

POLICY & PERFORMANCE AND CABINET

Wednesday, 10th and Thursday 11th July 2019

HOMELESSNESS & ROUGH SLEEPING STRATEGY

Report of the Strategic Lead for Health and Wellbeing

Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (1)** Cabinet approves the newly created Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy for 2019-2024

Summary

The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 (HRA) came into force on 3 April 2018 and it represents one of the most significant changes in homelessness legislation for 20 years. An updated Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy therefore comes at a very opportune time as the Council and its statutory and voluntary partners seek to work together to meet the requirements of the new Act and provide better outcomes for customers facing homelessness in Eastleigh.

Statutory Powers

Housing Act 1996 (as amended)
Homelessness Reduction Act 2017

Strategic Implications

1. Providing secure and good quality housing is invaluable to maintaining good health, improving quality of life and reducing health inequalities in the borough. Those individuals and communities suffering the worst health outcomes are often those on the lowest incomes and in the poorest standard of housing. "Poorer people are more likely to live in more deprived neighbourhoods. The more deprived the neighbourhood, the more likely it is to have social and environmental characteristics presenting risks to health. These include poor housing, higher rates of crime, poorer air quality, a lack of green spaces and places for children to play and more risks to safety from traffic." This Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy will play a significant part in addressing the two strategic priorities of:
 - Tackling social deprivation and health inequalities

- Enabling health and wellbeing

This Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy complements the Council's overarching Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Housing Strategy.

Financial Implications

2. There are no additional financial implications attached to this strategy.

Risk Assessment

3. If the strategy is not adopted there is a risk that Eastleigh Borough Council will not meet the additional statutory duties introduced by the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.

Equality and Diversity Implications

4. The Equality Act is not relevant to the decision in this report as the decision does not relate to eliminating discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity, or fostering good relations between different people. An Equality Impact Assessment has not been carried out.

Conclusion

5. The objectives and approach within this strategy are cross-cutting and interrelated to tackling homelessness. The key to implementing this strategy is to take a person centered approach, whilst working with key partners in a proactive style. The Housing team at Eastleigh Borough Council has a clear understanding of what needs to be achieved and the approach required in order to achieve the key targets within the annual Business Plan and personalised action plans.

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STRATEGIC LEAD FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING

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Appendices Attached: 1

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - SECTION 100D

The following is a list of documents which disclose facts or matters on which this report or an important part of it is based and have been relied upon to a material

extent in the preparation of this report. This list does not include any published works or documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information.

Appendix 1: Location Map showing indicative link road

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