

Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee
Review of Temporary Accommodation Provision for Homeless Households
Outline Scope

Scrutiny Chair (Project Director): Cllr Lisa Grainge	Contact details: lisa.grainge@stockton.gov.uk
Scrutiny Officer (Project Manager): Peter Mennear	Contact details: peter.mennear@stockton.gov.uk / 01642 528957
Departmental Link Officer: Jane Edmends, Housing Services Manager	Contact details: jane.edmends@stockton.gov.uk
Which of our strategic corporate objectives does this topic address?	
<p>The review relates to following Policy Principles:</p> <p>Protecting the vulnerable through targeted intervention – people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless</p> <p>Developing strong and healthy communities – providing preventive services that are available where needed</p>	
What are the main issues and overall aim of this review?	
<p>The review is to examine the provision of temporary accommodation and housing related support services to homeless households.</p> <p>In general terms, homelessness is caused by a complex interplay between a person's individual circumstances and adverse 'structural' factors outside their direct control, and is commonly associated with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the break-up of a marriage or relationship; • the loss of a job, leading to the repossession of a home or inability to pay rent; or • an addiction to, or abuse of, prescribed or illegal drugs or alcohol, or gambling. <p>Services within the scope of the review are provided to families and single people who may have a range of needs including but not limited to: mental health needs, disabilities, addictions, prison leavers, homeless young people including under 18s and care leavers, asylum seekers with leave to remain.</p> <p>Short term, emergency supported accommodation is commissioned by the Council. This is provided generally for a period up to 6 months (although where appropriate this will be extended)</p>	

with a focus on ensuring clients are able to move into independent living. Clients are provided with accommodation and signposting to other forms of support.

There are currently six commissioned organisations providing housing support. Services are jointly commissioned by Housing and Adult Services, and Housing Services deliver the 'Gateway service'. Service monitoring is undertaken by the Housing Service, whilst formal contract monitoring is undertaken by the Strategic Procurement Team.

The wider context is the introduction of the Homelessness Reduction Act. This requires Councils to provide services to all those at risk of becoming homeless, in addition to those with a priority need such as families with children and those who are vulnerable. Members will be briefed on the Council's response to this new legislation and Councils recently adopted Homelessness Reduction Strategy 2018 – 2023 (adopted by Cabinet in June 2018).

The Committee will undertake the following key lines of enquiry:

- How are services planned, commissioned and provided?
- What are the current and projected levels of demand?
- What are the outcomes and performance?
- How are clients supported to access other services and improve their health and wellbeing?
- Review the provision of 'other' supported housing services (provided for potentially homelessness households) which are not commissioned by the Council.

Who will the Committee be trying to influence as part of its work?

Cabinet

Expected duration of review and key milestones:

6 months

What information do we need?

Existing information (background information, existing reports, legislation, central government documents, etc.):

- Homelessness Reduction Strategy 2018-2023
- Overview of current service provision

New information:

- Case studies of alternative provision

<p>Who can provide us with further relevant evidence? (Cabinet Member, officer, service user, general public, expert witness, etc.)</p>	<p>What specific areas do we want them to cover when they give evidence?</p>
<p>Housing Services/Adult Social Care</p>	<p>Overview of provision, outcomes, key issues, future developments</p>
<p>Commissioned Providers</p>	<p>Provision of services, performance and outcomes, feedback from clients, key issues for the future</p>
<p>Service Users</p>	<p>Views on how services have been provided</p>
<p>Cabinet Members</p>	<p>Views on current and future provision</p>
<p>Partners (both statutory and VCSE)</p>	<p>Links to other service provision, referral patterns between non-health/health services, key issues regarding access to and maintenance of links with health care</p>
<p>How will this information be gathered? (eg. financial baselining and analysis, benchmarking, site visits, face-to-face questioning, telephone survey, survey)</p>	
<p>Committee meetings, desktop analysis, site visits.</p>	
<p>How will key partners and the public be involved in the review?</p>	
<p>Partners to be consulted during evidence gathering</p>	
<p>Site visits to seek views from service users where appropriate</p>	
<p>How will the review help the Council meet the Public Sector Equality Duty?</p>	
<p>The Equality Act 2010 protects everyone from discrimination on grounds of nine Protected Characteristics. The Council is under a Duty to:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act. • Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. • Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. 	
<p>People who may be described as vulnerable for the purposes of this review may be so due to a variety of reasons, including having a Protected Characteristic: physical or learning disabilities, mental health problems, domestic abuse, asylum seekers granted leave to remain, prison leavers, care leavers, substance misuse.</p>	

How will the review contribute towards the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, or the implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy?

The review will specifically impact on the following priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2015-18:

- Create and develop health sustainable places and communities
- Strengthen the role and impact of ill-health prevention

The review will contribute to the development of the new Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Provide an initial view as to how this review could lead to efficiencies, improvements and/or transformation:

- An assessment of what housing related support services are commissioned by the Council for vulnerable people
- An overview of demand and trends
- An assessment of the effectiveness/outcomes of such provision

Project Plan

Key Task	Details/Activities	Date	Responsibility
Scoping of Review	Information gathering	Prior to Tri-partite Meeting	Scrutiny Officer Link Officer
Tri-Partite Meeting	Meeting to discuss aims and objectives of review	28 August	Select Committee Chair and Vice Chair, Cabinet Member(s), Director(s), Scrutiny Officer, Link Officer
Agree Project Plan	Scope and Project Plan agreed by Committee	11 September	Select Committee
Publicity of Review	Determine whether Communications Plan needed		Link Officer, Scrutiny Officer
Obtaining Evidence	Set the scene presentation / Homelessness Reduction Strategy – Briefing Update on alternative models [Site visits] Partner Organisations / Commissioned Providers (Tbc)	16 October 6 November Tbc 11 December	Select Committee
Members decide recommendations and findings	Review summary of findings and formulate draft recommendations	8 January (Informal)	Select Committee
Circulate Draft Report to Stakeholders	Circulation of Report		Scrutiny Officer
Tri-Partite Meeting	Meeting to discuss findings of review and draft recommendations	15 January 2019	Select Committee Chair and Vice Chair, Cabinet Member(s), Director(s), Scrutiny Officer, Link Officer
Final Agreement of Report	Approval of final report by Committee	22 January	Select Committee, Cabinet Member, Director
Consideration of Report by Executive Scrutiny Committee	Consideration of report	[19 February]	Executive Scrutiny Committee

Appendix 4

Report to Cabinet/Approving Body	Presentation of final report with recommendations for approval to Cabinet	14 February	Cabinet / Approving Body
---	---	-------------	--------------------------