

RECOMMENDATIONS MONITORING REPORT

ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Meeting date Recommendations Made	Portfolio Holder / Directorate Responsible	Agenda Item Title	Recommendation Made	Action Taken	Progress Status
12 September 2017	Cabinet Member for Communities/ Adults and Communities	6.Update On The Management of Rough Sleepers: Monitoring of Recommendations	The Committee RESOLVED to recommend that an alternative strategy or option 'B' be developed if funding was denied following the submission of a bid to the DCLG for extra funds to recruit 3 additional workers. This bid would provide the required resources to progress many of the recommendations.	The DCLG bid was successful and three additional workers are being recruited.	Complete
12 September 2017	Cabinet Member for Communities/ Adults and Communities	7. Homelessness and Homelessness Prevention	<p>The Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee resolved to agree to the proposed amendments to the Housing Policy as listed below:</p> <p>Under occupation - To allow households with a 2 bedroom need, with 2 children, who are working and will not be affected by the removal of the spare room subsidy to express interest in and be housed in 3 bedroom accommodation.</p> <p>Additional Preference - As demand for accommodation has grown it has become apparent that households to which the Council owes a full housing duty but who do not have additional preference through a strong local connection, face the prospect of not being successful for an allocation of accommodation as they are always</p>	As the Peterborough Homes Allocation Policy is part of the major policy framework, the changes have to be approved by Council. The item has therefore been included as a non-key decision on the Forward plan ahead of the next Council meeting on the 12 December.	A report is expected to go before Cabinet on 20 November, ahead of the Council meeting on 12 December

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			<p>considered after a household who does. It is proposed that a category for accepted homeless households who have been accepted for at least 3 months is added as an additional preference category.</p> <p>Refusals and non-attendance at viewings - The demand for accommodation is now so great that we now no longer have the luxury that we are able to give applicants extensive choice when it comes to allocations. Applicants are currently permitted to refuse up to 3 offers of accommodation before they are penalised. It is proposed that this be reduced to 2 offers for general applicants. No change is proposed for applicants who are accepted as homeless, they must still accept the 1st offer of suitable permanent accommodation.</p> <p>Number of bids - Currently applicants are able to bid on up to 3 properties per week. They could also shortlist for up to 3 properties per week. This has often resulted in delays in lettings and some applicants bidding for properties without any knowledge of the area the property is located in as they face no penalty. It is proposed that the number of bids applicants can place be reduced from 3 to 1. This should encourage applicants to review all properties in more detail and to place their bids on properties they are really interested in securing.</p>		

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12 September 2017	Cabinet Member for Communities/ Adults and Communities	7. Homelessness and Homelessness Prevention	The Committee recommended the establishment of a Cross Party Task and Finish Group to support the development of a new homelessness reduction strategy as outlined in paragraph 4.47 of the report and endorsed the terms of reference for the Task and Finish group as stated in paragraph 4.49 of the report	The first meeting of the newly established Task and Finish group was convened on 16 October 2017	Complete
			<p>The Committee RESOLVED to endorse the terms of reference for the Task and Finish group as stated in paragraph 4.49 of the report subject to the following addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - that the Task and Finish group, in developing a new homelessness strategy, give particular consideration to the medium and long term solutions to homelessness and take into account if there is a link between homelessness and the lack of affordable housing. 	The terms of reference for the newly established task and finish group were amended to reflect this recommendation and adopted by the Task and Finish group.	Complete

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