

Performance, Finance and Customer Focus Overview Scrutiny Committee



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| Date of meeting: | 22 nd January 2020 |
| Title of Report: | Homelessness in Plymouth |
| Lead Member: | Cllr Chris Penberthy – Cabinet member for Housing and Co-operative Development |
| Lead Strategic Director: | Craig McCardle – Strategic Director for People |
| Author: | Jackie Kings- Community Connections Strategic Manager |
| Contact Email: | Jackie.kings@plymouth.gov.uk |
| Your Reference: | JK 06/01/2020 |
| Key Decision: | Not a Key decision |
| Confidentiality: | Part I - Official |

Purpose of Report

The Performance, Finance and Customer Focus Overview Scrutiny Committee has requested this report giving an overview of homelessness in Plymouth.

This report sets out the recent change in legislation with the introduction of the Homelessness Reduction Act (HRA), our duties in respect of this and the impact of this on service delivery in the City; provides data to demonstrate the levels of homelessness in the City; highlights the current work and initiatives to prevent and relieve homelessness including some of the work of The Plymouth Alliance.

Recommendations and Reasons

That the Committee notes the briefing on recent changes in homelessness legislation with the introduction of the Homelessness Reduction Act (HRA), the Council's duties in respect of this and the impact of this on service delivery in the City; the levels of homelessness in the City; and the current work and initiatives to prevent and relieve homelessness, including some of the work of The Plymouth Alliance.

Alternative options considered and rejected

Not applicable, this is a briefing report.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

This briefing supports the Corporate Plan as a caring council supporting the prevention and relief of homelessness and the Plymouth Plan as Plymouth's single, integrated and holistic strategic plan which includes the Plymouth policy elements of the statutory Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan. This strategy brings together all aspects of housing in an attempt to tackle both place and people based issues in a holistic way: the quantity and quality of housing in the city and the wider social issues that can lead to housing issues and homelessness.

Policy HEA8 - Meeting local housing needs is the main policy developed to address issues surrounding homelessness. It seeks to ensure that everyone has access to a decent, safe and affordable home, which is suited to their needs, promotes health and is located in a community where they want to live and puts an emphasis on preventing homelessness.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

Not applicable, this is a briefing report.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

No direct implications.

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty: Not

applicable, this is a briefing report

Appendices

| Ref. | Title of Appendix | Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i> | | | | | | |
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| A | Homelessness in Plymouth | | | | | | | |
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Background papers:

*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are **unpublished** works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

| Title of any background paper(s) | Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i> | | | | | | |
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Sign off:

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| Fin | djn.19.20 .203 | Leg | HM 34012 | Mon Off | n/a | HR | n/a | Assets | n/a | Strat Proc | n/a |
| | Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Matt Garrett – Service Director for Community Connections | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Date agreed: 9 th January 2020 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Cabinet Member approval: Cllr Chris Penberthy – Cabinet Member for Housing and Co-operative Development – approved by e mail Date approved: 10 th January 2020 | | | | | | | | | | |