

REPORT TO CABINET

Open		Would any decisions proposed :			
Any especially affected Wards	Mandatory/	Be entirely within Cabinet's powers to decide		YES	
	Discretionary /	Need to be recommendations to Council		NO	
	Operational	Is it a Key Decision		NO	
Lead Member: Cllr Adrian Lawrence E-mail: cllr.adrian.lawrence@west-norfolk.gov.uk		Other Cabinet Members consulted:			
Lead Officer: Duncan Hall E-mail: Duncan.hall@west-norfolk.gov.uk Direct Dial: 01553 616445		Other Members consulted:			
Financial Implications NO		Policy/ Personnel Implications NO	Statutory Implications YES	Equal Impact Assessment YES Pre-screening/	Risk Management Implications YES
		Environmental Considerations NO			

Date of meeting: 7 January 2020

HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPING STRATEGY

Summary

The existing Homelessness Strategy needs to be replaced by a plan that reflects recent changes to the legislative framework and current local circumstances in relation to homelessness and rough sleeping.

Recommendation

That the Strategy is adopted and that the role of the Environment and Community Panel group - Homelessness and Housing Supply Task Group in overseeing the delivery of the Action Plan is endorsed.

Reason for Decision

The Council has a statutory duty to produce a homelessness strategy setting out the issues it faces locally and what it is doing to prevent homelessness. The Council's commitments to preventing homelessness are set out in the Corporate Plan.

1 Background

The draft Strategy was presented to the Environment and Community Panel on the 15th October 2019 – The Panel supported the draft Strategy.

The current draft version of the document was prepared following comments made by the Panel. This version was circulated to key stakeholder partners on 29th November 2019, in advance of a consultation event on the 11th December.

An executive summary can be found at the beginning of the document.

2 Options Considered

There are no options to consider as we are required to publish such a document.

3 Policy Implications

There are actions identified in the Strategy that will have policy implications for the Council. Of particular importance will be any policy change proposals following a review of the Social Housing Allocations policy.

A further policy implication related to the proposed review of development policies in connection with the provision of new affordable housing.

4 Financial Implications

There are no specific financial implications of this strategy. There were as detailed resource allocation implications following the introduction last year of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017

5 Personnel Implications

There are no personnel implications.

6 Environmental Considerations

There are no environmental considerations.

7 Statutory Considerations

Homelessness Prevention activities are on a statutory footing, as is the publication of a Homelessness Strategy. The scope and content of the Strategy is prescribed the Government in the Homelessness Code of Guidance.

8 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

(Pre screening report template attached)

9 Risk Management Implications

A number of risks to delivery are identified in section 17 of the document.

10 Declarations of Interest / Dispensations Granted

None

11 Background Papers

See attached document and appendices

Pre-Screening Equality Impact Assessment

Borough Council of
**King's Lynn &
West Norfolk**



Name of policy/service/function	Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy 2019-2024				
Is this a new or existing policy/service/function?	New				
<p>Brief summary/description of the main aims of the policy/service/function being screened.</p> <p>Please state if this policy/service is rigidly constrained by statutory obligations</p>	<p>The Council has a statutory duty to produce a homelessness strategy setting out the issues it faces locally and what it is doing to prevent homelessness.</p> <p>The activities are constrained by statutory obligations</p>				
Question	Answer				
<p>1. Is there any reason to believe that the policy/service/function could have a specific impact on people from one or more of the following groups according to their different protected characteristic, for example, because they have particular needs, experiences, issues or priorities or in terms of ability to access the service?</p> <p>Please tick the relevant box for each group.</p> <p>NB. Equality neutral means no negative impact on any group.</p>		Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure
	Age	√			
	Disability	√			
	Gender				
	Gender Re-assignment				
	Marriage/civil partnership				
	Pregnancy & maternity				
	Race				
	Religion or belief				
	Sexual orientation				
	Other (e.g. low income)	√			

