Birmingham City Council

Information Briefing

Report from:	John Hardy	Date:	6 September 2016
Report to:	Housing and Homes O&S Committee		

Homeless Single System Programme

1. SUMMARY

Birmingham has a number of services for homeless households across both the statutory and non-statutory provision. Many of these services have been recognised as good practice both locally and nationally. However, despite this we are seeing double the number of rough sleepers and unprecedented numbers in Temporary Accommodation.

It is becoming apparent that the areas of good practice alone will not be able to meet the challenges and pressures due to changing demography, an increasing complexity of need and the need to deliver better services with less resource.

To this aim we are planning to undertake a radical, transformational review of homelessness as a whole aimed at reducing long term homelessness. The review will involve not just the City Council but how we work better with all relevant statutory and third sector partners particularly on better prevention.

2 PROPOSED SUPPORT FROM HOUSING AND HOMES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

- Receive regular programme progress up dates for overview and scrutiny

- Identification of good practice from other Local Authorities/Services

- Provide support and recommendations related to policy development identified through the programme

- Help shape and deliver programme aims and subsequent policy development or transformational change through challenge and review.

- Support the delivery and maintenance of good practice.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Reducing Homeless and Street Sleeping

Appendix 2: Stages of Homelessness Systems Approach

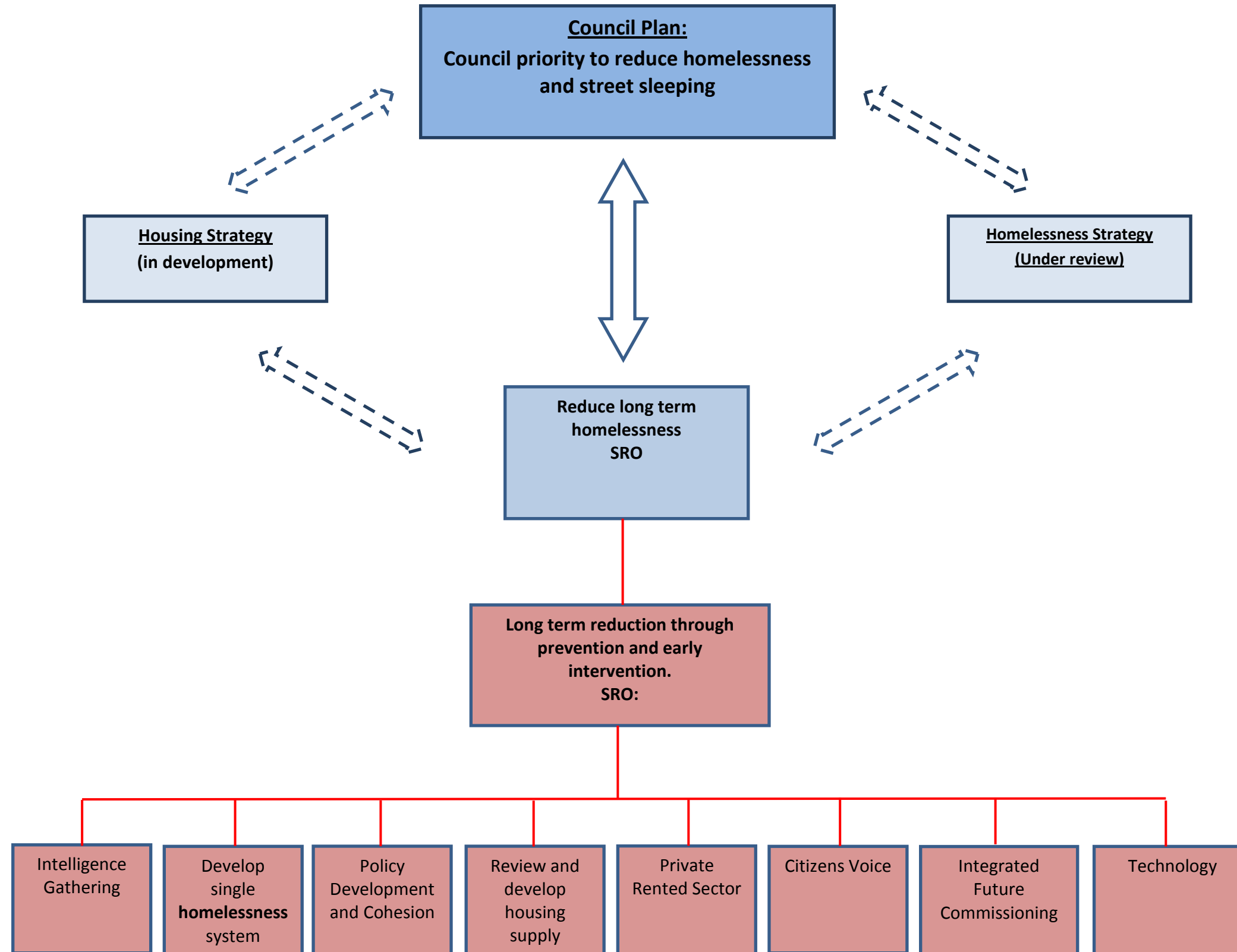|	
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Appendix 1: Reducing long term homelessness and street sleeping

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Council Plan:
Council priority to reduce homelessness and street sleeping

Housing Strategy
(in development)

Homelessness Strategy
(Under review)

Reduce long term homelessness
SRO

Long term reduction through prevention and early intervention.
SRO:

| Intelligence Gathering | Develop single **homelessness** system | Policy Development and Cohesion | Review and develop housing supply | Private Rented Sector | Citizens Voice | Integrated Future Commissioning | Technology |

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Project	Objective	Key Activity	SRO	Members
Intelligence Gathering	To provide, research, analysis and modelling in order to inform the longer term, collective strategic direction and service planning	1. Demographic analysis 2. Homelessness presentation and acceptance data 3. Out of Birmingham homelessness 4. Root cause analysis 5. Identify extend of ong term and repeat homelessness 6. Identify the 'hidden' homeless 7. Assess impact of 2017 changes to housing benefit 8. Research affordability models 9. Model the impact of 2017 HB caps across all Council stock		
Single Homeless System	Develop an integrated whole system for homelessness	1. Tackle Root causes 2. Development of an integrated provider function across the whole homeless system providing the right services at the right time and in the right place. 3. Development of joined up preventative and early intervention strategies using an asset based approach 4.		
Policy Development and Cohesion	To ensure all future Council policy considers homelessness implications and current policies do not adversely affect homelessness	1. Council/Cabinet Policy Approvals – Influence 2. Establish effective homeless radar system (re-visit Fuzzy-Logic model) 3. PRS Discharge – gain approval 4. Prevention Policy - Develop 5. Social Services - Influence 6. Children's Services - Influence 7. Rent Setting - Influence 8. Affordability -Develop 9. Strategic Tenancy Policy - Review 10. Landlord Tenancy Policy - Influence		
Review and develop housing supply options	To review the reality of current supply across all tenures and maximise access to mixed tenures as stable alternative housing options	1. Review accommodation options a. Direct Access hostels b. Supported Housing c. Housing First d. Shared Housing Models 2. Develop housing supply options to support the Housing Options service 3. Reduce the pressure on overall housing need a. Develop Under-occupation Scheme b. Reduce time taken to turn around void properties c. Reduce number of abandoned properties d. Develop Sub-letting task force e. Reduce tenancy fraud		
Private Rented Sector	Improve access to the Private Rented Sector	1. Produce current As-Is position statement 2. Research alternative PRS models 3. Lessons Learned Omega 4. Review Birmingham use by other Authorities 5. Review Stock Condition survey and SHMA 6. Develop a council wide set of standards for Council rentals in the PRS 7. Explore possible improvements in LHA levels 8. Develop PRS Models Options Appraisal		

Citizens Voice	Ensure that the development of systems are service user focused	1. Stakeholder engagement 2. Service user experience 3. Consultation exercises		
Integrated Future Commissioning		1. Review prevention service provision 2. Model and project prevention service need 3. Gap analysis 4. Identify future commissioning intentions		
Technology		1. Identify technology needs to support the single homeless system 2. Move forward Housing Advice and Homelessness IT requirements 3. Develop Business Requirements 4. Procure technology 5. Implement technology change		

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Appendix 2

Stages of homelessness Systems Approach

Offenders/NRPF becoming homeless

No of people sleeping on the streets/hidden homeless

No of people becoming at risk of homelessness

No of people becoming homeless

No of people moving into temporary housing

No of people moving into permanent housing

People

No of people at risk

No of people presenting/becoming homeless

No of people in temporary housing

No of people in permanent housing

No of people moving back onto the streets or into insecure accommodation