

SCRUTINY REVIEW INITIATION DOCUMENT (SID)

Review: Homelessness

Scrutiny Review Committee: Housing Scrutiny Committee

Director leading the review: Karen Lucas

Lead Officers: Ramesh Logeswaran

Overall aim:

- To explore how the Council's Housing Needs Service tackles homelessness and delivers on its key performance indicators and reduce Homelessness.

Objectives of the review:

- To highlight compliance in assessments and decisions that are underpinned by the Housing Act (1996) and Homeless Reduction Act (2017).
- That prevention services and commissioned services are targeted and effective

How is the review to be carried out:

- Officer presentation
- Evidence from St Mungo's, SHP, Islington Law Centre, Shelter, Pillion Trust, and Community based organisations that advocate on behalf of homelessness.
- Types of accommodation services.
- Consider details of the rough sleep count
- Funding support available for rough sleepers

Scope of the Review

- To consider the Council's draft Prevention of Homelessness Strategy which is currently being developed.
- To consider whether the service is maximising on opportunities to prevent homelessness
- How the approach to dealing with homelessness could be improved
- Where partnership working could be further developed

The review will focus on:

- Those that are homeless and those threatened with homelessness.
- Demographic data / Performance indicators / Outcomes achieved
- Examples of gaps in service provision
- Review of Ombudsman case studies/legal challenges.
- How the Council engages with its partners to deliver holistic homelessness services

Types of evidence:

- Evidence from officers, especially front-line staff
- Performance, demographic and outcomes data
- Examples of casework
- Street count participation by members
- Walk through the referral process
- Evidence from the commissioning services
- Homeless people and residents

Additional Information:

Programme	
Key output:	To be submitted to Committee on:
1. Scrutiny Initiation Document	14 January 2019
2. Draft Recommendations	2019
3. Final Report	xxxxxxx 2019