

SUBJECT:	PERFORMANCE REPORT - HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPING
DIRECTORATE:	HOUSING AND INVESTMENT
REPORT AUTHOR:	ALISON TIMMINS, HOUSING SOLUTIONS MANAGER

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To advise Members of the current performance of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Teams.

2. Background

- 2.1 Performance information is reported to the MHCLG on a monthly and a quarterly basis regarding homelessness approaches and applications, and rough sleeper numbers within the City. Targets are set nationally and locally by statutory guidance and with our DHLUC Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Advisors who we meet with every month.
- 2.2 Due to the current operating environment, the teams are continuing to maintain and deliver excellent services to these very vulnerable client groups. At present, following the 'Plan B' announcement, the Homelessness team continues to work primarily from home providing a telephone service, and providing a full prevention and relief service in line with the provisions of the relevant Acts and statutory guidance. The team does however have a Duty Officer in City Hall on a daily basis who helps customers who attend in an emergency or with no access to telephone/internet.
- 2.3 The Rough Sleeping Team is based at City Hall and has continued working from CH throughout the lockdowns. Since the 'Plan B' announcement we have reduced the numbers of staff in the office where possible, and those in continue to work in bubbles to minimise any opportunity for Covid-19 affecting the entire team.
- 2.4 We have continued, in line with Government guidance, to prioritise homeless households and former rough sleepers for accommodation. The Annual Official Rough Sleeping Count (undertaken on November 19th, 2021) found 14 rough sleepers in the city; however, the team has fully complied with the Government Initiative of 'Protect and Vaccinate' introduced the week before Christmas in response to the Omicron variant and has offered suitable temporary accommodation to every rough sleeper in Lincoln. An informal routine count on 5th January 2022 found zero rough sleepers in the city.
- 2.5 The attached table provides details of the performance measures that are normally reported at the end of quarter 3, December 2021.

3. Current Position

3.1 HOUSING SOLUTIONS (Homelessness) –

Prevent Measures	Year to Date (current)	Year to Date (20/21)
Number of successful preventions (YTD)	40	77

React Measures	Total
Number currently 'under prevention'	34
Number currently 'under relief'	108

Support Measures	Year to Date (current)	Year to Date (20/21)
Number of successful relieved (YTD)	173	175
Number of 'No Duty' cases (YTD)	19	24
Number of 'Main Duty Accepted' cases (YTD)	14	0
Number of 'Main Duty Discharged' cases (YTD)	38	9
Number of cases placed in B&B since April 2021 (YTD)	161	255 (B&B and TA)
Number of cases placed in temporary accommodation since April 2021 (YTD)	45	As above
Total cases that have left B&B (YTD)	154	18
Average length of B&B stay (YTD)	3.51	4.3 weeks
Total cases that have left temporary accommodation (YTD)	49	10
Average length of temporary accommodation stay (YTD)	11.24	7.4 weeks
Number in placement which are already homeless	42	34
Number in placement which are threatened with homelessness	20	17
Number in placement whose initial assessment is not complete	3	2

HOUSING

SOLUTIONS (Rough Sleepers) –

React Measures	Year to Date (current)	Year to Date (20/21)
Total number of Rough Sleeper Team cases (YTD)	211	127
Number of rough sleepers in the city as last count	9	8

Number of cases that have been placed in B&B (YTD)	72	150 (B&B and TA)
Number of cases that have been placed in temporary accommodation (YTD)	47	As above

Support Measures	Year to Date (current)	Year to Date (20/21)
Current number of people supported by Rough Sleeper Team	37	19
Number of 'housed' cases (YTD)	43	0
Number of 'reconnections' made (YTD)	2	0
How many people have been successfully housed from the Hub (YTD)	23	68
Number in placement which are already homeless	36	16
Number in placement which are threatened with homelessness	4	0
Number in placement whose initial assessment is not complete	3	0
Total cases that have left B&B (YTD)	67	
Average length of B&B stay (YTD)	2.80	
Total cases that have left temporary accommodation (YTD)	15	
Average length of temporary accommodation stay (YTD)	10.44	

4. Quarter 4

- 4.1 It is anticipated that quarter 4 will be a challenging time for the teams. Historically homelessness peaks during January to April and combined with the requirement to accommodate anyone without accommodation during cold weather and the ongoing requirements to provide accommodation for rough sleepers to self-isolate, the teams will continue to deliver the services in this challenging environment
- 4.2 The Homelessness Sub-Group has been reinstated in response to the Omicron variant issues and is attended by Strategic Homelessness Leads, Health, County Council Officers, and other key partners from across the county. This group continues to be pivotal both in the City and across the County, bringing agencies and districts together to provide the best possible services that we can during this pandemic
- 4.3 For 2022/23 the Council has been awarded £366,671 of funding for homelessness prevention, this matches the previous year's funding. We have also received a 'top-up' of £76,883 to assist households who have accrued rent arrears in the private rented sector as a direct result of Covid.
- 4.4 We are currently working with our DHLUC Advisors to develop our Rough Sleeping Initiative funding bid for the next 3 years.

5. Recommendation

5.1 That members note the current position relating to Homelessness and Rough Sleeping in the City.

Is this a key decision? Yes/No

Do the exempt information categories apply? No

Does Rule 15 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules (call-in and urgency) apply? YES/No

How many appendices does the report contain? None

List of Background Papers: None

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