Report of:	Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods
To:	Housing and Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date:	9 October 2018

Progress Report on Implementation: Rough Sleeping & Prevention

Review Information

Date approved at City Council:	13 June 2017
Member who led the original review:	Councillor Victoria Quinn
Lead Officer for the review:	Benita Wishart, Overview & Scrutiny Manager
Date progress last tracked:	12 December 2017

1. In approving this Review the City Council asked me, as the appropriate Cabinet Member, to report on progress towards these recommendations to this Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2. Details of progress with the remaining recommendations are shown in Appendix 2.

3. Members are therefore asked to consider progress against the recommendations and give their view as to how progress is categorized for each.

Appendices

1	Scrutiny Office guidance on the tracking process
2	Recommendations you are tracking today
3	Recommendations tracked previously and concluded

For more information about this report, please contact

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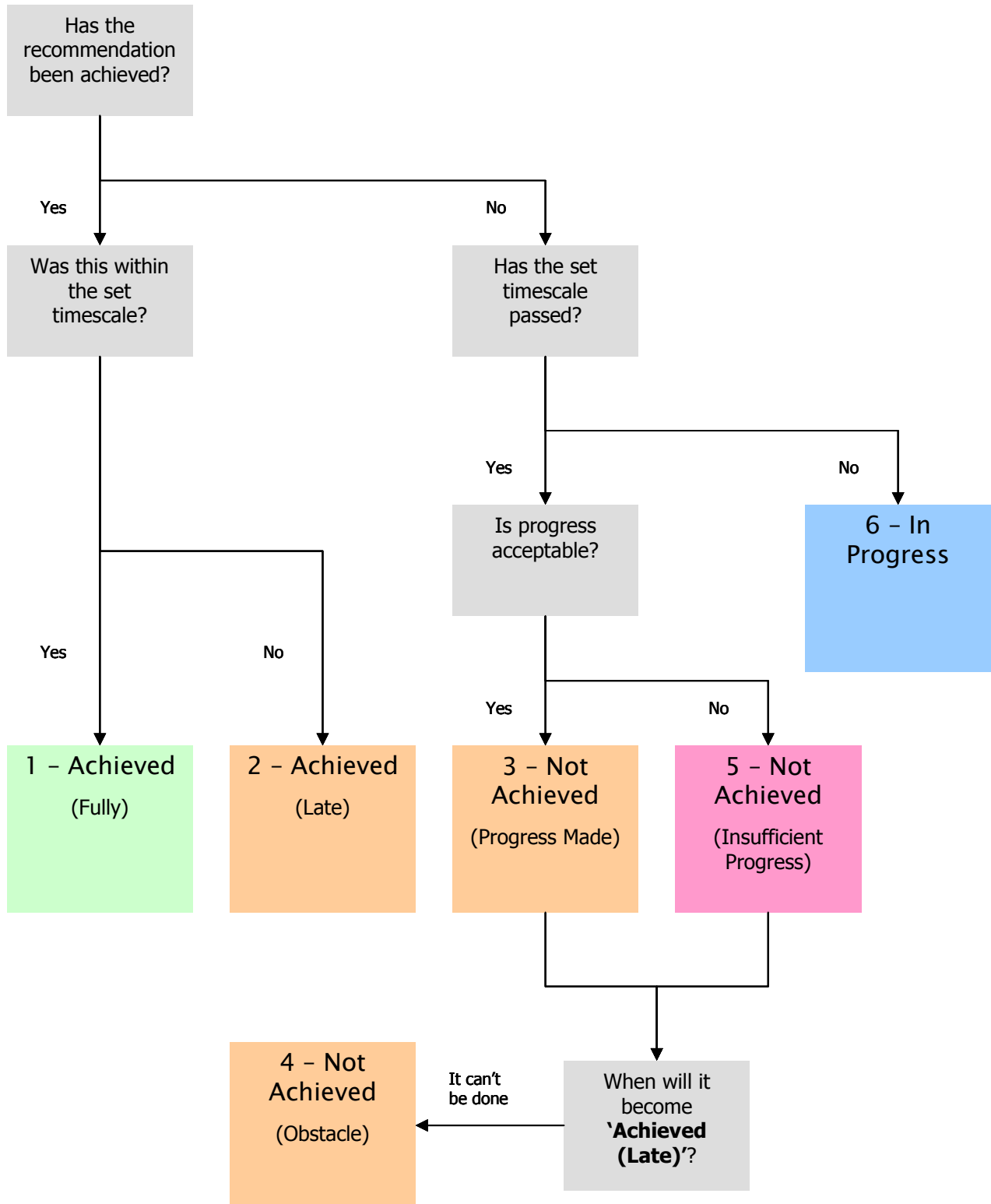Telephone: 0121 303 6132
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Appendix ❶: The Tracking Process

In making its assessment, the Committee may wish to consider:
- What progress/ key actions have been made against each recommendation?
- Are these actions pertinent to the measures required in the recommendation?
- Have the actions been undertaken within the time scale allocated?
- Are there any matters in the recommendation where progress is outstanding?
- Is the Committee satisfied that sufficient progress has been made and that the recommendation has been achieved?

Category	Criteria
1: Achieved (Fully)	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has been fully implemented within the timescale specified.
2: Achieved (Late)	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has been fully implemented but not within the timescale specified.
3: Not Achieved (Progress Made)	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has not been fully achieved, but there has been significant progress made towards full achievement. **An anticipated date by which the recommendation is expected to become achieved must be advised.**
4: Not Achieved (Obstacle)	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has not been fully achieved, but all possible action has been taken. Outstanding actions are prevented by obstacles beyond the control of the Council (such as passage of enabling legislation).
5: Not Achieved (Insufficient Progress)	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has not been fully achieved and there has been insufficient progress made towards full achievement. **An anticipated date by which the recommendation is expected to become achieved must be advised.**
6: In Progress	It is not appropriate to monitor achievement of the recommendation at this time because the timescale specified has not yet expired.

The Tracking Process

Has the recommendation been achieved?

Yes / No

Yes path:

Was this within the set timescale?

Yes → **1 – Achieved (Fully)**

No → **2 – Achieved (Late)**

No path:

Has the set timescale passed?

Yes → Is progress acceptable?

No → **6 – In Progress**

Is progress acceptable?

Yes → **3 – Not Achieved (Progress Made)**

No → **5 – Not Achieved (Insufficient Progress)**

When will it become **'Achieved (Late)'**?

It can't be done → **4 – Not Achieved (Obstacle)**

Appendix ❷: Progress with Recommendations

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R01	That the Cabinet Members with the strategic responsibilities for Children, Jobs and Skills, Health and Housing each individually assess their portfolios in terms of how they, their commissioned services and partner agencies can respond to homelessness prevention with a view to joint commissioning across directorates and partners in preparation for new duties arising under the Homelessness Reduction Act and that the Homelessness Strategy 2017-2022 is framed accordingly to identify clear linkages and accountabilities between all statutory, commissioned and third sector partners across these strategic priority areas in terms of their contributions to homelessness prevention.	Cabinet Member for Housing and Homes Leader Cabinet Member for Jobs and Skills; Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Schools; Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care; Cabinet Member for Transparency, Openness and Equality; Cabinet Member for Value for Money and Efficiency	December 2017	2 – Achieved (Late)

Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')

The Homelessness Prevention Strategy was formally launched in June 2018. Commitments from Cabinet Members, Chief Executive and partners were provided at the launch and these now form the basis of the action plan.

Similarly the Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy was launched in June 2018.There is a strong read across between the two strategies which is key given that domestic abuse is the second highest reason for homelessness presentations. The strategy covers changing attitudes, early intervention and crisis support as key areas requiring action in order to tackle and prevent domestic abuse from occurring.

The Homelessness Partnership Board will drive the delivery of the actions set out within the plan over the next five years. It is clear that whilst there are some actions which can be implemented at pace, others requiring a systems change will require time to embed. It must also be recognised that success and impact is dependent upon national policy change particularly those relating to 1) welfare reform 2) affordability and available supply of housing 3) cross departmental working both locally and within government departments in order to avoid fragmented decision or unintended consequences.

There will be a regular sensor check with the Regional Homelessness Taskforce action plan (currently under development), work identified by Crisis at a national level as part of their campaign to end homelessness and activities and funding identified through the recent launch of the government's strategy to tackle rough sleeping.

A quality assurance mark is being created for agencies providing accommodation or support to people that are at risk of homelessness or may present as homeless. This is based upon the work initiated by BVCS and their Fulfilling Lives Initiatives working with individuals with multiple and complex needs and No Wrong Door approach. This will undergo a period of testing with agencies prior to its adoption by both providers and commissioners of homelessness prevention services. The quality mark will also be cross referenced to the outcomes framework for homelessness and rough sleeping to be developed by MHCLG by Summer 2019.

A Cross Directorate (and cross agency approach) to the delivery of the homelessness prevention strategy will need to be evidenced during the life of the strategy. Practical examples to date include: A cross directorate approach to the delivery of the Housing First Pilot, use of commissioned services to support the prevention duties under the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017, emerging work relating to migration and homelessness and support to the

Children's Trust to develop a 'housing offer' for young people leaving care.

A Vulnerable Adults Housing Board has been re-established to consider health and housing responses to homelessness.

There is a pending award of £6m European Social Fund monies linked to the existing contracts for vulnerable adults and housing to improve employability and access for vulnerable people including homelessness.
In terms of progress it must be noted that these actions will continue to evolve and embed during the life of the strategy.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R02	That rough sleeping is made a central part of the homelessness strategy and thus the Homelessness Strategy 2017-22 is based upon the objective of no second night on the street.	Cabinet Member for Housing and Homes	December 2017	2 – Achieved (Late)

Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')

Strategy

One of the key actions set out in the recent Rough Sleeping Strategy August 2018 is the requirement for local authorities to repurpose their Homelessness Prevention Strategies as Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategies by winter 2019. The national Rough Sleeping Strategy makes progress in understanding the complexity of rough sleeping and people's needs and pledges more support for women, non – UK Nationals and LGBT people. The strategy takes a three pronged approach:

Prevention: understanding the issues that lead to rough sleeping and providing timely support to those at risk
Intervention: helping those already sleeping rough with swift support tailored to their individual circumstances
Recovery: supporting people in finding a new home and rebuilding their lives.

Whilst the existing Birmingham Homelessness Prevention strategy is inclusive of the needs of people with experience of street lifestyles and rough sleeping, a review and rework of the strategy is currently underway through the Homelessness Partnership Board in order for the strategy to fully reflect the requirements of the national strategy document.

Funding

The use of the recent national funding streams (Rough Sleeper Initiatives) and potential funding streams to be set out via the Rough Sleeper Strategy will be utilised to explore, trial and test a range of accommodation and support models.

The WMCA has also recently been awarded £9.6m over 3 years to deliver and test a Housing First Model for the region. Birmingham is the Accountable Body for this award and will lead the delivery of the pilot over the next 3 – 5 years.

Forthcoming government funding opportunities include 'Somewhere Safe to Stay' which builds on the example of No Second Night Out in London. This is aimed at people new to the streets and offers rapid support intervention. Health funding will also be made available to test models of community – based provision to design to enable access to health and support services for people who are sleeping rough.

Review of existing street outreach arrangements

Birmingham like many towns and Cities has seen a significant rise in rough sleeping. Alongside the repurposing of the Homelessness Prevention Strategy, a review of existing outreach and commissioned arrangements across the City is being initiated and supported on a cross directorate basis between Place and Adult Social Care and Health. Learning from the exiting street outreach services, recent government funded projects including the Rough Sleeper Initiative and role out of Housing First will inform the future model of rough sleeping responses in the City.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R03	That the Homelessness Strategy 2017-22 introduces integrated, flexible and added value commissioning models involving all partners in the city with an involvement in homelessness relief and prevention (Clinical Commissioning Groups; Police; Home Office; Business Improvement Districts (BIDs); Department for Work and Pensions; Courts; Probation Services; and networks of volunteers) to include: payment by results transformation of accommodation services for rough sleepers; monthly contract monitoring and feedback mechanisms to evidence impact that can be publically published on a quarterly basis similar to the CHAIN report used by the Greater London Authority.	Cabinet Member for Housing and Homes	December 2017	2 – Achieved (Late)

Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')

The Prevention First vision for Adult Social Care and Health includes the requirement to develop a vulnerable adults and housing pathway which will support people to continue to live independently within their own homes for as long as possible and also to ensure that adults are not discharged from institutional care settings into homelessness.

A Review, re alignment and piloting of initiatives to support the prevention duties of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 (HRA 2017) have commenced, this includes changes to the youth hub, a review of all singles activity and considerations for a domestic abuse hub.

The implementation of the Homelessness Positive Pathway (As set out within the Homelessness Prevention Strategy) will inform 1) the design of housing related support services 2) their quality standards and 3) the outcomes for citizens accessing those services.

Monthly and quarterly Intelligence from existing contracts and monitoring reviews will also support the shape the design of future prevention services.

A monthly case management review with all partners will be established to determine what actions/interventions have been undertaken for the rough sleeping cohort to inform what is being done and is being successful.

Current housing related support contracts are still in place and not due to expire until Nov 2019. The redesign of these services will commence over the next 12 months and will align with the aspirations of both the homelessness prevention strategy and the vision for Adult Social Care and Health - Putting Prevention First.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R04	That in addition to monthly monitoring and feedback reports on homelessness prevention data collated by the Housing Options Centre, assessment of homelessness prevention is integrated into and shared across Benefit Advice Services, Neighbourhood Advice and Information Services (NAIS), Adult and Children's Social Care Services and taking steps to integrate data from CCGs and NHS Trusts.	Cabinet Member for Housing and Homes\n\nCabinet Member for Children, Families and Schools\n\nCabinet Member for Health and Social Care\n\nDeputy Leader (Benefits/NAIS)	December 2017	2 – Achieved (Late)

Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')

The use of presentation and profile data both internal to BCC and also across partner agencies is key to identifying both the timing and nature of effective homelessness prevention interventions.

Update on the HRA Implementation to a future OSC will include data requirements and also the use of intelligence which is informing the work of the Housing Options Centre.

The development of the pathway domains of the Homelessness Positive Pathway has required the use of intelligence and data from across a range of agencies. Further work is required to integrate data effectively across agencies.

The implementation of the Housing First Pilot will include regional data analysis to inform and shape the pilot. An Independent Evaluation of the pilot has also been commissioned by MHCLG.

Monthly homelessness monitoring reports are presented to the Homelessness Partnership Board to allow all agencies to track impact.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R05	To commit to a 'no wrong door' approach for the delivery of homelessness prevention and a no second night out objective for rough sleepers by integrating or at least contributing into a shared case management tool (such as the ICAT Intelligent Common Assessment Tool).	Cabinet Member for Housing and Homes\n\nCabinet Member for Transparency, Openness and Equality	December 2017	3 – Not Achieved (Progress Made)

Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')

Homelessness Reduction Act 2017, Code of Guidance requires the development of more integrated case management systems which enables the tracking of individuals. Update to be provided as part of the HRA Implementation Update to OSC.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R06	That partnership working to prevent homelessness and rough sleeping is strengthened through the creation of a clear functional map of all homelessness prevention and relief providers and assessors (commissioned and non, statutory and voluntary) within the city. This should be collectively updated on a	Cabinet Member for Housing and Homes	August 2017	3 – Not Achieved (Progress Made)

	regular basis.			

Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')

The development of the positive pathway is starting to shape the agency responses and what excellence should look like. This will form the basis of a cross agency functional map of interventions (statutory, commissioned, funded, voluntary. The mapping of services has commended led by BVSC and leads from key partners.

The Rough Sleeping Strategy also recommends the launch of a new on line platform to help individuals and community groups and businesses to support people who sleep rough get off the streets for good. Further detail of roll out of this is awaited from MHCLG.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R07	To improve the provision and relevance of emergency accommodation and services for rough sleepers and capacity for benchmarking best practice and driving payment by results through an annual audit reported to Scrutiny conducted with the involvement of former rough sleepers. To include issues such as: • User satisfaction; • Provision for animals; • Couples; • No Recourse to Public Funds; • Substance misuse issues; • Advice provision and referral.	Cabinet Member for Housing and Homes	December 2017	2 – Achieved (Late)

Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')

The 2018/19 Rough Sleeper Initiative Funding award to Birmingham City Council includes the provision of a coordinator. A key role for the post holder will include the implementation of a review of all rough sleeper services in the City (commissioned and voluntary) and enhancement of existing data collection arrangements into a format which can be shared with partner agencies in order to inform agency responses.

Existing arrangements have been strengthened to include: bed-spaces for couples, people with pets, substance misuse and mental health assertive outreach into emergency accommodations. Birmingham City Council is also seeking additional government funding to support people with no recourse to public funds.

Housing First Pilot commissioning will also include intensive support interventions relating to access for vulnerable people with multiple presenting health needs.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R08	To ensure that the network of homelessness prevention and relief providers in the city collate and regularly update information and contact details of all services including available to and required by any rough sleeper or individual facing homelessness in the city, presented as a user friendly (including graphics for non-English speakers) geographic map of services.	Cabinet Member for Housing and Homes	December 2017	3 – Not Achieved (Progress Made)

Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')

Good quality, accessible Information, advice and guidance is a key competent of the Homelessness Prevention

Strategy as well as a statutory requirement under the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.

Partner agencies represented at the Homelessness Partnership Board are initiating a review of their own information and responses as part of the development of the positive pathway excellence model. This will ensure that defined cohorts of population that are more likely to be at risk of homelessness have information that meets their needs, is available at the appropriate time.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R09	That communications with citizens about street homelessness is improved. In particular, a positive message is needed setting out how citizens can contribute to the 'no second night out' objective. A focus on active campaigns in collaboration with statutory partners and BIDs on how citizens can best help the street homeless, report concerns and develop other active alternatives.	Cabinet Member for Housing and Homes	December 2017	3 – Not Achieved (Progress Made)

Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')
Change into Action Campaign and information relating to Street Link has been promoted via a range of sources including social media. More work is required as part of the public education campaigns and this will continue to be addressed both locally and regionally. Further dialogue is also planned in October with faith and charity based organisations which include those that deliver food initiatives or other donations in the City Centre. The review of all rough sleeper services planned as part of the Rough Sleeper Initiative roll out over the next 12 months will include the review of information available.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R10	That a quarterly data dashboard on street homeless is developed and shared with all key partners. That information on individual cases is shared with partner agencies as required.	Cabinet Member for Housing and Homes	January 2018	2 – Achieved (Late)

Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')
See response to recommendation 7

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R11	That an assessment of progress against the recommendations in this report be presented to the Housing and Homes O&S Committee.	Cabinet Member for Housing and Homes	December 2017	1 – Achieved (Fully)

Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')

Appendix ❸: Concluded Recommendations

These recommendations have been tracked previously and concluded.
They are presented here for information only.

Concluded

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Date Concluded by Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Tracking Assessment
R12	That the City Council works with the West Midlands Combined Authority and the Elected Mayor's newly established homelessness taskforce to ensure that issues are picked up on a cross boundary basis.	Cabinet Member for Housing and Homes	December 2017	1