

Report of: Chair of Housing Scrutiny Committee

Meeting of	Date	Ward(s)
Executive	18 June 2020	All

Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt
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Subject: Homelessness and Rough Sleeping – Findings of the Housing Scrutiny Committee**1. Synopsis**

- 1.1 This report requests that Executive receive the recommendations of the Housing Scrutiny Committee following the completion of its review of Homelessness and Rough Sleeping. A response to the recommendations set out in the report will be considered at a future meeting of the Executive.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the report of the Housing Scrutiny Committee be received.
- 2.2 That the Executive Member's response be reported to a future meeting of the Executive, including having due regard to any relevant implications of the Housing Scrutiny Committee's recommendations.

3. Background

In September 2018 the Housing Scrutiny Committee commenced a mini review into Homelessness and Rough Sleeping in Islington. The overall aim of the review is to explore how the council's Housing Services addresses Homelessness. The objectives of the review included ensuring that the assessment criteria for applicants is robust and that the support and aligned services is targeted and effective. The final report of the committee was agreed in March 2020 and is appended.

4.1 Financial Implications

The proposals in the report need to be costed before a response is made by the Executive.

4.2 Legal Implications

Relevant legal implications will be considered as part of the response to the review.

4.3 Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications at this stage. Any environmental implications will be identified as part of the Executive Member response.

4.4 Resident Impact Assessment and contribution to achieving a net zero carbon Islington by 2030

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

The Committee has had regard to any equalities implications and resident impacts identified by witnesses during the course of the review. Details of any such implications are set out in the appended report. A Resident Impact Assessment has not been completed as the Executive is only asked to receive the report at this stage. The impact on residents will need to be fully considered as part of the Executive Member response to the review, at which point a Resident Impact Assessment will be completed if required.

5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

The Committee recognises the importance of collaborative working between the Council and the voluntary sector in addressing homelessness and rough sleeping and have in particular recommended that the present arrangement of assessing housing applications be revisited especially in light of the level of complaints received.

Appendices:

- Recommendation report of the Housing Scrutiny Committee

Background papers:

- None.

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