



**PROSPEROUS
COMMUNITIES
COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, 28 January 2020

Subject: Addition of a Rough Sleeping chapter to the Lincolnshire Homeless Strategy 2018-2021

Report by:

Executive Director for Economic and Commercial Growth

Contact Officer:

Rachel Parkin
Home Choices Team Manager

rachel.parkin@west-lindsey.gov.uk

Purpose / Summary:

An addition of a rough sleeping chapter to the Lincolnshire county Homeless strategy. This is to be compliant with the National Rough Sleeper Strategy published in October 2018.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

To endorse the addition of a rough sleeping chapter to the Lincolnshire County Homeless Strategy 2018-2021

Members seek assurance that appropriate work is being taken to address rough sleeping in West Lindsey.

IMPLICATIONS

Legal: None

(N.B.) Where there are legal implications the report **MUST** be seen by the MO

Financial : FIN/170/20/SSc

No financial implications arising from this report.

(N.B.) All committee reports **MUST** have a Fin Ref

Staffing : No staffing implications

(N.B.) Where there are staffing implications the report **MUST** have a HR Ref

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights :

NB: Please explain how you have considered the policy's impact on different groups (for example: young people, elderly, ethnic minorities, LGBT community, rural residents, disabled, others).

Data Protection Implications : None

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities: None

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations: None

Health Implications: None

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report :

Wherever possible please provide a hyperlink to the background paper/s

If a document is confidential and not for public viewing it should not be listed.

Risk Assessment :

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

No

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

No

1. Introduction

- 1.1 In October 2018 the National Rough Sleeper Strategy was published and required that authorities needed to *re-badge their Homelessness strategies as Homelessness and Rough Sleeper strategies by the end of December 2019.*
- 1.2 The existing Lincolnshire County Homeless Strategy approved by Prosperous Communities in January 2018 needs to re-badged as the Lincolnshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeper strategy by no later than 31 December 2019 with the addition of a rough sleeper chapter.
- 1.3 Attached is a copy of the rough sleeper chapter which is to be included in the existing strategy.

2. The Rough Sleeping Strategy

- 2.1 The Rough Sleeping strategy outlines the increase in rough sleeping across Lincolnshire and the reasons for the rise. It also documents the funding that has been awarded to areas such as City of Lincoln, East Lindsey and Boston Borough to combat their own unique issues of rough sleeping.
- 2.2 The strategy is very clear that Lincolnshire is vast and each area has their own challenges meaning that a “one size fits all” approach would not be appropriate.
- 2.3 Whilst West Lindsey is not specifically mentioned it is important we support and learn from the other authorities to continue to keep rough sleeping at a minimum within the district.

3. The West Lindsey Picture

- 2.1 All Lincolnshire authorities are to produce an action plan to be included within the revised Homeless Strategy which shows how each area will deal with their own particular challenges.
- 2.2 Rough Sleeping is not the main cause of homelessness for West Lindsey and you can see the details below for figures reported for the annual rough sleeping estimate. In each case the people reported were not entrenched rough sleepers and were individual occurrences that happened to be rough sleeping on that particular day.

Local Authority Area	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
COLC	5	11	8	14	13	28	26
WLDC	0	0	1	0	1	3	1
NKDC	0	0	0	0	3	1	2
SKDC	1	1	2	2	1	4	3
BBC	7	5	4	7	5	15	22
SHDC	1	2	6	3	4	5	6
ELDC	3	2	1	6	7	9	18
Lincs Total	17	21	22	32	34	65	78
England Total	2309	2414	2744	3569	4134	4751	4677

- 3.3 Rough Sleeping is not an issue at this time within West Lindsey but this is in part, due to the strong ethos we have for focusing our efforts towards preventing homelessness rather than reacting to crisis situations. The Home Choices team works very hard to maintain partnerships with agencies and other local authorities to prevent homelessness and therefore rough sleeping.
- 3.4 The Home Choices senior officer has 7 years frontline experience working with entrenched rough sleepers. This enables West Lindsey as a council to be at the forefront of the needs of any emerging rough sleepers and ensures his knowledge is spread amongst the team.

4. Future Strategy

- 3.1 A future strategy for the county will be looked at by the Lincolnshire County Homeless Coordinator as part of the county homeless group. This will take into account the priorities for each district and how future actions can be linked together

