

**Bolsover District Council**

**Meeting of the Executive on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

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

**Report of the 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 Bolsover Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy.

**REPORT DETAILS**

**1. Background**

- 1.1 In 2016, Bolsover District Council, jointly with Chesterfield Borough Council and North East Derbyshire District published a North Derbyshire Homeless Strategy. This was updated in 2019 to become a North Derbyshire Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy.
- 1.2 In October 2021, the Council approved a standalone North Derbyshire Rough Sleeping Strategy with the intention being to merge both strategies into one comprehensive Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeping Strategy following a review in 2021. This work has been delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the resulting impacts upon services.
- 1.3 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 strategy is fully in keeping with the positive spirit of the homelessness legislation and the ambition of the Government's target.
- 1.4 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.

- 1.5 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.
- 1.6 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 new Bolsover Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy is attached at Appendix 1. Its core aim is 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.
- 2.2 The strategy has been developed through close collaboration between the Derbyshire Homelessness Officers Group (DHOG), and a wide range of partner agencies to ensure that we “working collaboratively 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 strategy will serve as the Council’s main homelessness & rough sleeping strategy for 5 years.

## **3. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 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 Not to approve the recommendation to implement the proposed strategy. It should be noted that the Council would be in breach of its legal requirement to have a published Rough Sleeper Strategy in place.
  - 4.2 Not to approve the implementation of the proposed strategy would have a negative impact on the health and wellbeing of considerably vulnerable individuals. The strategy provides a co-ordinated framework for the delivery of essential services to protect the wellbeing of rough sleepers
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## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

That Executive, consider, approve and adopt the Bolsover Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2022-2027.

Approved by the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Councillor Sandra Peake

### **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

**Environment:**

Please identify (if applicable) how this proposal/report will help the Authority meet its carbon neutral target or enhance the environment.

**Details:**

**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	Bolsover Homelessness & Rough Sleeping 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>