

Report to Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Agenda
Item:
A.5

Meeting Date: 21ST July 2016
Portfolio: Economy, Enterprise and Housing
Key Decision: No
Within Policy and Budget Framework: Yes
Public / Private: Public

Title: Interagency Homelessness Strategy for Carlisle 2015-20 – Year One Key Achievements
Report of: Director of Economic Development
Report Number: ED 27/16

Purpose / Summary:

To brief members of Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel on the key achievements and progress made to date in relation to the Interagency Homelessness Strategy for Carlisle 2015-20 in relation to the priority areas and action plans.

Recommendations:

Members are asked to note the key achievements made in year one in relation to the priority areas within the Interagency Homelessness Strategy for Carlisle 2015-20.

Tracking

Executive:	
Overview and 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** A delivery action plan for Year One was agreed by the members of the interagency group with shared ownership of actions (**see appendix 1**). The group meets quarterly, where the action plan is reviewed and progress monitored.

2. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1** **Appendix 2** profiles the key achievements of year one following the first formal annual review.

3. CONTRIBUTION TO THE CARLISLE PLAN PRIORITIES

- 3.1** Addressing Carlisle's current and future housing needs

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**Appendices
attached to report:**

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

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS/RISKS:

Chief Executive's -

Deputy Chief Executive –

Economic Development –

Governance –

Resources -

Year One Actions 2015/16						
Strategy Action Ref No	Action	Timeframe	Lead Agency	Evidence / Target	Objectives	Progress
2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place safeguarding at the centre of all service development and delivery 	Q1 (2015/16) and on-going	All agencies represented within the strategic interagency group	Local strategic Interagency agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased knowledge, confidence and reduction of on-going risks Increased collaborative safeguarding responses 	COMPLETE and in place Ongoing monitoring
7.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer a housing options prevention service which includes written advice to all clients (**including care leavers to reflect details in pathway plan**) 	Q1 (2015/16) (**To include in care leavers to reflect details in pathway plan from Children and Family Services**)	Carlisle City Council (**Children & Family Services – Cumbria County Council**)	Copy of written advice given to all clients including pathway plan for all care leavers (children and family services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achievement of Gold Standard services Prevent and alleviate homelessness and rough sleeping Improve standards, information, advice and options for both landlords and tenants 	COMPLETE and in place
4.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase and actively promote Nightstop within Carlisle 	Q1 –Q4 (2015/16)	16/17 year old Homelessness Co-ordinator; Case officer for Homeless 16-17 year olds, Children and Family Services	Minimum of 5 volunteer hosts identified for the Carlisle district	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the use of nightstop as emergency accommodation placements 	Data to be updated every quarter from DH –One hosts in Carlisle at end of year one
7.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively engage in preventing mortgage repossessions through embedding the pre-action protocol and utilising preventative toolkit and actions on a case by case basis 	Q1 (2015/16) to review and promote with key partners, and on-going	Carlisle City Council	Focused preventative use of pre-action protocol and toolkit; outcomes monitored Case studies evidencing effective positive action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention of homelessness 	COMPLETE and in place
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear commitment to a cross sector mandate to work outside of single organisational boundaries 	Q1 (2015/16) and on-going	Carlisle City Council (all agencies) All agencies represented within the strategic interagency group	Local strategic Interagency agreement Link to prevention protocols / agreements and group minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in repeat homelessness cases and MEH Improvement in communication and joint working End of rough sleeping Improve the overall wellbeing of local people and encourage a focus on the health promotion of the local homeless population Improved recognition and treatment of physical and mental health difficulties amongst people experiencing homelessness Reduced levels of trauma and homelessness Enhanced links between health and social care agencies 	COMPLETE and in place
3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A multi-agency preventative proactive approach to identifying, reporting and referring people at risk of homelessness and rough sleeping for advice and appropriate assistance 	Q1 (2015/16) and on-going		Local strategic Interagency agreement Monitoring referrals		COMPLETE and in place
3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective reconnection policy in place 	Q1 (2015/16) link to NSNO actions		Effective policy in place which is reviewed annually		COMPLETE and in place

Year One Actions 2015/16						
Strategy Action Ref No	Action	Timeframe	Lead Agency	Evidence / Target	Objectives	Progress
3.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-going local strategic commitment and local promotion of Nightstop, No Second Night Out, Streetlink and the Severe Weather Emergency Provision 	Q1 (2015/16) and on-going	Carlisle City Council and all agencies within the strategic implementation group	Local strategic Interagency agreement Reporting quarterly data to group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention of homelessness Reduce repeat homelessness presentations Reduce potential rough sleeping and insecure housing options Improve health and wellbeing 	COMPLETE and in place Ongoing monitoring
9.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To offer home visits and mediation services to all as appropriate as a crisis intervention and prevention tool 	Q1 (2015/16) To review effectiveness of current arrangements Q2 (2015/16) Implement any recommended changes	Carlisle City Council	Promote as a prevention service standard Report quarterly data to group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention of homelessness Reduce repeat homelessness presentations Reduce potential rough sleeping and insecure housing options Improve health and wellbeing Improve effective partnership working 	COMPLETE and in place Ongoing monitoring
7.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embed and promote the No Second Night Out standards 	Q1-Q4 (2015/16)	Carlisle City Council (and all strategic implementation group members)	NSNO standards embedded and promoted		COMPLETE and in place
1.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embed a collective commitment to improve the transparency of decision making and challenge through multi-agency approaches, escalation and conflict resolution 	Q1–Q4 (2015/16) Through Local Interagency Strategic agreement working group & Local Commitment (16/17's and 16/21's)	Carlisle City Council (and all strategic implementation group members)	Local strategic interagency agreement & Local Commitment (16/17's and 16/21's) in place		COMPLETE and in place
5.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the use of Early Help Assessments for 16-17 year olds who are at risk of homelessness in Cumbria 	Q1 – Q4(2015/16) Link to local commitment and protocol group and on-going	16/17 year old Homelessness Co-ordinator; Case officer for Homeless 16-17 year olds, Children and Family Services & Carlisle City Council	Number of County wide Early Help Assessments (EHA) opened on 16-17 year olds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased use of Early Help Assessments contributing towards Countywide targets 	End of Year one – 65 cases Ongoing monitoring
6.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate young people's needs and aspirations; and consult with those identified as at risk of homelessness with a follow up service / appointment offer 	Link to 16/17 year old Homelessness case worker and Youth Panel as appropriate		No of young people identified / referred for assistance as a prevention offer – Homeless Prevention (Carlisle City Council)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent and alleviate homelessness Improve positive outcomes for young people 	16 people (aged 16-18) successfully assisted Ongoing monitoring

Year One Actions 2015/16						
Strategy Action Ref No	Action	Timeframe	Lead Agency	Evidence / Target	Objectives	Progress
8.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify opportunities to link to / join up specialist targeted panels focused on young people identified as being at risk of homelessness 	Link to 16/17 year old Homelessness case worker and Youth Panel as appropriate	16/17 year old Homelessness Co-ordinator, Children and Family Services & Carlisle City Council	Local commitment (16/17's and 16/21's) developed and implemented with identified mechanisms for review by a partnership group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent and alleviate homelessness Increased use of Early Help Assessments contributing towards Countywide targets 	COMPLETE and in place
5.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote and increase the use of housing references for under 18's including guarantors; access to Choice Based Lettings for care leavers; and references given for those in temporary accommodation 	Q2 –Q 4 (2015/16)	All agencies involved in strategic implementation group	<p>Reference system and process established as part of the local strategic interagency agreement</p> <p>Reporting quarterly data from Prevention data</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved outcomes for young people at risk Increase appropriate housing options pathways for young people Prevent and alleviate youth homelessness Increased use of Early Help Assessments contributing towards Countywide targets 	COMPLETE and in place Ongoing monitoring
6.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify best practice partnership approaches to effective homelessness prevention through engagement with schools / other education providers for pre 16 years and pre 18 years 	Q2 – Q4(2015/16)	16/17 year old Homelessness Co-ordinator, Children and Family Services & Carlisle City Council	<p>Local commitment (16/17's and 16/21's) and protocol group identifying best practice partnership approaches and gaps</p> <p>Prevention programme implemented based on recommendations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent and reduce youth homelessness 	COMPLETE and in place Ongoing monitoring
5.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop a local collective ethos and commitment which puts young people and their families in charge of planning for the future; and provides consistent information and advice about every aspect of the young person's life, not just housing 	Q3 - Q4 (2015/16) linked to development and implementation of local commitment & EHA promotion	16/17 year old Homelessness Co-ordinator, Children and Family Services & Carlisle City Council	Implementation of local commitment (16/17's and 16/21's) and EHA promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in EHA 	COMPLETE and in place

Year One Actions 2015/16						
Strategy Action Ref No	Action	Timeframe	Lead Agency	Evidence / Target	Objectives	Progress
4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a Local Commitment for Carlisle which outlines how we will collectively support, implement and monitor the effectiveness of the Joint Protocol for Homeless 16/17 year olds 	Q3 - Q4 (2015/16)	16/17 year old Homelessness Co-ordinator, Children and Family Services & Carlisle City Council	Local commitment (16/17's and 16/21's) developed and implemented with identified mechanisms for review by Carlisle Protocol Implementation group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention of Homelessness Reduced levels of young people experiencing homelessness Increase access to opportunities and engagement 	COMPLETE and in place
4.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor the effectiveness of the Hub as a referral point for emergency cases as part of the Local Commitment for Carlisle 	Q3 – Q4 (2015/16)	16/17 year old Homelessness Co-ordinator, Children and Family Services			COMPLETE
7.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a suitable, safe and good standard private rented sector offer; with a focus on single people at risk of repeat homelessness (non-statutory in line with NSNO); including advice and support to both clients and landlords 	Q3 & Q4 (2015/16) and on-going	Carlisle City Council	Number supported to move in to PRS – data reported quarterly Number assisted with Rent in advance / deposits Number assisted with arrears	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve services and standards Achieve gold standard by 2020 	2015/16: 33 people assisted 25 people assisted 10 people assisted (Ongoing monitoring)
5.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote and develop the active use of NYAS with all young people who present as homeless 	Q4 (2015/16)	16/17 year old Homelessness Co-ordinator, Children and Family Services & Carlisle City Council and Carlisle Protocol Implementation group	Local commitment (16/17's and 16/21's) developed and implemented with identified mechanisms for review by a partnership group Monitored and data reported quarterly via Protocol Implementation Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention of Homelessness Reduced levels of young people experiencing homelessness Increase access to opportunities and engagement 	ONGOING
6.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore opportunities to link to and develop marginalised youth groups & projects 	Q4 (2015/16)	16/17 year old Homelessness Co-ordinator, Children and Family Services & Carlisle City Council and Carlisle Protocol Implementation group	Increase participation reported from marginalised groups Monitored and data reported quarterly via Protocol Implementation group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention of Homelessness Reduced levels of young people experiencing homelessness Increase access to opportunities and engagement 	ONGOING

Workshop sessions held for partners / stakeholders:

- Public advice and Info session to launch the strategy - **June 2016**
- Welfare Reform – **July 2015**
- Universal Credit – **September 2015**
- Rough Sleepers and Street Culture – **November 2015**