

Extract of notes of informal meeting of the People and Health Overview Committee held on 6 July 2021

Dorset Council Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2021 - 2026

The committee received a report of the Service Manager, Housing Strategy and Performance, which outlined the process which had been undertaken to draft a new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy for Dorset Council and sought support from the committee to recommend the strategy to Cabinet for approval.

The committee considered the issues arising from the report and during discussion the following points were raised:

- The objectives included in the report would be useful for future monitoring
- Issues around the lack of affordable and social housing. A future piece of work around the council's Housing Strategy was noted for future review by the committee
- Impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on homelessness which would continue to be monitored
- Links to work around domestic abuse reduction
- Recognition of the challenge for officers and the Portfolio Holder in joining these issues up
- The Equality Impact Assessment looked at challenges faced by people with protected characteristics and should highlight any issues around the armed forces covenant
- A possible future report for the committee following discussions to take place with the Foster Carers Association
- Suggested action required to ensure the availability of housing
- Recognition of the role for the council working with a range of other organisations. Thanks were expressed to all involved in the work.

It was proposed by P Batstone seconded by A Alford

'Minded to' Recommendation to Cabinet

That members of the committee recommend that Cabinet:

Endorse the work and agree:

1. The adoption of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2021 - 2026
2. Delegation of authority to the Portfolio holder for Housing and Community Safety to make minor amendments to the strategy and action plan and any amendments necessary to reflect legislative change.

The Corporate Director for Housing, having heard the debate, confirmed the 'minded to' Recommendation to Cabinet, under delegated powers on behalf of the informal meeting of the People and Health Overview Committee.