

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.