

**Bolsover District Council**

**Meeting of the Executive on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2022**

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

**Report of Sandra Peake, Portfolio Holder for Housing**

<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 Executive to consider, approve and adopt the County Wide Homeless and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2022-2027.

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**REPORT DETAILS**

**1. Background**

- 1.1 The pandemic and subsequent response by all of 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 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 confirms that a multi-disciplinary approach is required to serve the needs of 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 sets out a vision of “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 Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy for 5 years.

## **3. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 By adopting this strategy, the Council will be able to meet the continued challenges ahead such as meeting the needs of those with multiple and complex needs and issues related to the increases in the cost of living.

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

- 4.1 The Council could proceed with the development of a stand-alone strategy, however, it is considered that a joint strategy across all Districts, Borough and County Councils would provide a joined-up, collaborative approach to the complex issues of homelessness.

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## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

1. That Executive consider, approve and adopt the Derbyshire Homeless Strategy 2022-2027.

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 Executive Director Health and Wellbeing Board

<b>Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy and Environment.</b>
The Strategy links to the Council's Ambition by actively engaging with partners, improving health and wellbeing and providing quality housing.

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

<b>Background Papers</b>
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<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>
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