

Swindon Borough Council's

Reducing Rough Sleepers Strategy

Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 10th July 2019

Author: Head of Housing

Wards: All

Parishes Affected: All

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 To seek the Health and Wellbeing Board's approval of Swindon Borough Council's Reducing Rough Sleepers Strategy 2019-2022 and to recommend that Swindon Borough Council's Cabinet adopt and implement it.
- 1.2 Our Health and Wellbeing Strategy demonstrates a commitment across the partnership to ensure that everyone in Swindon lives a healthy, safe, fulfilling and independent life and is supported by thriving and connected communities.
- 1.3 There is a statutory requirement and therefore approval must be sought prior to circulation.
- 1.4 This strategy links to:
 - 1.3.1 Priority outcome 2 (adults and older people in Swindon are living healthier and more independent lives); Priority 3 (to improve health outcomes for disadvantaged and vulnerable communities, including adults with long terms conditions, learning disabilities, physical disabilities or mental health problems); and Priority 4 (to improve mental health, wellbeing and resilience for all) as set out in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy

2. Recommendations

The Board is recommended to:

- 2.1 Approve Swindon Borough Council's Reducing Rough Sleepers Reduction Strategy 2019-2022 (attached at Appendix 1 to the report).
- 2.2 Recommend to Cabinet that it adopts Swindon Borough Council's Reducing Rough Sleeper Strategy 2019-2022

3. Detail

- 3.1 This is Swindon Borough Council's First Reducing Rough Sleeping Strategy in response to an increasing number of people rough sleeping in Swindon.
- 3.2 The strategy has been informed by national and local policy, views of stakeholders and professionals, and evidence of good practice from across the sector. It outlines and provides a clear strategic steer in reducing Rough

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Sleeping in Swindon. There are five key objectives that received overwhelming support when we consulted and will form the basis of our action plan that will be completed within 3 months from the implementation of this strategy.

- 3.2.1 No One Arrives on the Street - Work in partnership to prevent people sleeping rough in the first place.
- 3.2.2 Rapid joined up response when people do end up on the streets.
- 3.2.3 No One Should Return to the Streets.
- 3.2.4 Provide an outreach service for those with complex or multiple needs.
- 3.2.5 Develop a range of accommodation and support solutions tailored to individual needs
- 3.3 This strategy cannot be delivered solely by the Council and therefore we are committed to working in partnership with a range of voluntary and statutory sector partners. We need to work in modern efficient, effective ways that deliver the best outcomes for those at risk of rough sleeping and those rough sleeping.
- 3.4 An 8 week consultation was completed prior to the final drafting of this strategy with the overwhelming majority of responses being positive about its content and actions.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 No alternative options are proposed.

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial or procurement implications arising from this report. However, a successful strategy for reducing and preventing homelessness will help to ensure that the Council can spend within budget.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 Legal and Human rights have been taken fully into account in compiling this report. It is considered that the recommendations within this report are compatible with Convention Rights.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 There are no other implications arising from this report.

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Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.4 The Reducing Rough Sleepers Strategy will positively impact on vulnerable adults living in Swindon's community.

Risk Management

- 5.5 Without adopting a Reducing Rough Sleeping Strategy we would not be compliant with the statutory obligations contained within the Homeless Reduction Act 2017.

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The strategy has been consulted on widely with stakeholders from across the partnership (see consultation report in Appendix 2 for complete list). Key stakeholders including CCG have provided input to the document
- 6.2 The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and the Chief Legal Officer (Monitoring Officer) have been consulted in relation to this report.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None

8. Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix 1 – Swindon Borough Council Reducing Rough Sleepers Strategy 2019-2022
- 8.2 Appendix 2 – Reducing Rough Sleepers Strategy Consultation Report.