

# HOMELESSNESS PROJECT ADVISORY GROUP

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### Membership:

- Portfolio Holder for Built Environment (Chairman)
- Leader of the Council
- Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources and Performance
- Two Representatives from the Labour Group

### Terms of Reference:

- To monitor the following trends relating to homelessness:
  - The number of households presenting as homeless
  - The size of household presenting
  - The reason for the homelessness application
  - The number of cases where homelessness was prevented and how it was prevented
  - The number of applications accepted
  - The number of households placed in different types of temporary accommodation
  - The length of stay in the different types of temporary accommodation
  - The number of rough sleepers in the district
- To consider performance data relating to the above benchmarked against other comparable local housing authorities (LHAs).
- To consider examples of good practice adopted by other LHAs and make recommendations regarding their implementation by the Council.
- To monitor the budget position relating to the use of various forms of temporary accommodation.
- To make recommendations regarding projects which will help reduce the levels of homelessness/rough sleeping in the district and deliver alternative forms of temporary and interim accommodation, e.g. modular housing, property acquisitions, leasing of properties, purchase and leasing of land.
- To monitor progress on the projects currently being progressed with the aim of reducing the cost of providing temporary accommodation.
- To monitor the Housing Revenue Account and Housing Initiatives Reserve and make recommendations as to how these can be used to fund financially viable alternative forms of temporary and interim accommodation.
- To make recommendations regarding projects aimed at securing accommodation as an alternative to providing temporary accommodation, e.g. social lettings agency.

- To consider and make recommendations in relation to any amendments to the Council's Allocations Policy which are considered appropriate to help reduce homelessness and the number of households in temporary accommodation.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

### Powers

The Group is not a decision-making body. It will consider matters falling within its Terms of Reference and make recommendations to Cabinet on the same.

### Frequency of Meetings

The Group shall meet as required by the Portfolio Holder for Built Environment.