



Birmingham City Council

Information briefing

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Report To: Housing and Homes Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 17th October 2017

Title: Progress Update on the draft Homelessness Prevention Strategy

The purpose of this report is to advise Housing and Homes Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the current progress on the draft Homelessness Prevention Strategy

Current Position

The 30 day Be Heard consultation period for the draft strategy concluded on the 5th October 2017. During the period of consultation, officers and partner agencies also undertook additional face to face consultations. This has included:

- 1) Presentations at the Birmingham Homelessness Forum which is chaired jointly by Crisis and Midland Heart
- 2) Group discussions with citizens that access homelessness support services across the City led by partner agencies
- 3) Discussions at the Homelessness Partnership Board and Housing Birmingham Board
- 4) Vulnerable Persons Citizens Panel

Briefings were also provided at the following;

30/8/17	Birmingham Social Housing Partnership Housing Needs Sub-Group
31/8/17	Early Help Strategic Partnership
7/9/17	Birmingham Homelessness Forum
12/9/17	Adult Safeguarding Board
13/9/17	West & Central Community Safety Partnership
26/9/17	Birmingham Mind Experts by Experience Group
28/9/17	Economy Directorate Management Team
28/9/17	Birmingham Social Housing Executive Board
3/10/17	Birmingham Health & Wellbeing Board

Ongoing updates and briefings have also been provided for Cabinet Members.

The feedback from the consultation activity is currently being analyzed and will be included as a findings document appendix to the report scheduled for December 2017 Cabinet and Full Council in January 2018.

Positive Pathway Development

The vision for the delivery of the Homelessness Prevention Strategy is through a Positive Pathway which covers five key domains;

- 1) Universal prevention through good quality information and advice
- 2) Targeted prevention
- 3) Crisis prevention and relief
- 4) Homelessness recovery
- 5) Sustainable housing

Partners from the Homelessness Partnership Board have been leading the development of an Excellence model for each of the domains. This has included input from partner agencies, citizens with lived experience of homelessness, Members, DCLG and officers from across the Council.

There are some re-occurring themes which will be embedded across the five domains these include domestic abuse, substance misuse and mental health.

The Pathway leads are due to present their initial plans at the next Homelessness Partnership Board due to be held 25th October 2017.

Regional Homelessness Summit: Designing out Homelessness, 10th October 2017

In order to mark World Homelessness day, Birmingham co-hosted a regional summit with the Mayor of the West Midlands.

This was a small select summit targeted at key senior representatives from across the region aimed to showcasing the work being undertaken in Birmingham, looking at the Mayor's work of the Regional Homelessness Taskforce and exploring opportunities to further this work regionally across partners and local authorities. Councillor Griffiths and Thompson were invited to lead Member presentations at the event.

This event provided a valuable opportunity to gain regional input into the development of the Pathway with specific reference to the regional role of partners from Health, business and criminal justice.

Development of the Homelessness Prevention Strategy Action Plan

The information from the pathway domain work will be used to inform a high level action plan to accompany the Homelessness Prevention Strategy Document being presented to Cabinet and Full Council.

The development of the more detailed action plan will continue to be led by the Homelessness Partnership Board.