

Committee(s): Environment, Enforcement & Housing Committee	Date: 7 March 2022
Subject: Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020-2025 Delivery Plan	Wards Affected: All
Report of: Tracey Lilley, Corporate Director – Housing & Community Safety)	Public
Report Author/s: Name: Angela Abbott, Corporate Manager – Housing Needs & Independent Living Telephone: 01277 312500 E-mail: angela.abbott@brentwood.gov.uk	For Decision

Summary

In 2020 the Council launched its Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy for the period 2020 to 2025. The document was approved subject to consultation with local stakeholders. The consultation was however delayed to the impact of the pandemic and the issue of consultation was not concluded until recently.

The Council continued to implement the strategy and work with partners on the response to the pandemic. In October 2021, the Council re-visited the issue of consultation and circulated a delivery plan with the strategy seeking feedback on their content.

There were no proposed changes to the strategy, as the issues remain valid. The delivery plan has evolved and takes into account the local impact of the pandemic on homelessness and rough sleepers. The delivery plan is presented to members for approval.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

R1. To approve the delivery plan for the Council's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020-2025.

Main Report

Introduction and Background

1. The Council prepared its strategy for dealing with homelessness and rough sleepers in 2020. Unfortunately, the pandemic meant that other priorities took precedence and the engagement with local stakeholders was delayed, with the

priority being the response to the pandemic and the impact on local homelessness.

2. In 2021 it was decided to draft the strategy's delivery plan and circulate this to local stakeholders for comment. No responses were received from Stakeholders. The delivery plan is attached for approval.
3. The strategy document has not been updated and a formal review will be completed during the strategy's final year (i.e. 2024). The delivery plan's content will be reviewed on an annual basis and an update provided to the EEH Committee on progress with implementation and any changes that are needed.

Reasons for Recommendation

4. To ensure that the Housing Department has documentation to support the work on homelessness and rough sleepers and engage stakeholders on the local strategy and plans in place.

Consultation

5. Consultations have taken place with local organisations who are involved with the provision of services to the homeless and rough sleepers. Their comments have been incorporated into the delivery plan and will be taken into account when the strategy document is updated.

References to Corporate Plan

6. Drive continuous improvement of our housing services and continue a service improvement programme to ensure our services are delivered efficiently.

Implications

Financial Implications

Name/Title: Phoebe Barnes – Corporate Manager Finance (Deputy S151)

Tel/Email: 01277 312500/phoebe.barnes@brentwood.gov.uk

7. There are no additional financial implications arising from the approval of the delivery plan. The plan documents the current level of activity and the associated costs which are captured within the current budget and financial resources available for delivery.

Legal Implications

Name & Title: Amanda Julian, Corporate Director (Law & Governance) and Monitoring Officer

Tel & Email: 01277 312500/amanda.julian@brentwood.gov.uk

8. There are no legal implications arising from the report. The delivery plan helps to set out how the Council's responsibilities will be achieved.

Economic Implications

Name/Title: Phil Drane, Corporate Director (Planning and Economy)

Tel/Email: 01277 312500/philip.drane@brentwood.gov.uk

9. There are no economic implications arising from this report. The effective management of homelessness & rough sleepers will have a positive local impact.

Equality and Diversity Implications (*Please complete for manager review*)

Name/Title: Kim Anderson, Corporate Manager (Communities, Leisure & Health)

Tel/Email: 01277 312500/kim.anderson@brentwood.gov.uk

10. TO BE ADDED

Other Implications (where significant) – i.e. Health and Safety, Asset Management, Risk Management, Section 17 – Crime & Disorder, Sustainability, ICT.

None

Background Papers

- The background papers to this report includes the Homelessness and Rough Sleepers Strategy that was previously presented to the Committee in 2020

Appendices to this report

- Appendix A: Homeless and Rough Sleepers Strategy Delivery Plan 2020-2025