

**Bolsover District Council**  
**Executive**

**27<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

**North Derbyshire Homelessness Strategy 2016 - 2020**

**Report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing**

**This report is public**

**Purpose of the Report**

- To seek approval of the North Derbyshire Homelessness Strategy 2016 - 2020.

**1 Report Details**

- 1.1 In the “Making Every Contact Count” report in 2012 the government introduced a Gold Standard Challenge for Housing Options services across the country. This imposed 10 Challenges for services to aspire to with the focus being on homeless prevention.
- 1.2 One of the ten challenges is specifically in relation to the Council’s Homelessness Strategy:
- *To have a homelessness strategy which sets out a proactive approach to preventing homelessness, reviewed annually to be responsive to emerging needs*
- 1.3 To assist in achieving this challenge and also due to the current strategy having expired we have developed a North Derbyshire Homelessness Strategy in partnership with NEDDC and Chesterfield Borough Councils.
- 1.4 This strategy and action plan have been created with the Gold Standard in mind. Following consultation with stakeholders we have identified a number of priorities which provide clear focus and direction to enable us to prevent homelessness as effectively and efficiently as possible in partnership with our neighbouring authorities as well as other partner agencies such as advice and support providers.
- 1.5 The strategy sets out the following vision which we feels encompasses what we are trying to achieve over the next 5 years:

***“By working with our partners to prevent homelessness, we will ensure that everyone has access to a place they can call home.”***

To achieve this vision the following objectives have been identified:

- **Objective 1:** Develop a robust young person’s housing pathway by delivering a range of housing solutions with our partners

- **Objective 2:** Create strong partnerships with all stakeholders to tackle homelessness for all those at risk , including those most vulnerable households
- **Objective 3:** Prevent rough sleeping across the area
- **Objective 4:** Prevent homelessness by tackling and reducing financial deprivation within our communities
- **Objective 5:** Work towards each local authority achieving the Homelessness Gold Standard

1.6 All the strategic objectives are underpinned by a combination of influencing work at a national and local policy level and improving local practice to achieve positive change for people who find themselves homeless.

1.7 A full copy of the Homelessness Strategy is attached as **Appendix 1**.

## **2 Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation**

2.1 Having an up to date Homelessness Strategy that is fit for purpose will put the council in a strong position when applying for the Gold Standard for Housing Options services.

2.2 It is a legal requirement for the Council to have a Homelessness Strategy.

## **3 Consultation and Equality Impact**

3.1 Full consultation on the review of the previous homelessness strategy and development of the new strategy has been completed with partners.

3.2 A completed Equalities Impact Assessment is attached as **Appendix 2**.

## **4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

4.1 Not to approve the Homelessness Strategy. This would leave the Council vulnerable to legal challenges and would affect the Gold Standard application process.

## **5 Implications**

### **5.1 Finance and Risk Implications**

5.1.1 There are no financial implications.

### **5.2 Legal Implications including Data Protection**

5.2.1 There are no legal or data implications.

### 5.3 Human Resources Implications

5.3.1 There are no implications.

### 6 Recommendation

6.1 To approve the North Derbyshire Homelessness Strategy 2016-2020.

### 7 Decision Information

<b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b> (A Key Decision is an executive decision which results in income or expenditure to the Council of £50,000 or more or which has a significant impact on two or more District wards)	No
<b>Is the decision subject to Call-In?</b> (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	No
<b>District Wards Affected</b>	
<b>Links to Corporate Plan priorities or Policy Framework</b>	C-11 Achieve an overall annual success rate of 80% for households who considered themselves homeless for whom casework resolved the situation.

### 8 Document Information

Appendix No	Title
1	North Derbyshire Homelessness Strategy 2016-2020
2	EIA for the Homelessness Strategy.
<b>Background Papers</b> (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)	
Report Author	Contact Number
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