

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting25th January 2018

1. Title of Item/Report

Homelessness Reduction Act 2017

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report on the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.

The Homelessness Reduction Act would come into force on the 3rd April 2018. It was a significant piece of new legislation which would require councils to provide services to anyone at risk of becoming homelessness.

The report provided Cabinet an overview of the new duties arising from the Homelessness Reduction Act, highlighted the anticipated implications for the Council's Housing Service (based on the experience of authorities elsewhere) and to highlighted the preparation work which was ongoing to ensure that the Council was appropriately prepared for April 2018.

RESOLVED that:

1. The new duties the Homelessness Reduction Act will place on local authorities and the anticipated impact on service delivery be noted.
2. The work both on-going and planned to ensure the Council is prepared for the introduction of this new legislation be noted.
3. Authorisation be delegated to the Director of Economic Growth and Development Services to make any necessary changes to the Tees Valley Common Allocations Policy to ensure its compliance with provisions set out in the Homelessness Reduction Act, in consultation with the Director of HR, Legal and Communications and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing.
4. A further report be brought back to Cabinet 12 months after implementation of the Homelessness Reduction Act which will detail the impact of this legislation on the Council and our local communities.

3. Reasons for the Decision

The Homelessness Reduction Act received Royal Assent on 27th April 2017 and will come into effect from April 2018, as noted above it is a significant change in legislation and will place significantly increased duties on local housing authorities to both prevent and relieve homelessness. In anticipation of this new legislation the Council is currently reviewing its current service delivery model to ensure that we are appropriately prepared to best serve those who are both homeless and at risk of homelessness in our borough.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Steve Nelson declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 11 – Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 as he was a Director of 13 Group.

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight, 2 February 2018

Proper Officer
29 January 2018