable	Details	Timeframe
Business Case (incorporating options analysis)	Undertake research analysis and identify options for acquisition of properties. Development of a business case that includes options analysis, preferred option, financial modelling, risk management etc.	August to September 2018
Presentation of recommendations	Presentation of options, and preferred finalised approach to the London Borough of Barnet	August 2019
Approval	Approval (approach)	September 2019
Approval	Approval (budget)	March 2019
Approval	Approval (loan agreement)	Q3 2019/20

Deliverable	Details	Timeframe
Implementation	Procurement of properties in accordance to the preferred approach	Q4 2019/20
Review	Review & benefits realisation	On-going

5. Options

Our learning and insight gained through the delivery of successful acquisitions programmes since Q3 2016/17 has proven invaluable and has helped formulate future scheme planning. The market in London has recently stabilised and our experience to date has evidenced that there is a supply of units to be acquired that can be delivered at more affordable levels than temporary accommodation alternatives.

In response to the analysis and feedback received on our existing schemes, the following approaches have been explored in more detail.

1. Do Nothing - continue to acquire properties outside London on licence from existing temporary accommodation providers

Existing temporary accommodation rates mean that for each new household placed in 2-bed emergency temporary accommodation costs the Council approximately £2,400 net per annum. With bad debt provision and management costs factored in, this figure increases to approximately £3,400 net per annum, per household. Where properties are sourced outside London, these costs reduce significantly, however it still represents a net cost per unit of almost £1,900 per annum at current prices.

This 'do nothing' position represents a potential negative net present value of cash flow of (£188k) per unit over the next 50 years and would mean there is no positive financial impact to forecasted future General Fund budget pressures. Should inflationary increases in the cost of delivering alternative temporary accommodation options worsen, then this will further increase the pressure on the Council's General Fund. It is therefore not recommended.

2. Opendoor Homes acquires assets from the open market in Greater London, and other areas within a 50-mile radius, funded through General Fund borrowing

The Barnet Group would source and deliver assets secured from the open market and purchases would be funded by the Council via General Fund PWLB borrowing at a rate of approximately 2.75% plus an on-lending fee.

Opendoor Homes would provide a full management service for properties acquired and units would be used to provide long-term affordable accommodation, at 100% of the relevant Local Housing Allowance rate. The units would be let on assured shorthold tenancy agreements. The table below outlines the key components of the proposed model and provides a comparison with previous phases.

	Phase 4	Phases 1-3
Stamp Duty Land Tax	Exempt where acquired by ODH by way of charitable status	SDLT paid at investment property rates
Major works provision	£750 per unit per annum (inflated) set aside as a sinking fund	1% of the property purchase price set aside as a sinking fund
Capital repayment	Repayment factored from Year 15	2% MRP accounted for from Year 1

On-lending	1.24% up-lift on borrowing rate paid to the Council	None
Sourcing areas	Greater London and locations within a 50-mile radius	Greater London, Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire
Properties sourced	Greater flexibility to acquire assets that deliver a positive NPV, and scope to utilise funding for bulk purchases	Properties acquired from the open market on a unit by unit basis at a pre-agreed hurdle rate

Proposed hurdle rate

To provide flexibility with which secures assets are secured for the programme, it is proposed that the following conditions be set as minimum requirements for acquisitions:

1. Assets acquired must deliver a **positive NPV of cash over a 50-year period**
2. Assets acquired must be either within Greater London, or within a 50 mile radius of Greater London

Learning from previous phases has demonstrated that the success of programmes is contingent on the level of flexibility afforded through governance. The proposed minimum requirements will enable the borough to consider a wider range of opportunities based upon their outputs and provide the ability to act swiftly to secure assets.

Key benefits

There are several key benefits realised through this model:

- Delivers at a net **revenue surplus of £489k per property over a 50-year** period that is more favourable than existing methods of providing **temporary accommodation which could potentially cost £420k per unit** over a similar period.
- Delivers a significantly **better NPV** to alternative temporary accommodation options over a 50-year period (+183k vs -188k) for alternative temporary accommodation).
- Would provide an almost immediate, positive impact to the Council's General Fund, through the delivery of additional affordable homes as an alternative to existing temporary accommodation.
- The model affords Opendoor Homes the opportunity to benefit from long-term house price inflation, acquiring assets that will appreciate over time and support further development of new homes for rent in the future
- The model will help improve standards in the private sector, with Opendoor Homes responsible for fully maintaining and repairing properties acquired.
- The model helps reduce the number of households in temporary accommodation with properties potentially let as private sector placements.
- The model provides security of tenure to satisfy the Borough's long-term housing needs.
- Opendoor Homes, as a Registered Provider with charitable status, would be **exempt from paying Stamp Duty Land Tax** for purchases. This makes it a more cost-effective vehicle for the borough to acquire affordable homes from the open market.

Disadvantages

There is however one main disadvantage of delivery through this method:

- The Council would be required to raise a significant amount of capital through GF borrowing via the Public Works Loans Board to finance the scheme, increasing its General Fund borrowing (as with option 3).

3. The Council acquires assets from the open market in Greater London, and other areas within a 50-mile radius, funded through General Fund borrowing

The Barnet Group would source and deliver assets secured from the open market and purchases would be funded by the Council via General Fund PWLB borrowing at a rate of approximately 2.75%.

Barnet Homes would provide a full management service for properties acquired and units would be used to provide long-term affordable accommodation, at 100% of the relevant Local Housing Allowance rate. The units would be let on non-secure tenancy agreements. The table below outlines the key components of the proposed model and provides a comparison with previous phases.

	Phase 4	Phases 1-3
Stamp Duty Land Tax	SDLT paid at investment property rates	SDLT paid at investment property rates
Major works provision	£750 per unit per annum (inflated) set aside as a sinking fund	1% of the property purchase price set aside as a sinking fund
Capital repayment	2% MRP accounted for from Year 1	2% MRP accounted for from Year 1
On-lending	None	None
Sourcing areas	Greater London and locations within a 50-mile radius	Greater London, Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire
Properties sourced	Greater flexibility to acquire assets that deliver a positive NPV, and scope to utilise funding for bulk purchases	Properties acquired from the open market on a unit by unit basis at a pre-agreed hurdle rate

Proposed hurdle rate

To provide flexibility with which secures assets are secured for the programme, it is proposed that the following conditions be set as minimum requirements for acquisitions:

3. Assets acquired must deliver a **positive NPV of cash over a 50-year period**
4. Assets acquired must be either within Greater London, or within a 50 mile radius of Greater London

Key benefits

There are several key benefits realised through this model:

- Delivers at a net **revenue surplus of £621k per property over a 50-year** period that is more favourable than existing methods of providing **temporary accommodation which could potentially cost £420k per unit** over a similar period.
- Delivers a significantly **better NPV** to alternative temporary accommodation options over a 50-year period (+67k vs -188k) for alternative temporary accommodation).

- Would provide an almost immediate, positive impact to the Council's General Fund, through the delivery of additional affordable homes as an alternative to existing temporary accommodation.
- The model affords the Council the opportunity to benefit from long-term house price inflation, acquiring assets that will appreciate over time
- The model will help improve standards in the private sector, with Barnet Homes responsible for fully maintaining and repairing properties acquired.
- The model provides certainty of long-term temporary accommodation costs with future costs not subject to as yet unknown inflationary pressures.
- The model provides security of tenure to satisfy the Borough's long-term housing needs.

Disadvantages

There is however one main disadvantage of delivery through this method:

- The Council would be required to raise a significant amount of capital through GF borrowing via the Public Works Loans Board to finance the scheme, increasing its General Fund borrowing (as with option 2).

Suggested approach

It is recommended that the option to purchase units from the open market (option 2) is approved, through The Barnet Group's subsidiary, Opendoor Homes Ltd. The Barnet Group is wholly owned by the Council.

6. Expected Benefits

Please refer to **Appendix A** for a summary of expected benefits for this project.

7. Risks

Please refer to **Appendix B** for a summary of key risks and mitigating actions.

8. Financial Appraisal

The project would be funded through General Fund borrowing. The programme would deliver up to 500 units of affordable homes in Greater London and other areas previously agreed by the Council.

The tables below summarise the overall position of the models proposed, using average property purchase prices and rents expected to be delivered through the scheme¹.

¹ Figures quoted relate to prospective purchases in Greater London only.

Table 1 - Summary of cash flow impacts per unit

Cost / cumulative impact	Year 1	Year 10	Year 20	Year 30	Year 40	Year 50
Net cost of existing TA	2,857	38,381	92,534	168,080	273,566	420,985
ODH purchasing (option 2)	2,501	9,578	2,419	2,419	(92,387)	(488,790)
Saving vs TA	356	28,803	90,115	165,661	365,953	909,775
Council purchasing (option 3)	5,476	31,276	2,762	(100,594)	(299,199)	(620,708)
Saving vs TA	(2,619)	7,105	89,772	268,674	572,765	1,041,693

The various revenue impacts of pursuing the options proposed are highlighted in the graph below.

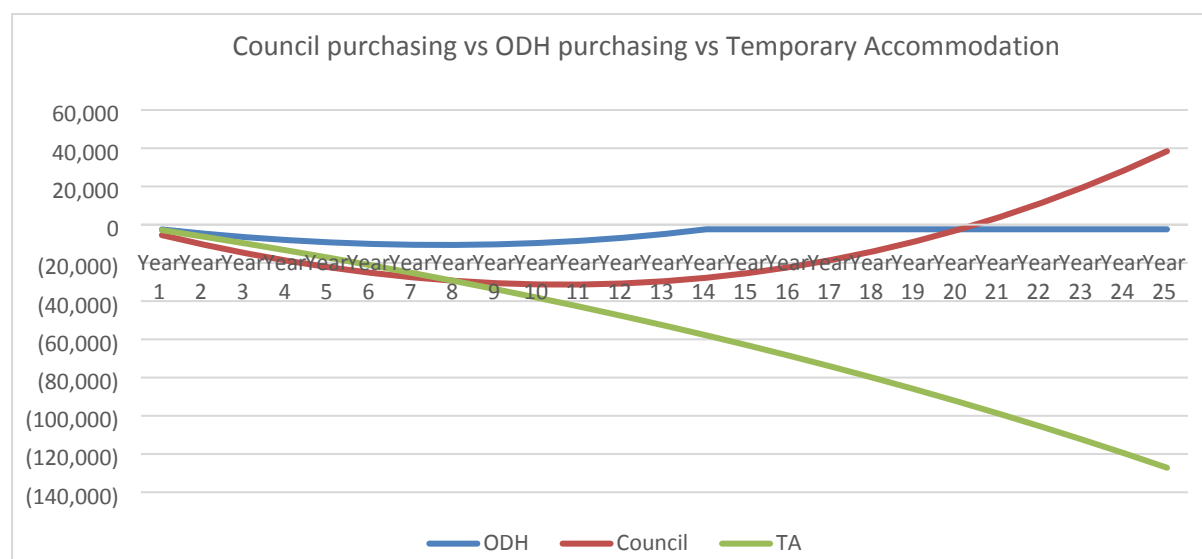


Table 2 – Summary of impacts per unit

	Council purchasing	ODH purchasing
Average property price	282,500	282,500
Average delivery costs	42,775	30,175
Total borrowing per unit	325,275	312,675
Peak cash deficit	31,329 (Year 11)	10,610 (Year 8)
Debt repaid	Year 50	Year 38
NPV (debt, interest, no capital)	66,773	182,653

Where Opendoor Homes were to acquire 500 units additional financial efficiency will be achieved via exemption from Stamp Duty Land Tax.

Table 3 – Overall scheme summary

	Year 1 £'000s	Year 10 £'000s	Year 20 £'000s	Year 30 £'000s	Year 40 £'000s	Year 50 £'000s
Option 2						
ODH						
ODH delivery cost	1,251	4,789	1,210	1,210	(46,194)	(244,395)
Council						
TA cost avoidance	(1,429)	(19,191)	(46,267)	(84,040)	(136,783)	(210,492)
On-lending	(1,939)	(19,386)	(38,421)	(53,387)	(57,900)	(57,900)
MRP	3,127	31,268	62,535	93,803	125,070	156,338*
ODH debt repayment			(13,710)	(72,569)	(156,338)	(156,338)
Total	(241)	(7,309)	(35,863)	(116,193)	(225,951)	(54,155)
Total borough cost	1,010	(2,520)	(34,653)	(114,983)	(272,144)	(512,788)
Option 3						
Council						
Council delivery cost	2,738	15,638	1,381	(50,297)	(149,600)	(310,354)
TA cost avoidance	(1,429)	(19,191)	(46,267)	(84,040)	(136,783)	(210,492)
Total	1,309	(3,553)	(44,886)	(134,337)	(286,383)	(520,846)

Acquiring affordable homes through General Fund borrowing delivers a significantly better net present value of cash flow than existing temporary accommodation options.

Table 4 – Net Present Value of cash flow over 50-year period

	NPV
Existing TA	(188,726)
Council purchasing	66,773
ODH purchasing	182,653

Capital spend profile

Where approval is granted to proceed with the programme, it is expected that capital will first be deployed in the final quarter of 2019/20. A full profile of spend is outlined in table 5 below.

Table 5 – Capital spend profile

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
No. of properties to be purchased	25	125	125	125	100
Total capital expenditure (£) Council purchasing	8.3m	40.7m	40.7m	40.7m	32.6m
Total capital expenditure (£) ODH purchasing	-	40.7m	40.7m	40.7m	40.7m

To offset the slower deployment of capital through option 2 (ODH purchasing), the existing Housing Revenue Account acquisitions phase 2 programme will be accelerated.

Stress-testing of the financial model

Given the length of term of the programme and arrangements that the Council would be required to commit to, stress testing the assumptions is important to gauge the financial impact where some of the assumptions are not realised. The table below indicates the potential impact per unit where some of the key assumptions vary.

Table 8 – Stress testing financial models

	Council Purchasing Net Present Value	Council Purchasing Revenue Surplus @50 years	ODH Purchasing Net Present Value	ODH Purchasing Revenue Surplus @50 years
Base Case	66,773	620,708	182,653	488,790
10% increase in average purchase price	45,985	567,361	146,519	369,792
10% reduction in average rent	30,500	472,105	110,061	262,516

In summary, where there are variances in the assumptions, the model continues to realise significant benefits in comparison to alternative temporary accommodation options.

9. Project Approach

Please refer to **Appendix A** for the proposed project plan that includes key dates and milestones.

10. Dependencies

Assumptions

- Timely provision of any requested information and input from senior stakeholders.
- On-going political support for the Council to fund acquisitions and for the on-going management of these properties.
- Ability to implement cost effective, quality management and maintenance arrangements for the acquired properties.
- Supply of stock suitable for purchase remains available and market conditions remain favourable.

Constraints

- There is a lack of affordable housing supply in the areas that the Council or Opendoor Homes is confident that customers will agree to move to.
- That there may be some resourcing implications for management of stock further outside of the borough.

Interfaces / Dependencies

- The Council will need to approve the proposed approach, for the project objectives to be achieved
- There are other initiatives and projects underway that are also aimed at increasing affordable housing supply.

11. Approach to Consultation

A range of stakeholder consultation and engagement has occurred as part of the public engagement programme developed for the London Borough of Barnet's Housing Strategy.

A summary of these activities includes:

- The Housing Strategy consultation ran for three months, from 5th November 2018 to 11th February 2019, alongside the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy consultation. It primarily consisted of an online survey on Engage Barnet. Supporting documents were also available on Engage Barnet, allowing residents to view the draft strategy on there.
- In addition, presentations were made to the Barnet Homes Performance and Advisory Group, the Children's Partnership Board, the Youth Board and Health and Well Being Board.

Appendix A: Benefits Realisation

Benefit Type	Description of the benefit	Who will benefit	Expected benefit value	Financial year that the benefit will be realised	Benefit Owner	How will the benefit be measured
Financial	Temporary accommodation cost avoidance	LBB	Up to £210.5m over 50 years	From Q3 2019/20	LBB	Financial monitoring
Strategic	Increase of affordable housing stock	LBB Housing Applicants	Up to 500 units	From Q3 2019/20	LBB	Performance monitoring
Financial	On-lending revenue to the Council	LBB	Up to £53.4m over 38 years	From Q3 2019/20	LBB	Financial monitoring
Financial	Capital growth	ODH	Up to £382.7m over 50 years to support further acquisitions / new build development	From Q3 2019/20	LBB	Financial monitoring

Appendix B – Financial Model

1. Individual unit Income and Expenditure sheet (Council Purchasing Model)

	Year 1	Year 5	Year 10	Year 15	Year 20	Year 25	Year 30	Year 35	Year 40	Year 45	Year 50
Income											
Rent	13,723	15,446	17,906	20,758	24,064	27,897	32,340	37,491	43,462	50,385	58,410
Gross income	13,723	15,446	17,906	20,758	24,064	27,897	32,340	37,491	43,462	50,385	58,410
Expenditure											
Routine Maintenance	750	828	937	1,060	1,199	1,357	1,535	1,736	1,965	2,223	2,515
Management Cost	500	552	624	706	799	904	1,023	1,158	1,310	1,482	1,677
Service Charge & Ground Rent	1,200	1,325	1,499	1,696	1,918	2,170	2,456	2,778	3,143	3,557	4,024
Void Loss & Bad Debt	549	618	716	830	963	1,116	1,294	1,500	1,738	2,015	2,336
Major Works Provision	750	828	937	1,060	1,199	1,357	1,535	1,736	1,965	2,223	2,515
Interest	8,945	8,229	7,335	6,440	5,546	4,651	3,757	2,862	1,968	1,073	179
Capital repayment (MRP)	6,506	6,506	6,506	6,506	6,506	6,506	6,506	6,506	6,506	6,506	6,506
Total Expenditure	19,199	18,885	18,553	18,298	18,130	18,061	18,105	18,277	18,595	19,078	19,751
Net	(5,476)	(3,439)	(647)	2,460	5,934	9,836	14,235	19,214	24,868	31,306	38,658
Cumulative net	(5,476)	(22,339)	(31,276)	(25,326)	(2,762)	38,431	100,594	186,458	299,199	442,514	620,708

1. Individual unit income and expenditure (ODH Purchasing Model)

	Year 1	Year 5	Year 10	Year 15	Year 20	Year 25	Year 30	Year 35	Year 40	Year 45	Year 50
Income											
Rent	13,723	15,446	17,906	20,758	24,064	27,897	32,340	37,491	43,462	50,385	58,410
Gross income	13,723	15,446	17,906	20,758	24,064	27,897	32,340	37,491	43,462	50,385	58,410
Expenditure											
Routine Maintenance	750	828	937	1,060	1,199	1,357	1,535	1,736	1,965	2,223	2,515
Management Cost	500	552	624	706	799	904	1,023	1,158	1,310	1,482	1,677
Service Charge & Ground Rent	1,200	1,325	1,499	1,696	1,918	2,170	2,456	2,778	3,143	3,557	4,024
Major works	750	828	937	1,060	1,199	1,357	1,535	1,736	1,965	2,223	2,515
Void Loss & Bad Debt	549	618	716	830	963	1,116	1,294	1,500	1,738	2,015	2,336
Interest	8,599	8,599	8,599	8,599	8,019	6,907	5,078	2,301			
On-lending	3,877	3,877	3,877	3,877	3,616	3,114	2,290	1,038			
Total Expenditure	16,225	16,626	17,188	17,828	17,713	16,925	15,210	12,247	10,121	11,500	13,067
Net	(2,501)	(1,180)	718	2,930	6,351	10,972	17,130	25,244	33,341	38,885	45,343
Cumulative net	(2,501)	(9,254)	(9,578)	511	25,001	70,077	142,718	251,829	405,062	588,061	801,465
Debt repayment				2,930	6,351	10,972	17,130	25,244			
Debt repayment cumulative				2,930	27,420	72,496	145,137	254,248	312,675	312,675	312,675
Adjusted cash surplus	(2,501)	(9,254)	(9,578)	(2,419)	(2,419)	(2,419)	(2,419)	(2,419)	92,387	275,386	488,790

3. Financial modelling assumptions

	Council Purchasing	ODH Purchasing
Annual Rent Inflation (CPI plus 1%)	3.00%	3.00%
Void Loss and bad debt provision	4.00%	4.00%
Maintenance Costs	£750 per annum	£750 per annum
Housing Management Costs	£500 per annum	£500 per annum
Inflation	2.50%	2.50%
Major Works	£750 per annum	£750 per annum
Service charge and ground rent	£1,200 per annum	£1,200 per annum
Net Present Value Discount Rate	2.75%	3.99%
House Price Inflation	2.5%	2.5%

Some of the above assumptions have been adjusted from Open Door Homes modelling assumptions to reflect scheme conditions and market requirements:

- An acquisition fee of 3% has been assumed within the capital cost to cover the cost of delivery
- Management costs, void loss and bad debt provision assumptions reflect the location and use of the units as temporary accommodation

Appendix C: Initial Risk Register

Ref	Risk type	Risk description	Risk Owner	Date raised	Initial assessment			Control actions	Consequences/ potential impact
					Probability	Impact	RAG		
001	Project management	There is a risk that there is insufficient resource to deliver the project within planned timescales and to meet the scale requirements	Acquisitions Programme Manager	Sep 18	Low	Medium	Green	Project plans and resource planning to be developed to identify key milestones and capacity required to deliver.	Expected savings will not be achieved, and/or project activity will fall behind schedule.
003	Financial	There is a risk that the assumptions made in modelling are not accurate and that the financial benefits are not realised	Acquisitions Programme Manager	Sep 18	Medium	High	Yellow	Closely monitor activity to track financial benefits and early identification of risks. There are a number of options the Council has, including alternative lettings routes	Rents charged will not be affordable and will impact on the financial viability of the scheme
004	Financial	There is a risk that there will be an insufficient volume of units available for purchase that deliver the required revenue benefits	Acquisitions Programme Manager	Sep 18	Low	High	Green	The proposed target areas are sufficiently broad enough to help minimise any potential impact the programme will have on local market inflation. Where there are no properties available for purchase that meet the modelled average revenue outcome across the whole scheme, no additional units will be acquired.	Delivery of new acquisitions may not be met, if unable to purchase properties at the right price.
005	Reputation	There is a risk that customers will refuse to accept properties in out-of-borough locations	Acquisitions Programme Manager	Sep 18	Low	Medium	Green	Undertake market research and analysis before selecting locations and purchasing properties to ensure that customers are likely to accept properties in these areas.	Political and media fall out from spending public money on properties that are sitting vacant.

Ref	Risk type	Risk description	Risk Owner	Date raised	Initial assessment			Control actions	Consequences/ potential impact
006	Financial	There is a risk that legislation, and housing duties will change significantly over the term of the lease and Barnet Homes will have insufficient numbers of suitable applicants to let properties to, increasing void times and impacting on affordability	Acquisitions Programme Manager	Sep 18	Medium	Low		Lettings capacity will be closely monitored and where necessary, TBG will consider other lettings routes for properties acquired	The cost of delivering the scheme will increase
007	Financial & Reputational	There is a risk that there will be conflicting demands on TBG's acquisition services which in turn impact on the properties sourced for the programme	Acquisitions Programme Manager	Sep 18	Medium	Low		To minimise potential conflict, the procurement areas are broadened and particular types of units are prioritised for their respective programmes.	Delivery of new acquisitions may not be met, if unable to purchase properties at the right price.
008	Financial	There is a risk that supply of new stock on the open market will not be sufficient to meet demand	Acquisitions Programme Manager	Sep 18	Medium	Low		Supply of new stock on the market will be closely monitored and geographical region within which stock is acquired maximised, in line with previous procurement activity	Delivery of new acquisitions may not be met, if unable to purchase properties at the right price.
009	Financial	There is a risk that house price inflation will exceed levels anticipated in modelling and impact on the viability of units	Acquisitions Programme Manager	Sep 18	Medium	Low		To minimise potential inflation, no individual areas will be targeted for procurement on an intensified basis. Where HPI exceeds expectations, further review of the business model will be carried out.	Delivery of new acquisitions may not be met, if unable to purchase properties at the right price.

Document Control

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Date	Version	Reason for change	Changes made by
07/08/19	1.0	Document creation	Nick Lowther
28/08/19	1.1	Revisions following comments	Nick Lowther
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Approvals:

By signing this document, the signatories below are confirming that they have fully reviewed the Business Case for the out-of-borough acquisitions project and confirm their acceptance of the completed document.

Name	Role	Signature	Date	Version