

Report to Housing and Homes Overview and Scrutiny Committee 20th February 2018

Progress Report on Implementation: Rough Sleeping and Prevention

Purpose

- To provide Housing and Homes Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an interim progress update on the existing recommendations which incorporate the guidance provided by Committee Members at their meeting on 12th December 2017.
- Elements of this report will have cross - over with the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 Implementation Plan item listed for this Committee meeting.

Summary

Due to the changing nature of the current national policy landscape, it has not been possible to fully conclude this tracking report in detail. At the last OSC, Members acknowledged this and accepted that a number of development activities are in train. Urgent progress was also requested on recommendations 1, 2, 6 and 8 alongside further information relating to recommendation 12 for their February 2018 Committee.

Recommendation 1

The Homelessness Prevention Strategy has been approved by City Council January 2018. As recommended by Housing and Homes OSC, the Forward to the strategy now contains signatures from all Cabinet Members, Deputy Leader and Leader of the Council.

Discussions took place at the Homelessness Partnership Board in January 2018 with regards to corporate ownership of the implementation plan both internal and external to the Council. The Partnership Board were supportive of the following actions:

- 1) To secure support from the Health and Wellbeing Board via Public Health to assist with the systems change work that is required to implement the positive pathway.
- 2) A Corporate Cross Directorate Board (Chaired by Rob James) has been established to support the implementation plans for both the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 and the Homelessness Prevention Strategy.
- 3) A launch event for Homelessness Prevention Strategy is being planned. A key element of the event will include commitment to the implementation plan. Workshops are planned for Cabinet Members, all Corporate Directors from within the City Council and external agency leads particularly health partners.
- 4) An example of early adoption of the Strategy on a cross Directorate basis is the Adult Social Care draft business plan. This includes Directorate support for the delivery of the Homelessness Prevention Strategy implementation plan.
- 5) Discussions have started between the Place, Adult Social Care and Economy Directorates and the Children's Trust on the local housing offer for young people leaving care in accordance with the Children and Social Work Act 2017. A couple of different housing model options are currently being explored.
- 6) Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy is due to be presented to Cabinet on 13th February 2018 with a proposal to present at City Council in March 2018. The draft Strategy has been

updated to include a read across to the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 requirements for local authorities as per the (draft) code of guidance for local authorities.

Recommendation 2

- 1) A high level timelines for commissioning has been set out within the Putting Prevention First Cabinet Report November 2017. This commissioning may be affected by the proposed government changes to Supported Housing, which will come into effect from 2020 (ref Positive Pathway).
- 2) The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 implementation plan over the next 12 months may identify additional pilot commissioning for prevention and relief duties. This will enable voluntary sector providers to support the local authority with particular client groups for example young people or domestic abuse. Legal advice is currently being sought; there is indication that this will be achievable via contract variation to some existing Supporting People contracts.
- 3) Discussions have taken place with some voluntary sector partners and in principle agreements have been reached to explore these pilot options further.

Recommendations 6 and 8

At their December 2017 OSC, Members requested a functional map of services alongside a request for a single phone number to report and access support for people that are rough sleeping. The following actions have been implemented:

- 1) A single 24/7 phone number is now in place and communicated to Members, staff and external agencies.
- 2) A directory of organisations across the City (commissioned and non- commissioned) providing support to people sleeping rough has been produced and circulated to all members.
- 3) This information has been posted onto the BCC webpages.
- 4) Change into Action information has been posted onto the BCC webpages and Twitter.
- 5) As part of the Homelessness Prevention Strategy implementation and system review, with partners we are undertaking a wider comprehensive service mapping to ensure that we have a clear view of all services that are offering homelessness services to enable a robust assessment of these services against our excellence in the system statements.

Recommendation 12

Ongoing discussions are taking place with MHCLG in relation to the Housing First Pilots to ensure that Housing First as a model is used across the homelessness positive pathway, to be available for targeting those cohorts of population who are at greater risks of rough sleeping.

A diagram of the Mayoral Task Force Homelessness Positive Pathway has been attached to this briefing note.

Task Force leads are as follows:

Rough Sleeping – Birmingham City Council (Jacqui Kennedy)
Children and Families - Walsall Council
Over 25 Singles - Crisis
Young People - National Housing Federation

Kalvinder Kohli

Head of Service - Commissioning Adult Social Care and Health

Milestone Plan for: Putting Prevention First

ID	Milestone	Completion Dates
Neighbourhood Networks Model (NNM)		
NNM	Cabinet decision	November 2017
NNM	Single Contract of Negotiation	December 2017
NNM	Market Development	December 2017
NNM	Strategy approval to Delegated Officers	December 2017
NNM	Market engagement	January 2018
NNM	Tender exercise completed	April 2018
NNM	Award report	May 2018
NNM	Mobilisation	May 2018 onwards
Procuring Positive Pathway (PPP)		
PPP	Preliminary work	December 2017
PPP	Consultation & Engagement	June 2018
PPP	Analysis of engagement and review of procurement options	July 2018
PPP	Procurement Exercise and Contract Awarded	July 2019
PPP	Contract Management	August 2019 ongoing
Day Opportunities (DO)		
DO	Day Opportunity strategy in place	December 2017
DO	Policy and Process that supports the day opportunity strategy developed	December 2017
DO	Coproduction approach for delivering the strategy	January 2018
DO	Day Opportunity model and development plan in place	January 2018
DO	Market Development to deliver Day Opportunity strategy	March 2018
DO	Produce and deliver the Commissioning plan	May 2018 onwards
Three Conversations		
TC	Cabinet decision	November 2017
TC	Single Contract of Negotiation and Strategy approval to Delegated Officers	December 2017
TC	Award report	May 2018
TC	Implementation plan and mobilisation	May 2018 onwards

Designing out homelessness in the West Midlands

Universal Prevention

Targeted Prevention

Crisis Prevention and Relief

Recovery

Move-on Support

Settled home

Children

Families

Young people

Older singles

Homelessness Task Force

Regional Radar

Rough Sleeping Task Group

Steering Group

Task Group Children & Families

Task Group Young People

Task Group Older singles

MAYOR'S MAINSTREAM STRATEGIES FOR WMCA

Affordable accommodation, Health, Jobs and Skills, Transport, Community