AGENDA

SECTION A

1. Welcome/ Introduction
   The Chair, Councillor Bushell, will provide a short introduction covering the following matter:
   a. Welcome Guests
   b. Purpose of the Meeting
      The Committee successfully met with BeAttitude, Framework and Nomad on 23 August 2012 to identify the immediate pressures within the City for emergency accommodation to ascertain if there was a better way to coordinate resources across the range of stakeholders providing services to alleviate the pressure. Further to this meeting, it was felt appropriate to consult with other key partners/public sector service providers to identify how they assist, support and manage homeless people based in Lincoln.
   c. Order of Proceedings/ Suggested Time Limits

2. Confirmation of Minutes:
   a. 19 July 2012
   b. 31 July 2012
   c. 23 August 2012

3. Declarations of Interest
   Please note that, in accordance with the Members’ Code of Conduct, when declaring interests Members must disclose the existence and nature of the interest, and whether it is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) or Personal and/or Pecuniary.
HOMELESSNESS REVIEW

4. Homelessness Review Update by John Bibby, Director of Housing and Community Services (DHCS)  

   The DHCS will give a short presentation on the current position in Lincoln in respect of homelessness and outline the pressures within the City for emergency accommodation/ housing provisions.

5. Presentation by Supporting People, Lincolnshire County Council  
6. Presentation by Mark Garthwaite, Inspector - Lincolnshire Police  
7. Presentation by Sam Barstow, Anti-Social Behaviour  
8. Presentation by Mark Hills, Lincoln YMCA  

QUESTION/ ANSWER SESSION

9. Members of the Committee  

   The Committee will now fully discuss the comments raised in respect of Homelessness and ask questions where possible.

SUMMARY

10. Summary  

   The Chair, Councillor Bushell, will summarise the key findings and highlight the main points that will be forwarded onto the next part of the review when scrutinising what the Council and other key partners can do to resolve these issues.

   NB There are no Section B Items
Community Leadership Scrutiny Committee 19 July 2012

Present: Councillor Bob Bushell (in the Chair)

Councillors: Adrianna Ellis, Ronald Hills, Rosanne Kirk, Karen Lee and Hilton Spratt

Also in Attendance: Sam Barstow, Anti-Social Behaviour Team
Neil Rhodes, Chief Constable, Lincolnshire Police
Alec Wood, Deputy Chief Constable, Lincolnshire Police
Councillor Barry Young, Police Authority
Councillor Robert Parker, Lincolnshire County Council
Councillor Gary Hewson, City of Lincoln Council
Councillor Gill Clayton-Hewson, City of Lincoln Council
Councillor Pete West, City of Lincoln Council
Councillor Kath Brothwell, City of Lincoln Council
Councillor Neil Murray, City of Lincoln Council

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Sue Burke

9. **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

   RESOLVED that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business because it is likely that if members of the public were present there would be a disclosure to them of ‘exempt information’ as defined by Section 100I and Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

10. **Declarations of Interest**

    No declarations of interest were received.

11. **Welcome and Introduction**

    The Chair

    a. welcomed representatives from Lincolnshire Police, Police Authority and non Committee Members to the meeting and advised that the purpose of the meeting was to receive a detailed presentation from Lincolnshire Police and the Police Authority, which would outline their proposed changes to their service within Lincoln.

    b. informed Members that the presentation would be focusing solely on the changes to the police service in Lincoln and would not be look at any of their proposals outside of the city.

    c. advised that due to the confidentiality of some of the information presented by Lincolnshire Police and the Police Authority, in respect of alternative sites, it was agreed that the item be discussed out of the public domain.
d. added, however, that the Lincolnshire Police and the Police Authority would be held to account by the Community Leadership Scrutiny Committee on 31 July 2012, which would be open to the press and public.

e. advised that the Council planned to consult with other representatives/ partners at the next meeting to identify their views in respect of the proposals.

12. **Lincolnshire Police: Changes to Services**


Neil Rhodes, Chief Constable of Lincolnshire Police

a. informed the Committee of his connections to Lincoln; and stressed that he was dedicated to ensuring that the changes to the policing in Lincoln would not have a detrimental impact on the city but would improve the service.

b. presented their draft proposals to the closure of West Parade Police Station, which was deemed to be no longer fit for purpose and recommended that they move to a more suitable new site within the city centre.

c. advised that they were committed to undertaking an extensive consultation before making a finalised recommendation, which would be submitted to the new Police and Crime Commissioner, due to be elected in November, for a conclusion.

d. added that the Lincolnshire Police were responsible for collating the data and views in respect of their proposal, as well as producing a detailed business plan which would be presented to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

e. stressed that the views of local people and their elected representatives were extremely important regarding the future of policing in Lincoln and advised that he had already met with the both the Leaders and Chief Executives from Lincolnshire County Council and City of Lincoln Council to discuss the current position.

f. advised that the current Lincoln Police Station located on West Parade was built in the 1970s and highlighted that due to the need for an updated ICT system, improved heating facilities and other general maintenance work the building was deemed no longer fit for purpose.

g. outlined the current facilities/ services provided within the West Parade Station, which they felt did not need to be located in the city centre and would be best situated outside of Lincoln. For example, they currently have 20 custody cells at West Parade, however, from Monday to Thursday 60% of the prisoners came from outside of the city centre.

h. advised that they had identified two options which were to either:
   - Refurbish the current West Parade Station to make it fit for purpose, or
   - Identify a small city centre police station and move the custody suites to a
base on the edge of the town, preferably with easy access to the bypass.

i. added that option 2 was the preferred proposal, as it would provide a smaller police station targeted on the needs of the city centre and located right in the heart of the city, coupled with the new, modern, fit for purpose deployment and custody base on the edge of the town.

j. advised that it would be beneficial to deliver the new smaller city centre station in partnership with a local authority, which had been discussed with both the Lincolnshire County Council and City of Lincoln Council.

k. informed the Committee that the Police Authority had requested that the Lincolnshire Police prepare a business case that assessed the following:
   - The cost to refurbish West Parade Police Station,
   - The cost and benefits of developing the new city centre police station with alternative options for a deployment and custody base on the edge of town.

l. added that this meeting allowed them to formally comment on their proposals and commence their consultation with the people of Lincoln.

Alec Wood, Deputy Chief Constable

a. advised that the Lincoln Police Station required a lot of repairs and development work to bring it up to an acceptable standard.

b. added that the current site was in a very busy city centre location, which made it difficult for police cars to get to incidents within a reasonable time.

c. advised that some of the units based on the current site, such as the Roads Policing Unit, needed to have better access to the county's trunk road.

d. highlighted that 60% of prisoners at Lincoln's Police Station were brought in from outside the city centre (West Lindsey and wider Lincoln area).

e. informed members that they needed a more suitable edge of town location for many of the units, currently based in Lincoln.

f. advised that they were committed to maintain policing services in the city centre, which would provide a:
   - patrolling and community officers base
   - visible site within the night-time economy
   - readily access unit for the public.

h. advised that the Lincolnshire Police were currently exploring a range of alternative sites for both the small station in the city centre, as well as a new deployment and custody base situated on the edge of the city.
i. added that Nettleham Headquarters had been identified as a possible site for the new deployment and custody base, however, stressed that they had explored several other alternative sites as well.

j. summarised that Lincolnshire Police were committed to:
   - Maintaining policing services in the city and wider area
   - Providing a publicly accessible police base in the city centre
   - Moving some of the services to a more appropriate alternative site which would give better road access to improve service delivery.

Councillor Barry Young, Chairman of the Police Authority outlined the proposed consultation process and advised that they had commenced their initial consultation with affected parties, which had included talks with local residents in Nettleham. He further advised that they proposed to approach Lincoln residents to enable them to identify their views on their proposals. He stressed that the Police Authority would be responsible for setting out the consultation strategy.

Elected Members raised the following questions:

**Question:** Who would be consulted with?

**Answer:**
Councillor Barry Young advised that they were currently developing their consultation strategy. However, they had already started their consultation with local authorities, as well as attending Public meetings. He added that there had been high media interest through a range of social networks, which had increased the overall awareness of the possible changes to Lincoln's policing. He further suggested that the Committee inform them as to who they should consult with.

**Question:** What weight would be given to the responses?

**Answer:**
Councillor Barry Young advised that as it was still early stages to their consultation process and he was unaware as to what weight would be given to each organisation. He added, however, that they would listen to all responses and reassured members that no firm decisions had been reached.

**Question:** What were the plans for the West Parade site?

**Answer:**
The Deputy Chief Constable advised that the site was currently not fit for purpose and they proposed that identifying alternative sites for custody suites, as well as providing a city centre station would be more cost effective, as well as giving a better service. He added that they proposed to sell the West Parade site and use the capital receipt to
contribute towards the cost of the new builds.

**Question:**
Who decided that West Parade Police Station was not in the right place and why would moving these services to another location be more suitable?

**Answer:**
The Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable advised that the current location of the station was not suitable when needing to respond to a traffic collision and felt that a site situated nearer to the bypass would be more appropriate. They further added that 60% of individuals that were taken into custody were not from the city centre, and therefore it would be more appropriate to be positioned on the outskirts of the city.

**Question:**
How do the police propose to detain and release prisoners from the new custody site and who would be responsible for looking after the prisoners?

**Answer:**
The Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable informed Members that a prisoner would be brought in for questioning and that once released the prisoner would be given the opportunity to receive a lift home or arrange for a family/ friend to pick them up. They further advised that the police would have the overall responsibility for looking after the prisoner, however, added that Lincolnshire Police had a contract agreement with G4S, who were responsible for feeding and giving general welfare/ administrative support on behalf of the police.

Members stressed their concern that a prisoner had the right to refuse the offer of a lift home and could chose to stay in the immediate area, which could impact on the safety of local residents.

**Question:**
How many alternative sites have been located inside and outside of Lincoln?

**Answer:**
The Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable advised that they had identified around four alternative sites and stressed that the Lincolnshire Police had established three options which were either to:

- Renovate the current West Parade Station, which would bring it up to the relevant standard.
- Develop a custody suite on the Nettleham Headquarters site.
- Identify a best alternative site, which would be value for money.

**Question:**
Following the recent negative publicity in respect of G4S, was Lincolnshire Police confident they would provide an adequate service and what services would they be contracted to do on behalf of the police?

**Answer:**
The Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable advised that Lincolnshire Police's contract with G4s was a different division to the one contracted for the Olympics. They advised that to date G4S had provided a good services, which had allowed them to make savings and reallocate there resources to provide more frontline service. They further outlined the current services provided by G4S and identified the potential additional services that they may be contracted to provide, which included ICT infrastructure, maintence of the heating system, managing the new developments, providing administrative support, responsible for feeding and taking finger prints of the prisoners.

Question: What was the purpose of this proposal, was it to make savings?

Answer: The Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable reassured Members that the purpose of the proposal was to provide a better police service for Lincoln. They acknowledged that following government cuts, there was a need to identify savings, however, stressed that this was not the main focus for the proposal.

Question: Would the new proposal be deemed cost effective?

Answer: The Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable advised that they had acknowledged that the changes would initially not make any significant savings, due to the need to build two new facilities before the West Parade Station was closed, however, overtime the service would become more cost effective.

Question: What would the new city centre small station provide?

Answer: The Deputy Chief Constable highlighted that they wished to identify a city centre station near the High Street which would base 20/30 front-line staff. They added that the purpose of the station was to offer a friendly approachable unit for members of the public to easily access.

Question: What other parts of the service would be impacted on with the proposed changes and what was the benefit of the changes?

Answer: The Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable advised that similar to other public sector services, their budget had been reduced by 20% which meant there was a need to identify savings. They felt that the West Parade building was too big and it was deemed to be less efficient to retain the building.

Question: What would be the opening hours for the station located in the city centre?
The Chief Constable advised that the city centre station would be policed constantly.

What could be done to retain the West Parade Police Station?

The Deputy Chief Constable listed the following areas which needed to be improved:

- Windows
- Insulation/ Heating
- ICT infrastructure
- Custody suites
- General maintenance

If the Police Station was to be moved to Nettleham, how would the response times be quicker, in particular, if there was an incident in the south of the city.

The Deputy Chief Constable highlighted that their response to an incident would likely come from either the small police station located in the south of the city or on the beat officers based in the south of the city.

Could you clarify whether the new custody suite would impact on the city centre policing?

The Chief Constable reassured the Committee that with regards to transporting individuals to and from the new custody suite, they felt this would not impact on the policing in the city centre.

What parking requirements were needed in the city centre?

The Deputy Chief Constable highlighted that the city centre site would need a car parking facilities for 1 van and 2-3 patrol cars.

Within the current climate, do you think it was necessary to change the current policing facilities?

The Chief Constable advised that despite the current climate it was essential to make improvements to the current policing facilities, as they were at risk of failing to provide a reliable service in respect of their ICT infrastructure.
Question:
What was the current timescale for moving out of the city centre?

Answer:
The Chief Constable advised that they was no set timescale for moving out of the West Parade Police Station; but it would depend on the Police Commissioner’s priorities and ensuring the new sites were ready before the station was closed.

RESOLVED that

1. the contents of the presentations received from the Lincolnshire Police and the Police Authority be noted.

2. the costing to bring West Parade Police Station to a satisfactory standard and further details in respect of the consultation be presented at the next meeting.

13. Conclusion

The Chair

1. extended his sincere thanks and appreciation for Lincolnshire Police, Police Authority and Elected Members attendance.

2. advised that the Committee had agreed to the following actions:
   o That a local resident present at the Public Meeting held on 19 July 2012 be nominated to attend the next Community Leadership Scrutiny Committee meeting on 31 July 2012 to highlight the views of local people.
   o That at the meeting held on 31 July 2012, the following representatives would be invited to make representations in respect of the Police proposals:
     ■ Anti-Social Behaviour Team
     ■ Lincoln Business Improvement Group (BIG)
     ■ Lincolnshire Law Society
   o That the purpose of the meeting on 31 July 2012, would be to discuss the proposed changes to policing in Lincoln, in consultation with key partners and members of the public, and would not be to discuss any planning proposal nor matters outside of the city.
   o That further to the request made by the Lincolnshire Police and Police Authority, identify key partners which they should consult through their consultation exercise.

RESOLVED that the above action be agreed.
Community Leadership Scrutiny Committee
31 July 2012

Present: Councillor Bob Bushell (in the Chair)
Councillors: Sue Burke, Adrianna Ellis, Ronald Hills, Rosanne Kirk, Karen Lee and Hilton Spratt

14. Welcome/Introduction

The Chair opened the Committee by providing a short introduction and outlined the following key points:

- Welcomed key guests to the meeting.
- Outlined the Community Leadership Scrutiny Committee’s terms of reference and protocol.
- Summarised the purpose of the meeting
- Presented the suggested order of business and time allocated to each speaker

15. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

16. Proposed Changes to Lincoln’s Policing - Presentation by Lincolnshire Police and Police Authority

Neil Rhodes, Chief Constable of Lincolnshire Police

a. informed the Committee of his connections to Lincoln; and stressed that he was dedicated to ensuring that the changes to the policing in Lincoln would not have a detrimental impact on the city but would improve the service.

b. presented their draft proposals to the closure of West Parade Police Station, which was deemed to be no longer fit for purpose and recommended that they move to a more suitable new site within the city centre.

c. advised that they were committed to undertaking an extensive consultation before making a finalised recommendation, which would be submitted to the new Police and Crime Commissioner, due to be elected in November, for a conclusion.

d. added that the Lincolnshire Police were responsible for collating the data and views in respect of their proposal, as well as producing a detailed business plan which would be presented to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

e. stressed that the views of local people and their elected representatives were
extremely important regarding the future of policing in Lincoln and advised that he had already met with the both the Leaders and Chief Executives from Lincolnshire County Council and City of Lincoln Council to discuss the current position.

f. advised that the current Lincoln Police Station located on West Parade was built in the 1970s and highlighted that due to the need for an updated ICT system, improved heating facilities and other general maintenance work the building was deemed no longer fit for purpose.

g. outlined the current facilities/services provided within the West Parade Station, which they felt did not need to be located in the city centre and would be best situated outside of Lincoln. For example, they currently have 20 custody cells at West Parade, however, from Monday to Thursday 60% of the prisoners came from outside of the city centre.

h. advised that they had identified two options which were to either:
   o Refurbish the current West Parade Station to make it fit for purpose, or
   o Identify a small city centre police station and move the custody suites to a base on the edge of the town, preferably with easy access to the bypass.

i. added that option 2 was the preferred proposal, as it would provide a smaller police station targeted on the needs of the city centre and located right in the heart of the city, coupled with the new, modern, fit for purpose deployment and custody base on the edge of the town.

j. advised that it would be beneficial to deliver the new smaller city centre station in partnership with a local authority, which had been discussed with both the Lincolnshire County Council and City of Lincoln Council.

k. informed the Committee that the Police Authority had requested that the Lincolnshire Police prepare a business case that assessed the following:
   o The cost to refurbish West Parade Police Station,
   o The cost and benefits of developing the new city centre police station with alternative options for a deployment and custody base on the edge of town.

l. added that this meeting allowed them to formally comment on their proposals and commence their consultation with the people of Lincoln.

Alec Wood, Deputy Chief Constable of Lincolnshire Police

a. provided context to the current position of Lincoln’s police service in respect of the facilities, austerity, force restructure, strategic partnership, desire to provide the best and most effective service, as well as engaging with partners.

b. stressed that Lincoln’s police station required a lot of repairs and development work to bring it up to an acceptable standard.

c. presented the challenges Lincolnshire Police were facing, and advised that an
independent review in 2011 assessed West Parade as ‘very poor’ for its functional suitability; cost of minimum upgrade was estimated at £2.5 million.

d. stressed that Lincoln’s police station required improvements and investment for computer network cabling, insulation, glazing and accessibility alterations.

e. added that the current site was in a congested area in the city centre I, which made it difficult for police cars to get to incidents within a reasonable time.

f. advised that some of the units based on the current site, such as the Roads Policing Unit, needed to have better access to the county's trunk road.

g. added that the station was not as accessible as they would like for some users and advised that they wished for a more suitable edge of town location for some of their units currently based at West Parade.

h. requested that the following points be noted:
   o 60% of prisoners at Lincoln's Police Station were brought in from outside the city centre (West Lindsey and wider Lincoln area).
   o A number of function e.g. events planning were already performed at Lincolnshire Police Headquarters, based at Nettleham.
   o There were already smaller police stations in Lincoln that serviced for the city, these were situated in Lincoln North-East, Birchwood, Bracebridge Heath and Hykeham, which will continue to service.
   o Similar to other forces, they were reviewing their estate to provide optimal coverage and service delivery.
   o The police and crime commissioner (PCC) would be required to set their Police and Crime Plan and budget for next year by 21 December 2012.

i. outlined their vision for city policing, which were:
   o To maintain high quality policing services in Lincoln whilst spending public money as wisely as possible
   o To provide a modern, accessible police base in the city centre
   o To be transparent in our approach to future developments

j. advised that they were committed to maintain policing services in the city centre, and outlined their requirements for Lincoln’s policing, as shown below:
   o To provide a newly built (or refurbished) operational police station in the city centre, ideally incorporating other public services in a shared facility with improved public accessibility
   o To facilitate a operating base for officers and PCSOs that currently service Lincoln City (35-40) sited within the night-time economy area
   o To provide a fully staffed public reception area, statement taking rooms and property office
   o To have a separate custody facility and deployment base for non-City staff and the Roads Policing Unit.

k. gave detail to the proposal to resolve the current issues with the deployment and
custody base by moving it to a site on the edge of the city.

I. advised that the Lincolnshire Police were currently exploring a range of alternative sites for both the small station in the city centre, as well as a new deployment and custody base situated on the edge of the city.

m. advised that the next stage was to:
   - Consult and engage with affected bodies
   - Identify potential alternative sites
   - Produce a detailed business case which would be considered by the Police and Crime Commissioner once elected in November 2012.

n. concluded that:
   - They were committed to maintain policing services in the city and wider area
   - No decisions had been made and that this was the start of their consultation process
   - This was a key policing decision which they needed to get right by undertake sufficient consultation
   - That if an alternative site was identified, any savings made would be reinvested to directly benefit public policing in Lincolnshire
   - The responsibility for the future of the Lincoln Police Station would be transferred to the Police and Crime Commissioner on 22 November 2012.

o. added that they were committed to maintain quality policing services in Lincoln whilst spending public money as wisely as possible.

p. advised that for future information regarding the proposal was available on their website: www.lincs.police.uk.

Councillor Barry Young, Chairman of the Police Authority outlined the proposed consultation process and reassured Members that no decision had been made to date.

Members raised the following clarification questions:

**Question:**
What area does the deployment and custody base cover?

**Response:**
Alec Wood, Deputy Chief Constable advised that it would mainly covered the west side of the county and firearms officers covered anywhere in the county.

**Question:**
How dependant was the closure of West Parade, to allow for the changes in the city to be made?

**Response:**
Alec Wood, Deputy Chief Constable discussion the proposed city centre base and
advised that if they were to build a new base in the city, they would not be able to retain
the West Parade site, as the capital receipt would be used to cover the cost.

**Question:**
Would a decision on Lincoln’s policing be made in 2012?

**Response:**
Neil Rhodes, Chief Constable advised that there was no pressure on the Police and
Crime Commissioner to make an early decision. He added that it was important that
they make the right decision.

Councillor Barry Young, Police Authority added that the Lincolnshire Police was tasked
with producing a detailed business plan with the preferred option for the Police and
Crime Commission to consider once elected.

**Question:**
How many officers were currently based at the West Parade station?

**Response:**
Neil Rhodes, Chief Constable and Alec Wood, Deputy Chief Constable advised
Members of the current volume of staff situated in the West Parade police station and
added that the new city centre station would retain the city centre based staff which
would be around 35 to 40 employees.

**Question:**
Would any changes depend on how much funding would be granted for next year?

**Response:**
Neil Rhodes, Chief Constable advised that the changes would be impacted on the
funding granted by Police and Crime Commission and stressed that there was no
urgency for a decision to be made.

**Question:**
Would these changes make the policing the same or better than the current provisions?

**Response:**
Neil Rhodes, Chief Constable and Alec Wood, Deputy Chief Constable believed this
would retain or improve the current level of service. He stressed that no resources
would be removed from Lincoln.

RESOLVED that the presentation made by the Lincolnshire Police and the Police
Authority be noted.

17. **Views from Anti-Social Behaviour Team, City of Lincoln Council**

Sam Barstow, Acting ASB Team Leader
a. presented the views on behalf of the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Team in respect of the police changes and responded to the questions raised by the Scrutiny Committee.

b. outlined the current partnership agreements between Lincolnshire Police and the authority.

c. presented the current structure of the ASB team and advised that the team included two police officers, which supported the team.

d. gave an overview of the level of police support provided within the city and mapped out the current police stations situated in Lincoln.

e. advised that the Council works closely with a range of sections within Lincolnshire Police, which included:
   - Community Policing teams
   - Analysts
   - Intelligence
   - CID
   - Custody

f. added that the Council had two specific agreements with the Council in respect of anti-social behaviour, which included:
   - First Response to Anti-Social Behaviour
   - Tackling low level ASB in local communities

g. identified how these changes may impact on the following services:
   - Community Policing of ASB
   - Liaison with other Police Departments
   - Use of facilities (Meeting rooms & Interview rooms)

h. summarised that overall he felt the suggested changes would have a low level of impact on the authority.

Members noted the views presented by the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) team.

RESOLVED that the views' from the ASB team be noted.

18. **Views from Lincoln Business Improvement Group (BIG)**

Mick Lake, Operations Manager – Lincoln Business Improvement Group

a. provided an overview of the role of Lincoln Business Improvement Group (BIG), who represent and support local businesses, as well as promote Lincoln.

b. advised that Lincoln BIG’s aims were to:
   - Improve peoples’ experience of Lincoln city centre.
o. Put Lincoln on the map.

c. summarised their key principles of their safety strategy and highlighted the potential implications on the city’s safety if the police station was removed.

d. outlined the current retail crime statistics and procedures in place to reduce shoplifting.

e. further presented the current alcohol-related crime and disorder statistics and the current provisions to reduce alcohol-related crime and disorder.

f. advised that the Evening Safety Warden Pilot scheme commenced in February 2009, which since had identified a gradual reduction in crime.

g. outlined the purpose of the city centre wardens and stressed the importance of Lincolnshire Police to provide reassurance, visible deterrent, statutory functions and partnership working.

h. advised that Lincoln BIG’s key concerns were policing presence, response and support functions.

i. highlighted the importance and purpose of the Neighbourhood Policing Team and Response Patrol Officers.

j. outlined the police support function and advised that many back-room function were not location critical, however, some enquiry office functions required people to attend in person e.g.
   o. Found property
   o. Producing driving documents
   o. Registration of Immigration and Nationality subjects and sex offenders.
   o. Signing on for bail, football orders etc.
   o. Identify parades

k. summarised that Lincoln BIG was not wedded to West Parade Police Station as a building, however, a more visible building in the city centre could be better if:
   o. Assess to essential enquiry office functions was preserved in the city centre
   o. Visible Policing in the city centre was maintained
   o. No deterioration in response to urgent incidents.

Members raised the following clarification questions:

Question:
Had Lincoln BIG been approach or consulted with regarding the proposals?

Response:
Mick Lake, Operations Manager – Lincoln Business Improvement Group highlighted that they had not been approach or consulted with to date.
Question:
Asked if the police’s promises and reassurance that they would provide a quality service, would they still have reservations?

Response:
Mick Lake, Operations Manager – Lincoln Business Improvement Group advised they were comfortable with the proposals in principle.

RESOLVED that the views' from Lincoln BIG be noted.

19. **Views from Local Residents**

Andrew Kerrigan, Local Resident

  a. advised that on the 19 July 2012, a public meeting was held at St Mary Le Wigford to discuss the proposed changes to the police services in Lincoln.

  b. added that at the meeting, he was nominated to make representation at this meeting on behalf of local residents.

  c. highlighted that residents from Lincoln and Nettleham attended the meeting and raised concern regarding the proposal to close West Parade Police station.

  d. advised that the main concerns highlighted at the public meeting were:
     - Response times
     - Increase in crime in the Lincoln and impact on shops
     - Management/ purpose of the new “shop unit” police station
     - Number of police officers based in Lincoln
     - Lack of consultation
     - Closure of the West Parade Police Station
     - G4S contract

  e. stressed that members of public felt there was a need for a public meeting as it had appeared that the police had not undertaken a full detailed consultation process.

  f. noted that the Lincolnshire Police and Police Authority had now agreed to undertaken a formal consultation exercise, however, questioned what weighting the views from local communities would have on the consultation.

  g. advised that residents felt the proposal to close the West Parade Police Station appeared to be finalised and questioned if the responses to the formal consultation would change the decision.

  h. outlined the concerns with G4S’s contract and their accountability for public safety.

  i. advised that in conclusion from the public meeting, members of the public asked
for the police to host a meeting with affected bodies which would openly discuss the proposed options.

j. added that the public wished for assurance that the police would fully timetable a full and detailed consultation exercise and would allow sufficient time to consider the responses and stressed that the conclusion needed to be justified, independent and open.

Members noted the comments and questioned if he felt the proposals from Lincolnshire Police and Police Authority to undertake a detailed consultation exercise would address residents’ concerns. They further asked what key questioned would they like the police to address.

The local resident felt that this meeting was a good start, however, further consultation with the public was required. He further advised that the police need to address what facilities were currently situated at West Parade Police Station and what the station was used for and quality of the facilities.

RESOLVED that views’ from local residents be noted.

20. **Views from the Lincolnshire Law Society**

   Neil Sands, Lincolnshire Law Society representative

   a. gave an overview of Lincolnshire Law Society and provided background regarding his role as a solicitor, in particular, advised that he specialised in criminal defence work and practiced in the city

   b. outlined the potential implications on their clients if the custody suites were moved out of Lincoln.

   c. asked for clarification as to why the custody suites were deemed not fit for purpose and questioned how much it would cost to repair the current custody suites.

   d. informed members of the current custody suites facilities across the county and highlighted that they believed the facilities within Lincoln were fit for purpose.

   e. questioned if individuals arrested would be required to be kept in custody for longer due to travel time and raised concern of the potential time wasted on transporting people from Lincoln to Nettleham.

   f. queried if individuals who had been arrested and were needed to be called back for further questioning would be expected to travel to Nettleham.

   g. advised that he felt the current police provision were fit for purpose and moving
custody suites outside of the city was not suitable.

Members noted the views' presented by Lincolnshire Law Society.

RESOLVED that the views' from the Lincolnshire Law Society be noted.

21. **Members of the Committee**

   Members asked further questions to the key speakers, which were answered thereon.

22. **Summary**

   The Chair advised that the police were at the beginning of their consultation process, that we accept that change needs to take place, and that, working together with all partners, we want the best policing for the city. He suggested that the committee may need to revisit the issue again as further information become available, it was a concept at the moment and the committee needs to consider further when we have the detail.

   The Cheif Executive and Town Clerk further summarised that police provided a number of important assurances on the proposals to consider possible replacement of the West Parade Police Station in Lincoln with a smaller city centre Station and edge of town Station and custody suite:

   - There would be no diminution of Police presence as a result of the current proposals.
   - Current scale of presence is somewhat illusory in that the building also hosts no city centre Police services
   - West Parade will only close if there is an alternative Police Station in the city centre, and there will be a seamless transition
   - This meeting was the start of engaging in a full consultation process
   - That the rationale for any Police and Crime Commissioner will be fully explained
   - We have heard the about the impact on outward flow from West Parade, but there needs to be some modelling to show the impact when there is a need for additional Police to move into the city centre, e.g. as happened in Boston.
   - There also needs to be some modelling around detention of those in custody in respect of potential delays in release. This needs to include potential increased journey time to and from the custody suite, response times for lawyers, and where lawyers travel from.

   The Committee welcomed these assurances, and agreed there was a need to work in partnership in the future.

   RESOLVED that the comments be note and thanked the speakers for their attendance.
23. **Confirmation of Minutes - 24 May 2012**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 24 May 2012 be confirmed.

24. **Welcome/ Introduction**

The Chair opened the Committee meeting providing a short introduction. He:

- Welcomed key guests, Scrutiny Committee Members and officers.
- Summarised the purpose of the meeting to look at the immediate pressures within the City for emergency accommodation to ascertain whether there was a better way to co-ordinate resources across the range of stakeholders providing services to alleviate the pressures.
- Presented the suggested order of business and time allocated to each speaker.
- Hoped that all guests would feel relaxed and able to join together in discussions to help address the problem of homelessness in the City.

25. ** Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were received.

26. **Scrutiny Annual Report 2011/12**

Charlie Powell, Democratic Services Officer:

a. presented the Scrutiny Annual Report for 2011/12 for comments, prior to being referred to Full Council for approval

b. advised that within the Constitution it stated that Scrutiny Committees should produce an annual report to Council; Chairs of the Scrutiny Committees provided individual reports to Council during the municipal year, however, the attached Scrutiny Annual Report (Appendix 1) summarised the work of the three committees for the full year and highlighted the key achievements made under scrutiny in 2011/12

The Chair confirmed that following a request made at Performance
Scrutiny Committee held on 22 August 2012, the wording in relation to the Community Leadership Scrutiny Committee's consideration of the closure of Queen's Park School had been revised to clarify that the Council was not the only local authority to have carried out consultation regarding this matter.

A request was made for Policy Scrutiny Committee to review the performance of the Designated Public Place Order which had been implemented by the Council following consideration by this Committee.

RESOLVED that:

1. A performance review of the Designated Public Place Order be included within the work programme for the Policy Scrutiny Committee.

2. The Scrutiny Annual Report for 2011/12 be agreed and referred to Full Council for approval.

27. **Homelessness Review - Presentation by John Bibby, Director of Housing and Community Services (DHCS) and Paul Lockwood, Housing Solutions Team Leader, City of Lincoln Council**

John Bibby, Director of Housing and Community Services, City of Lincoln Council, presented a short verbal report entitled 'Homeless Provision - Current Position' which covered the following main topic areas:

- Outcome from Homelessness Group
- Local Area Homeless Duty Summary
- Outline of Countywide Homeless Strategy
- Summary of Supporting People Programme
- Annual Statutory Rough Sleeping Count 2010/11
- Data from Nomad/Be Attitude - numbers approaching them for assistance.

Paul Lockwood, Housing Solutions Team Leader, gave a short verbal presentation on behalf of City of Lincoln Council as the statutory homelessness Authority in the City entitled 'Homelessness in Lincoln; The Council Perspective', which covered the following main topic areas:

- **Current Local Pressures** - Increase in mortgage repossessions, migrant workers, rough sleepers, homelessness, lack of temporary accommodation, breakdown in relationships.
- **Scale of the Problem**
- **Lincoln in Comparison**
- **How We are Coping** - lean review, team restructure, Lincolnshire County Homeless Strategy Group, joint working, development of new services using the homelessness grant.
- **Medium to Long Term Predictions for Homelessness** - increased homelessness long term, short term changes would impact on homelessness including welfare reform, Universal Credit.
- City of Lincoln Council Provision - homeless prevention, housing advice, housing options, temporary accommodation.
- Funding - City of Lincoln Council funding, partnership working, Lincolnshire County Strategy Working Group Rough Sleeping funding.
- The Future - impact of welfare reform, move on accommodation, no 'second night out', continued current partnerships, development of new partnerships, review of leased properties, shared accommodation for single homeless people, Vulnerable Adults Panel.

Members requested clarification of the following main points in relation to the content of the above presentations:

- **Question**: Was there a degree of overlap in the services provided by the City of Lincoln Council and Social Services?
  - **Officer response**: There was not a great deal of overlap in services; one complemented the other. The Authority worked in partnership with organisations such as Framework, children's support services, multi agency organisations, local churches, supported housing; however, in each individual case the most appropriate agency would take the lead.

- **Question**: The first quarter of 2012/13 showed an increase in people presenting themselves as homeless and in priority need. What was the average throughput of households/homeless persons at any one time?
  - **Officer response**: The Council had open on average 60-90 homeless cases at any one time with 30-35 people homeless at any one time. A great deal of investigation work was involved.

- **Question**: Were the 8 to 9 rough sleepers in the City typical of people who chose to sleep rough or were they in that situation because their needs were not catered for by the system?
  - **Officer response**: There were more than 8 or 9 rough sleepers in the City. The official figures accorded to strict criteria set down by Central Government; rough sleepers were described as those sleeping in the open air. Those service users resident in Nomad Trust/Framework Trust were not included in this figure. Some people sleeping rough for a long time found it difficult to accept change; a programme of continual engagement/confidence building was used to try to encourage people into tenancies. Rough sleepers were the responsibility of the City Council and did not come under the remit of Social Services.

- **Question**: How did the Council prioritise homeless people eligible for assistance?
  - **Officer response**: The Council had a statutory responsibility under the 1977 Act to provide assistance to vulnerable people/those with families. Single persons in the main did not fit into this category and were offered advice/support as an alternative.

- **Question**: How were we going to influence people to prioritise their individual needs to ensure they maintained their tenancies? Changes shortly to the benefit system involving the introduction of Universal Credit would allow individuals to decide for themselves how to spend their benefit.
  - **Officer response**: Universal Credit included the provision of a single room allowance. It was important to influence/educate people on a local and national level to prioritise how they used their benefit. There was the option for a direct
payment service direct to the landlord in appropriate circumstances.

28. **Presentation by Framework (Outreach Team)**

Peter Radage/Claire Windebank, representing Framework Housing Association gave a short verbal presentation outlining their work to support homeless people, covering the following main topic areas:

- Current Homelessness Issues
- Gravitational Pull
- Is there a Rough Sleeping Problem?
- Economic Migrants
- Street Drinking and Anti-Social Behaviour
- Move-On
- What We Do - rough sleeper and street outreach services, quick access supported accommodation, dispersed supported accommodation for young people, floating support for young people and offenders
- Framework Financial Position
- Partnership
- Next Steps
- Homelessness Pathway - No ‘second night out’
- Dedicated Service for Street Drinkers
- Commitment to Quality
- Partnership - A Homeless Pathway
- Strategic Sign-Up

Members requested clarification of the following main points in relation to the content of the above presentation:

- **Question**: Were there existing opportunities to discuss ideas amongst organisations in the City?
  - **Response**: Yes. Although there was no formal basis for this type of forum, informal weekly meetings were held.
- **Question**: Was the Homeless Pathway a programme or a principle?
  - **Response**: It was a principle for moving people away from rough sleeping to prepare them for sustainable independent living. Lincoln was indeed close to having this pathway.
- **Question**: Were there figures available on economic migrants sleeping rough compared to those people living here all the time and in the same situation?
  - **Response**: Framework did not have precise figures for the City. Experiences were similar across the country.
- **Question**: Did Framework think homelessness would increase in the future with the introduction of Universal Credit?
  - **Response**: Issues of homelessness extended much wider than concern in relation to housing benefit which was limited to the under ‘35’s’. Huge pressure existed on the housing market to provide accommodation.
- **Question**: Was the perception that people spent their money on
drinks/drugs rather than rent correct?
- **Response:** People with complex needs tended to be more vulnerable.
- **Question:** Pathways accommodated residents for a longer period of time. Were there other beds available for shorter term stays?
- **Response:** Pathways was about preparing people with complex needs for independent living; there was a need to achieve this without people returning to the streets. The issues centred around throughput. Pathways needed 'buy in' from the private/local authority sector to set up much needed throughput accommodation/move on options.
- **Question:** Did Framework have any figures available as a temporary accommodation provider in relation to service user throughput/length of stay?
- **Response:** Framework took part in a national survey about 4 years ago. This had shown that roughly 86% of residents had managed to maintain accommodation in the public domain in the 6 months following their departure from residency with them. The exact figures would be made available for the information of the member in question.

### 29. **Presentation by Nomad Trust**

Peter Richardson, representing Nomad Trust, gave a short verbal presentation outlining its work to support homeless people, covering the following main topic areas:

- The Trust offered emergency overnight accommodation in the City; it ran 3 houses with 19 'move on' rooms.
- The Monks Road site housed 5 bedrooms with lounge/kitchen/TV/locker rooms.
- Services offered included a kennel room, laundry facilities, hot drinks, snacks, access to GP's, housing and benefit advice.
- The Trust faced financial pressures due to lack of local authority funding; it relied on voluntary donations and grants from local organisations.
- It worked in partnership with Pathways/YMCA/Be Attitude.
- Service users often came to them as a result of failed tenancies; the Trust saw more homeless people due to lack of support given during tenancies, and clients going 'back on to the street'
- All vulnerable tenants should be able to access support.
- Many service users came from outside the City.
- There were 50/60 individuals including rough sleepers/ sofa surfers resident at Nomad.
- There was reluctance by social providers to offer housing to vulnerable people due to issues of rent arrears/Anti Social Behaviour.
- Services remained inconsistent in the City; those presenting themselves as homeless on a Monday morning often received a different service to those doing the same on a Friday night.
- The situation would only get worse in the current economic climate.
- Nomad Trust needed a 'new build' to support those vulnerable people most in need.
- The definitive remit between County/City provision should be made clearer to individuals and organisations providing accommodation.
- Estate officers should give further support to the most vulnerable people to ensure they were able to sustain their tenancies.
- Out of 48 Eastern Europeans in the City, only 7 were eligible for housing benefit.
- The Trust did have 'throughput' statistics available for Members should they wish to see them.
- The Trust welcomed input from other organisations to help solve homelessness issues.

Members asked the following main questions of clarification in relation to the content of the above presentation:

- **Question**: The perception when Pathways opened was for it to be Nomad Trust's new home, this was not to be. How could Nomad Trust reach out to the general public for their financial support rather than rely on other professional organisations who already received assistance?
- **Response**: Nomad Trust promoted its cause in the Bailgate Independent Newsletter and also its own independent newsletter. It needed to alert the public to the fact that Nomad Trust and the Pathways Centre were different organisations.
- **Question**: Did the Trust provide City and County wide support?
- **Response**: Nomad Trust was run as a City-based charity. It was however having to deal with a larger catchment area due to lack of other homelessness provision, which did exert additional pressure on resources.
- **Question**: What was meant by the comment that homelessness support in the City was more readily available on a Monday than a Friday?
- **Response**: There were discrepancies in the levels of advice given which were 'poles apart'.
- **Question**: Would it be appropriate for the Trust to put together a report with ideas to address the dilemma in respect of City/County provision?
- **Response**: It could try to put information on paper regarding the number of agencies approaching it from outside the City boundary; figures had been collated in this respect. One Council had paid for individuals' bus fares to enable them to travel into the City as they had no service provision for homeless people themselves.
- **Member comment**: There was a breakdown with care in the community; other agencies were not doing their fair share once people were re-housed. All agencies must work together.

30. **Presentation by BeAttitude (St Mary Le Wigford)**

Liz Jackson/Jeremy Cullimore representing Be Attitude gave a short verbal presentation regarding their work with homeless people, covering the following main areas:

- **Current Issues in Homelessness**
  - The growth in homelessness is outpacing resources
  - More people rough sleeping
  - More 'hidden homeless'
More people struggling to maintain tenancies

Lincoln
- Increase in homelessness has been apparent for over a year.
- Figures showing that more than 8 or 9 people sleeping rough.
- On 21 August 2012, 63 people were identified by BeAttitude, Nomad Trust and Framework as visibly homeless.

BeAttitude A Supporting Community - volunteering, providing meals, work experience, skills development, training, support, advocacy, mentoring, social enterprise.

Prevention of Homelessness - maintaining a tenancy, budgeting/life skills, benefits advice.

St Mary le Wigford Church - church building, church office, meeting room, BeAttitude office, lockers for clients, computer suite, main hall, dining room, kitchen and toilets.

Income - The Tudor Trust, Lincoln Diocese, donations.

LPTF Mental Health Support Post.

BeAttitude - working together with Nomad Trust offering support during the day; Nomad Trust then opened its doors in the evening to provide a bed for the homeless.

Ethnic Groups - Need to discuss recourse to public funds.

Strategies for Next Steps
- Homelessness prevention - more tenancy support, quicker access to support, help with addiction/mental health/financial problems, ASB
- Supporting those experiencing homelessness - more funding for emergency beds, day care facilities, access to support services
- Moving away from homelessness - more supported 'move-on' accommodation, more private accommodation willing to accept housing benefit, housing benefit paid more quickly.

Members requested clarification of the following main points in relation to the content of the above presentations

- Question: It was fascinating to hear about the partnership between BeAttitude and Nomad Trust. How long had it been operating?
  
  Response: It started during the very cold winter of 2010.

- Question: What was meant by the comment that there was a need for more tenancy support?
  
  Response: There were issues moving people into tenancies which took time to overcome; clients needed support services such as addiction/physical support to help them to maintain their tenancies. This was best done within the community. A period of homelessness had the effect of eroding confidence/self esteem; it took a long time to recover from this.

- Question: What % of people receiving support from BeAttitude were able to move back into accommodation afterwards?
  
  Response: A stepped approach was taken, together with other agencies e.g. YMCA/Pathways.
Members questioned key invited guests in respect of issues around homelessness in the City:

- **Member Question**: Do all the organisations in the City consciously consider themselves as working together in partnership?

- **Response, Peter Richardson, Nomad Trust**: We all specialise in different fields; we are not in competition with each other. We work with appropriate service areas to provide the best solutions to problems.

- **Member Question**: The perception here is that sometimes other agencies are not pulling their weight. Can you identify these organisations?

- **Response, Peter Richardson, Nomad Trust**: We need to be listened to when we speak. There are inconsistencies; it is important to focus on the individuals in need here rather than the agenda.

- **Member Question**: Does the Housing Department see themselves as a facilitator to sort out awkward and sensitive problems?

- **Response, John Bibby, City of Lincoln Council**: There are issues around supported housing. At the current time responsibility lies with the County Council to offer financial support. As a landlord, the City Council, through its estate officers, offers support to tenancies. We have argued for the new Health and Well Being Board to recognise housing as a key element of health and a key mechanism to support people with problems into independent accommodation.

- **Member Comment**: The Pathways Rehabilitation unit has not solved the City's homeless problems. The Big Society is now showing it is going some way to meet the needs that official bodies cannot reach. Some people feel more comfortable accepting help from the voluntary sector. Supporting People is the best way of giving support to the voluntary sector; together we can solve more problems competing for the same cash.

- **Response, Claire Windebank, Framework**: Our organisation is part of the voluntary sector too.

- **Response, Jeremy Cullimore, BeAttitude**: The church ministry in the far distant past had been at the forefront of social welfare reform e.g. creation of hospitals.

- **Member Question**: Do you have any strategies in place to deal with the impact of changes to be made to housing benefit/housing reform?

- **Response, Peter Richardson, Nomad Trust**: We already work with clients to keep payments to landlords in place. It is hoped to teach individuals how to manage their finances more effectively, however it is recognised as a big problem.
• **Response, Claire Windebank, Framework:** We will monitor the impacts of welfare reforms on our service users.

• **Response, John Bibby, City of Lincoln Council:** We too are concerned. Our provision for bad debts has been increased. We have started to work with the benefits system to establish which of our tenants will pay more in the future due to the introduction of ‘bedroom tax’. We don't know how customers will react but as manager of 8,000 homes in the City it is a worrying situation.

• **Member Comment:** Thank you to all the organisations who are working in the City to address homelessness. The Council and the private sector must provide more housing/ offer support packages. Once in a tenancy the responsibility to support an individual lay with Supporting People.

• **Member Question:** Do the organisations support people with physical disadvantages?

• **Response by Liz Jackson, BeAttitude:** Yes. We have a number of clients with terminal cancer, having had open heart surgery, people with physical health problems who often found access to services difficult.

• **Member Comment:** All the organisations here this evening offer outstanding provision. Thank you for your evidence. This is the Big Society at its best, however, more housing is needed; there is a massive imbalance between supply and demand for social housing. The State could put more cash into renovation of empty properties /social housing builds.

• **Response, John Bibby, City of Lincoln Council:** The Council promotes affordable housing as one of its main aims. We are currently trying to re-introduce small build council housing schemes, however, it is very difficult in these economic times.

**32. Summary**

The Chair summarised the content of the presentations and discussions held as follows:

- He thanked all the guests present for their very useful and informative presentations.
- He acknowledged there was still a great deal of work to be done to address the problem of homelessness in the City.
- He urged the need for continued partnership working/coordination in provision of services between local organisations to achieve the best possible results within financial restraints.
- Further meetings would be held with Anti Social Behaviour Officers, YMCA, Supporting People and Lincolnshire Police.
- A separate meeting with Homeless Link would also be convened.
- This evening had been a very encouraging meeting; input from key guests would be fed into the Homeless Review.
- He thanked officers around the table and fellow Councillors for their support.
Item No. 4

Community Leadership Scrutiny Committee 13 November 2012

Homelessness

1. Topic focus & reasons for selection

The incidence of street homelessness is significantly increasing in the city as reflected both in the formal statistics and anecdotal information from the range of providers of services to this complex client group.

This review is not designed to tackle the large socio/economic issues associated with Homelessness. Its primary purpose is to focus on the immediate pressures within the city for emergency accommodation and ascertain if there is a better way to co-ordinate resources across the range of stakeholders providing services to alleviate some of this pressure.

2. Initial potential Data Sources (some data is already being collected by DHCS)

- Occupancy levels for bed spaces for homeless people across the city
- No’s of homeless presentations to key agencies (and the City Council) plus trends over time
- Reasons for such presentations
- No’s turned away from partner agencies and reasons
- Policies/eligibility criteria of such providers
- No. of rough sleepers (latest counts plus observations from field workers eg Neighbourhood Managers)
- Data on underlying causes (economic, mental health etc) plus trends over time
- No of housing advice given to those actually homelessness
- No of homeless applications made where there is a need for emergency provision

3. Typical questions to explore during scrutiny

- What are the current pressures locally in terms of homelessness? – What is the scale of the problem?
- How are such pressures manifesting & is the incidence of homelessness increasing?
- What are the main causes (both direct and underlying) to the current levels of homelessness?
- Is such pressure different in Lincoln to other similar cities or are there unique factors at play in the city?
- Which local agencies are involved in service delivery to this group?
- What pressure are such agencies under and how are they responding –both collectively and individually?
- How are the services the City Council offers coping?
• What are the medium to long terms predictions for homelessness levels in the city and how sustainable is the current approach across the various agencies?
• What more can be done in the short term, working collectively, to both respond to and help to stem the current demand?

4. Outcome anticipated

Agreement amongst providers to support a co-ordinated approach and so even more effectively use the limited resources available to respond to the current demand levels.

Ultimately the review will seek to reduce the level of current rough sleepers and increase the number of emergency homelessness people accessing formal support beyond immediate shelter.

5. Key partners to involve

• Nomad Trust
• Framework,
• Be Attitude
• Police
• ASB Team
• Homeless Link
• City Council’s Homelessness prevention team

6. Timescales/ meeting format

The review will require 3 formal scrutiny sessions:

• 23 August 2012: Research/ Investigation phases – Committee to interview a range of frontline service providers to identify the current homelessness issue in the city.

• 13 November 2012: Research/ Investigation phase – Committee interviews a range of public sector partners to explore how to resolve the issue.

• December 2012: Recommendation Phase – Committee further refines recommendations and develops an action plan/ homeless policy, in consultation with all partners there were involved with the review.

Once above completed a final report will be produced for Executive