

# FAREHAM

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

### Report to the Executive for Decision 07 March 2022

<b>Portfolio:</b>	Housing
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy - Adoption</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
<b>Corporate Priorities:</b>	Providing Housing Choices

**Purpose:**

To review the consultation results and adopt the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy.

**Executive summary:**

At their meeting on 11 October 2021, the Executive approved the Draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy and Delivery Plan for an eight-week period of public consultation.

Public consultation took place between 18<sup>th</sup> October and 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021. There are no matters which require any changes to either document as the very valid points raised by consultees will be picked up through the Delivery Plan.

**Recommendation/Recommended Option:**

It is recommended that the Executive:

- (a) notes the feedback received from the public consultation exercise (as detailed in Appendix A to this report); and
- (b) agrees to adopt the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy and Delivery Plan (as included in Appendix B to this report) to formally replace the current Homelessness and Housing Options Strategy.

**Reason:**

To adopt an up-to-date Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy that will support Corporate Priority 1 "Providing Housing Choices"

**Cost of proposals:**

The costs involved in the preparation and adoption of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy are covered in existing operational budgets.

**Appendices:**

**A:** Consultation Statement

**B:** Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy

**C:** Equality Impact Assessment

**Background papers:**

Corporate Strategy 2017

Optimising Social Housing – Applications & Allocations Policy

Executive Report 11 October 2021

Housing Scrutiny Panel Report 3 February 2022

**Reference papers:**

Homelessness Act 2002, Sections 1-3

Homelessness Code of Guidance 2018 (DLUHC)

Making Homelessness Strategies Happen (LGA)

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### Executive Briefing Paper

<b>Date:</b>	07 March 2022
<b>Subject:</b>	Draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy - Adoption
<b>Briefing by:</b>	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
<b>Portfolio:</b>	Housing

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The Homelessness Act 2002 requires all housing authorities to review homelessness in their area and produce a new homelessness strategy, based on the review findings, every five years. Following a comprehensive review of homelessness in Fareham and a period of public consultation, a new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy and accompanying Delivery Plan are now ready for adoption.
2. Public consultation on the Draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy and Delivery Plan was approved by the Executive at their meeting of 11 October 2021. The draft Strategy and Delivery Plan were subsequently subject to an eight-week period of public consultation between the 18<sup>th</sup> October and 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021 and the responses have now been considered. There are no matters which require any changes to be made to either documents as the very valid points raised by consultees will be picked up through the Delivery Plan. An unchanged version is included in Appendix B to this report. An Equalities Impact Assessment of the strategy has also been undertaken and this is included as Appendix C.
3. The adoption of a new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy and Delivery Plan will ensure Fareham Borough Council has a legally compliant strategy that meets our responsibility for tackling and preventing homelessness.

#### SUMMARY OF THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

4. A detailed Consultation Statement has been produced (included in Appendix A) which explains how the consultation process was undertaken and the responses received.
5. The Consultation Statement identifies that there were 62 responses received to the draft documents during the consultation period. The Consultation Statement provides an overview of all the matters raised and an officer response where appropriate. There were no matters that would require any changes to either document as the very valid points raised by consultees will be addressed by the Delivery Plan.

6. At their meeting on 3 February 2022, the Housing Scrutiny Panel were provided with a report by the Deputy Chief Executive Officer which presented the Draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy and Delivery Plan together with the Consultation Statement and Equality Impact Assessment. Members considered the findings of the consultation and recommended that the Executive adopt the Draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy and Delivery Plan at their forthcoming meeting.

### **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

7. An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been undertaken and is included as Appendix C to this report. The EIA has not identified any detrimental equality impacts as a result of the proposed Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy.

### **Enquiries:**

For further information on this report please contact Caroline Newman (Ext 4645)