

ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 6
7 MARCH 2017	Public Report

Report of the Adult and Communities Scrutiny Committee Task and Finish Group		
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REVIEW OF THE MANAGEMENT OF ROUGH SLEEPERS

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report is submitted to the Committee following a review of the management of rough sleepers by a cross party Task and Finish group.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:

1. Consider and comment on the Task and Finish Group Report attached at Appendix 1, and
2. Endorse the report and recommendations for submission to Cabinet.

3. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND RELEVANT CABINET PORTFOLIO

- 3.1 This report links into the following corporate priorities:
- Keeping our communities safe, cohesive and healthy
 - Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults
- 3.2 This subject falls within the Cabinet portfolio of Cllr Irene Walsh, Cabinet Member for Communities and Environment Capital.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 At its meeting on 11th January 2017 the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee agreed to establish a cross party Task and Finish Group to review the Council's approach to the management of rough sleepers.

5. KEY ISSUES

- 5.1 The Task and Finish Group have undertaken their review and their findings are contained in the report at appendix 1.
- 5.2 During their review, the Task and Finish Group analysed data and information, interviewed key witnesses and undertook a walkabout of known rough sleeper hotspots.
- 5.3 The Task and Finish Group have proposed a number of recommendations to build on existing support provisions for rough sleepers and to introduce new services. These are set out in the report at appendix 1.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Many of the recommendations set out in the Task and Finish Group's report have no financial implications. However, some do and these costs are identified within the report. However, the task and finish group reviewed evidence from other council areas nationally that demonstrated the financial savings that can be achieved through effective preventative work and targeted engagement with rough sleepers, which would deliver a significant return on investment.

6.2 There are no known legal implications for any of the recommendations.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 The Task and Finish Group spoke with key witnesses and received information from other local authorities.

8. NEXT STEPS

8.1 That the Committee approves the report and the recommendations contained within it for submission to Cabinet.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

9.1 Documents used to prepare the final report includes:

- **At What Cost? An Estimation of the Financial Costs of Single Homelessness in the UK, Crisis/Centre for Housing Policy, University of York, July 2015**
- **Evidence Review of the Costs of Homelessness, Department for Communities and Local Government, August 2012**
- **Cross Party Rough Sleeping Task and Finish Group – Briefing Pack**

10. APPENDICES

10.1 Appendix 1 – Report of the Task and Finish Group