

Housing Scrutiny Commission

18th September 2017

Homelessness Review & Strategy Update

Assistant Mayor for Housing: Cllr Andy Connelly

Lead director: Chris Burgin

- Ward(s) affected: All
- Report author: Julie Turner, Business Change Manager, ext. 37 5212
- Head of Service: Caroline Carpendale, ext. 37 1701
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1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides Housing Scrutiny with an update on the review of the current homelessness strategy and sets out the proposed timetable for the publishing of a new homelessness strategy for Leicester.
- 1.2 We will present to Housing Scrutiny a summary of the findings of the review.

2. Context / Background

- 2.1 There is a requirement in the Homelessness Act 2002 for housing authorities to:
 - Carry out a review of homelessness in their areas;
 - Formulate and publish a homelessness strategy based on this review;
 - Keep the strategy under review
 - Consult other local or public authorities, or voluntary organisations before adopting or modifying the strategy.
- 2.2 Leicester's last homelessness review was completed in 2012 and the current strategy covers the period 2013/2018. We have been continuously monitoring the strategy against the aims and objectives that were set.
- 2.3 During January to May 2017 we carried out a full consultation exercise on the current homelessness strategy and what was required for the next strategy. We have also been reviewing data and information to help inform this review. We will present to Housing Scrutiny a summary of the findings of our review of homelessness in Leicester.
- 2.4 From the review of homelessness we are now developing the new homelessness strategy and proposals for future council-funded homelessness services.
- 2.5 We will undertake a further 4-week public consultation exercise, so we can gather feedback on the proposed strategy and proposals. This consultation exercise will include discussing the proposals with the Homelessness Reference Group (this includes representatives from homelessness service providers, other council and government bodies and other interested parties). We will let Scrutiny members know the date that the consultation exercise commences.
- 2.5 We intend to report back to Housing Scrutiny with the findings of the consultation exercise for your comments in November.

3. Next Steps

- 3.1 Our proposed timetable in finalising our homelessness review and publishing our next homelessness strategy for Leicester is:

What	When
Executive agree documents for consultation	Sept 2017
Consultation on draft homelessness review, strategy & future commissioning proposals	Oct 2017
Report on findings of consultation and agree final strategy & proposals	Nov / Dec 2017
Published homelessness strategy	Jan 2018