

# Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel

Agenda  
Item:

**A.4**

Meeting Date: 10th January 2019  
Portfolio: Economy, Enterprise and Housing  
Key Decision: No  
Within Policy and Budget Framework YES  
Public / Private Public

Title: CARLISLE INTERAGENCY HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY 2015-20  
Report of: Tammie Rhodes, Homelessness Prevention and Accommodation Manager  
Report Number: GD.03/19

## Purpose / Summary:

To update members of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel on key data and outcomes in relation to the Interagency Homelessness Strategy for Carlisle 2015-20 priority areas; and give feedback on the partnership from stakeholders.

## Recommendations:

Members of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel are asked to note key data and outcomes in years one to three in relation to the priority areas within the Interagency Homelessness Strategy for Carlisle 2015-20; and feedback on the partnership from stakeholders.

## Tracking

Executive:	
Scrutiny:	
Council:	

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1** Section 1 (1) of the Homelessness Act 2002 gives Housing Authorities the power to carry out homelessness reviews within the district areas; and S.1 (3 and 4) places a statutory responsibility on housing authorities to formulate and publish a homelessness strategy based on the ongoing results of regular reviews.
- 1.2** Section 3 (1) of the Homelessness Act 2002 requires the local housing authority to have a strategy which seeks to:
- prevent people from becoming homeless
  - ensure that there is sufficient accommodation in the area for people who might become, or are homeless
  - ensure that people who might be, or are homeless, have sufficient support to prevent them from becoming homeless again
  - consult with other relevant agencies in carrying out the review and in preparing the strategy
- 1.3** The Interagency Homelessness Strategy for Carlisle 2015-20 was developed in consultation with key stakeholders following a comprehensive review of local trends, gap analysis and a review of National Policy.
- 1.4** Building on the strengths and achievements of the previous strategy, the 2015-20 strategy was developed to focus on four key priority areas:
- 1) Appropriate flexible accommodation and support pathways
  - 2) Multiple Exclusion Homelessness and Rough Sleeping
  - 3) Positive outcomes for young people experiencing homelessness
  - 4) Prevent and relieve Homelessness
- 1.5** Following a full public consultation process, the Interagency Homelessness Strategy for Carlisle 2015-20 was subsequently agreed by full Council, published and launched in June 2015.
- 1.6** Annual reviews are conducted and delivery action plans agreed by the members of the interagency group with shared ownership of actions. The group meets quarterly, where the action plans are reviewed, and progress monitored.

- 1.7** The Homeless Reduction Act 2017 was implemented on 3 April 2018, with the Public Duty to Refer from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018; which significantly amended existing legislation and data recording.
- 1.8** Carlisle City Council will continue to work with all stakeholders in 2019/20 to review local trends, needs and gaps to identify priorities in advance of formulating and publishing a new 5-year strategy. The review will consider the additional duties introduced through the 2017 Act and align to other relevant local strategic plans.

## **2 FEEDBACK FROM STAKEHOLDERS**

### **2.1 MY SPACE HOUSING**

My Space provides accommodation for vulnerable adults in partnership with Carlisle Council and their partners. We have always found the work of the homeless service to be exemplary. From our perspective the good quality communication regarding the referrals enables us to act confidently and decisively in providing suitable and appropriate housing knowing we are part of a well-structured arrangement. The partnership members are proactive in managing the issues that are presented from what is a difficult client group and constantly display a genuine interest in what they do. For me it is the sense of optimism and willingness to do what needs to be done that is so refreshing.

### **2.2 CUMBRIA LAW CENTRE**

I have been a regular at the Homeless Strategy meetings and I have found them constructive and informative. It has also been very useful to have a structured forum for the various agencies involved with tackling homelessness. I think you should be congratulated on this initiative and I hope it continues.

### **2.3 HUMAN KIND**

The Strategy group is fundamental to address issues around homelessness in Carlisle and in developing a multi-agency response to changing need / demand / regulation.

### **2.4 INSPIRA**

The partnership group provides an opportunity for a diverse group of organisations to come together who touch the Homeless Strategy; it provides useful updates as well as the opportunity to raise awareness and ensure everyone is up to date.

### **3 CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

**3.1 Appendix 1** profiles key data and outcomes of year one to three.

### **4. CONTRIBUTION TO THE CARLISLE PLAN PRIORITIES**

**4.1** Addressing Carlisle's current and future housing needs

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#### **Appendices**

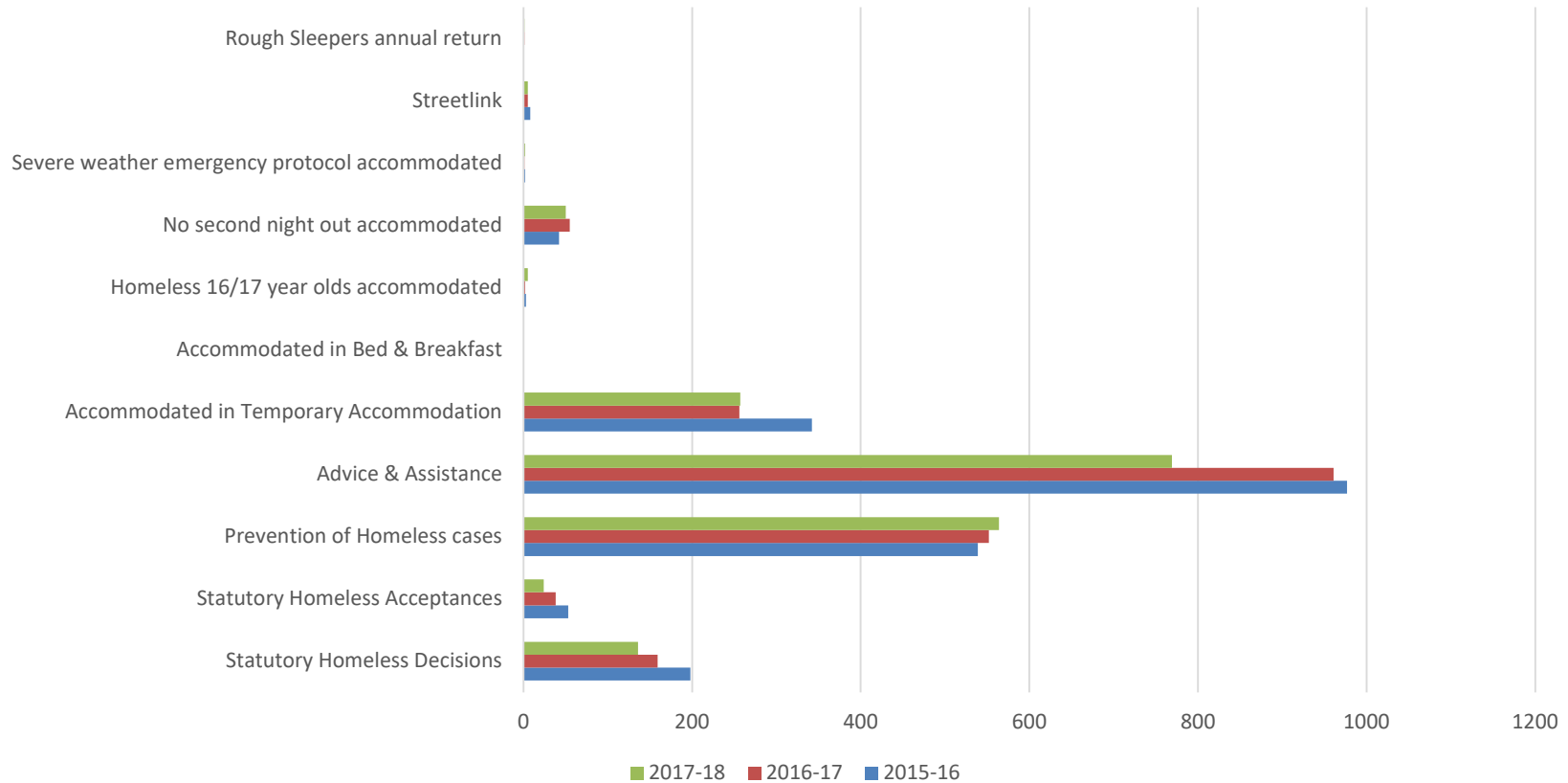
**attached to report:** Key Achievements of Year 1 - 3

**Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers• None**

# Carlisle Inter agency Homelessness Strategy 2015-20

## Summary of Year 1 - 3 Key Data

Summary of data 2015 - 2018



# Inter agency Homelessness Strategy for Carlisle

## Summary of key outcomes from 2015-2018

- ❖ Made 493 statutory homelessness decisions; and accepted a full homeless duty to 115 (23%) households
- ❖ Provided housing and homelessness advice to 2707 households
- ❖ Prevented or relieved 1655 households from experiencing homelessness
- ❖ Accommodated 855 households in temporary accommodation; 85% of which were assisted and supported to move on positively, in an average of 9 weeks
- ❖ No 16-17 year olds placed in Bed and breakfast
- ❖ No Families placed in Bed and Breakfast
- ❖ Two nightstop volunteer hosts in place with Carlisle district utilised for a total of 73 nights
- ❖ 50 households assisted successfully to move from hospital in to secure accommodation
- ❖ 166 households accessing specialist support to prevent or relieve homelessness as a result of domestic abuse
- ❖ 54 cases where mediation has prevented homelessness
- ❖ 41 Early Help Assessments opened on 16-17 year olds
- ❖ 193 people (under 21) successfully assisted and homelessness prevented
- ❖ Carlisle Protocol Implementation Group (16-17 year olds) established to prevent youth homelessness and discuss those at risk
- ❖ £5.33 million benefit gains through assistance from Carlisle City Councils Welfare Advice Service
- ❖ 97% of Discretionary Housing Payment allocation
- ❖ 39 crisis intervention meetings carried out with key partner to prevent homelessness
- ❖ 410 households referred for supported temporary accommodation placements
- ❖ Effective reconnection policy in place, which has successfully assisted 84 people
- ❖ Embedded and promoted No Second Night Out (NSNO); and supported 147 people directly as a result
- ❖ Since 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018, we have received 96 prevention referrals: 78 from public bodies, 18 from non statutory bodies