

**Bolsover District Council**

**Meeting of the Customer Services Scrutiny Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

**Consultation on Derbyshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2022-2027**

**Report of Victoria Dawson, Assistant Director Housing Management and Enforcement**

<b>Classification</b>	This report is Public
<b>Report By</b>	Victoria Dawson, Assistant Director Housing Management and Enforcement , 01246 242231
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Victoria Dawson, Assistant Director Housing Management and Enforcement , 01246 242231

**PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is for the Customer Services Scrutiny Committee to consider and feedback on the County Wide Homeless Strategy.

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**REPORT DETAILS**

**1. Background**

- 1.1 The pandemic and subsequent response by all of the district and borough authorities in Derbyshire has brought about creativity, innovation, improved partnership working and a wide recognition of the link between homelessness and health.
- 1.2 Through our co-ordinated approach to tackling homelessness and service delivery we have seen improved outcomes for many people across North Derbyshire with long and complex histories of homelessness.
- 1.3 The new county wide homelessness and rough sleeping strategy (see appendix 1) has a core aim to break down system blockages, and argues that a multi-disciplinary approach is needed to make systems work better and that services are flexibly designed around the needs of our customers.
- 1.4 The Homelessness Reduction Act (2017) is now fully embedded and this legislation has enabled councils to do much more for people facing homelessness. The Government are committed to ending rough sleeping by 2024 and this new Derbyshire wide strategy is fully in keeping with the positive spirit of the homelessness legislation and the ambition of the Government's target.

- 1.5 The strategy makes reference to the new Domestic Abuse Act (2021) and contained within the list of priority actions are proposals to increase support and easier access to accommodation for abuse victims.

## **2. Details of Proposal or Information**

- 2.1 The strategy has been developed through close collaboration between the Derbyshire Homelessness Officers Group (DHOG), Derbyshire County Council, Public Health, NHS, Police, Probation, and a wide range of partner agencies including from the voluntary sector.
- 2.2 The strategy is ambitious and our vision is “working collaboratively across Derbyshire to prevent and reduce homelessness – making it everyone’s responsibility.
- 2.3 The strategy will meet the vision and aims through the delivery of 4 clear priorities:
1. Make homelessness everyone’s responsibility through a system wide approach
  2. Prevent homelessness and respond through early intervention and personalised solutions
  3. End rough sleeping and repeat homelessness
  4. Develop sustainable supported and settled housing solutions
- 2.4 The Director of Public Health for Derbyshire is a signatory and the strategy will sit under the Health & Wellbeing Board. This represents a significant shift in how homelessness strategies are implemented. With the strategy sitting within the wider health spectrum this means that we have a huge opportunity to transform housing and homelessness services for the people we serve.
- 2.5 The Derbyshire strategy will serve as the council’s main homelessness & rough sleeping strategy for 5 years.

## **3. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 The previous two years have brought us to a unique position whereby there is now a broad consensus that we are stronger by working together.
- 3.2 By adopting this strategy we will be able to meet the continued challenges ahead such as meeting the needs of those with multiple and complex needs and the coming issues related to the increases in the cost of living.

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

- 4.1 We proceed with our own homelessness strategy.
- 4.2 We would not have the added support of the other district and borough councils and the influence and added value of Derbyshire County Councils involvement.

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## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

1. That Members review and provide comment on the draft Derbyshire Homeless Strategy with a view to this being adopted by Bolsover District Council.

Approved by the Portfolio Holder - Cllr Peake, Executive Member for Housing

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### **IMPLICATIONS:**

**Finance and Risk:**            Yes             No

**Details:**

There are no financial implications arising from the Strategy.

On behalf of the Section 151 Officer

**Legal (including Data Protection):**            Yes             No

**Details:**

As set out in the report.

On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

**Staffing:**            Yes             No

**Details:**

There are no staffing implications contained within the report

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

## **DECISION INFORMATION**

<b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b> A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:  <b>Revenue - £75,000</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Capital - £150,000</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i>	No
<b>Is the decision subject to Call-In?</b> <i>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</i>	No

<b>District Wards Significantly Affected</b>	No
<b>Consultation:</b> <b>Leader / Deputy Leader</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Executive</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>SLT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Relevant Service Manager</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Members</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Public</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Details:</b>  Portfolio Holder

<b>Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy and Environment.</b>
Customer Services

<b>DOCUMENT INFORMATION</b>	
<b>Appendix No</b>	<b>Title</b>
1	Derbyshire Homeless Strategy

<b>Background Papers</b>
<i>(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 Executive you must provide copies of the background papers).</i>