

STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report to Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

5 June 2018

TITLE:	Call-in of Cabinet Decision – Homelessness Strategy
PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	Cllr Mike Bowen – Communities, Leisure, Sport, Parks, Countryside and Housing.
CONTACT OFFICER:	Sally Hampton – Member & Community Support Services Officer
WARDS INVOLVED:	Non-Specific

Appendices Attached:

Appendix 1 – Cabinet Report 24th April 2018

Appendix 2 – Call-in Procedure

1. Reason for the Report

1.1 To consider the call-in request of the Cabinet decision in relation to the Homelessness Strategy.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the call-in request be considered in accordance with the Council's Call-in Procedure (Appendix 2).

3. Executive Summary

3.1 The Council has a requirement under the Homelessness Act 2002 to ensure it takes a strategic approach in dealing with the issue of homelessness. The Alliance wide review of homelessness considers; national and local context, implications of Welfare Reforms and Homelessness Reduction Act 2017, local housing markets and prevention toolkit.

3.2 The review consequently identifies the following strategic priorities;

- To prevent homelessness through a comprehensive range of services
- Ensure suitable accommodation is available to address and prevent homelessness
- Improve the Private Rented Sector Offer
- Ensure sufficient support is available to address and prevent homelessness

- 3.3 The causes of homelessness are complex, however the main reason associated with those accepted as homeless is predominantly the loss of a private sector tenancy. Other major drivers of homelessness include exclusion by parents/ family/ friends and violent or non-violent relationship breakdown.
- 3.4 The timing of this strategy is particularly relevant with the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 recently enacted 3rd April 2018. There are new legal duties to ensure meaningful support to prevent homelessness and secure accommodation for everyone who is homeless or at risk of homelessness, regardless of priority need.
- 3.5 The overall aims of this strategy are to identify how the Council will:
- Provide timely, quality advice and assistance to anyone who may potentially be threatened with homelessness
 - Work proactively with relevant stakeholders and housing providers to provide a coordinated approach to tackling and preventing homelessness.
 - Continue to develop innovative and responsive approaches to support people who have concerns about the stability of their current home, with prevention a core principle.
- 3.6 Cabinets Decision was:-
- That the Alliance wide Homelessness Strategy and Action Plan be approved.*
- 3.7 Following this decision, a call-in request has been received of the Cabinet decision, from Councillors:- C Atkins, W Cawley, M Gledhill, L Malyon, D Price and C Wood.
- 3.8 The reasons for the call-in are:-
- Clarity of aims and desired outcomes.
 - Taking due regard of all relevant considerations and disregarding irrelevant considerations.
- 3.9 The Panel is asked to consider the call-in request, in accordance with the Council's Call-in Procedure (Appendix 2)

4. How this Report Links to Corporate Priorities

4.1 See the Cabinet Report

5. Options and Analysis

5.1 See the Cabinet report.

6. Implications

6.1 See the Cabinet report.

MARK TRILLO
Executive Director (People) and Monitoring Officer

Background Papers

Location

Contact details

Homelessness Strategy Cabinet
Report

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Call-in Procedure