

Appendix 2

PROPOSAL FORM FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR SCRUTINY COMMITTEES	
NAME OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Partnerships Scrutiny Committee
DATE OF MEETING / TIMESCALE FOR CONSIDERATION	2nd November 2017
TITLE OF REPORT	Denbighshire Homelessness Strategy 2017-21 & Supporting People / Homelessness Prevention Plan 2018/19
P U R P O S E	<p>1. Why is the report being proposed? (see also the checklist overleaf)</p> <p>The Homelessness Prevention Team in Denbighshire (comprising statutory homelessness and Supporting People) currently has in development both its 4 year Homelessness Strategy, and Annual Plan for 2018/19.</p> <p>Supporting People is a Welsh Government Programme, funding support for people 16+ who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. We aim to prevent homelessness wherever possible, working with the community and our partners to identify and tackle its causes, and empower people to live as independently as possible. Statutory homelessness means the Legal response when someone is homeless or threatened with homelessness, including support to prevent and relieve homelessness, and provision of temporary accommodation where appropriate.</p> <p>The Housing (Wales) Act 2014 requires every Local Authority to carry out a review of homelessness in their area, and then to develop and publish a Homelessness Strategy based on the review findings. This is Denbighshire's first Homelessness Strategy, detailing our 6 strategic priorities for the next 4 years to tackle, and ultimately end, homelessness in Denbighshire - with a strong commitment to early intervention and prevention.</p> <p>Our Annual Plan gives an overview of our priorities and plans for 2018/19, why we're doing what we're doing, and what this means for the people it affects. It will include a full annual spend plan for the Supporting People Grant (once confirmed by Welsh Government). The Annual Plan is a key part of us delivering against the 4 year Strategy, with a focus on commissioned service development.</p> <p>Given that our Statutory Homelessness functions work alongside other statutory and non-statutory services, with the implementation of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 in the main, and also the Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014, the plans and priorities of the Homelessness Prevention Team are integral in both a legislative and cultural shift in the Council's response to homelessness.</p> <p>We are therefore proposing that our 4 year Strategy and Annual Plan for 2018/19 be considered by Scrutiny, ahead of their being brought to Cabinet for approval in December.</p>

<p>2. What issues are to be scrutinised?</p>	<p>Development/re-configuration of numerous homelessness prevention projects and initiatives in Denbighshire in 2018/19, including (draft) Supporting People spend plan.</p>	
<p>3. Is it necessary/desirable for witnesses to attend e.g. lead members, officers/external experts?</p>	<p>Yes: the Homelessness Prevention Team Manager, the Head of Community Support Services, and the Lead Member for Well-being and Independence.</p>	
<p>4. What will the committee achieve by considering the report?</p>	<p>Scrutiny of strategic priorities and service development proposals for homelessness prevention services in Denbighshire, including therein the allocation of statutory homelessness resources and the Supporting People Grant (the latter currently valued at approximately £5.5million per year).</p>	
<p>5. Score the topic from 0 – 4 on aims & priorities and impact (see overleaf)*</p>	<p>Aims & Priorities</p>	<p>Impact</p>
	<p>3</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>ADDITIONAL COMMENTS</p>	<p>Both the 4 year Strategy and Annual Plan have been subject to extensive consultation with citizens, service providers, and other and stakeholders. As part of this they have been subject to Supporting People Planning Group (a multi-agency commissioning group chaired by the Head of Community Support Services) approval at each stage, with the Strategy also having been developed with significant input from the Homelessness Prevention Steering Group.</p>	
<p>REPORTING PATH – what is the next step? Are Scrutiny’s recommendations to be reported elsewhere?</p>	<p>Scrutiny recommendations will be reported to the Supporting People Planning Group. Recommendations will also be included in the Cabinet report in December 2017. When the Strategy and Plan has been agreed in Denbighshire, they will be reported to the Supporting People Regional Collaborative Committee, and submitted to Welsh Government. The Annual Plan will also be collated into a Regional Commissioning Plan for North Wales, to be submitted to Welsh Government in January 2018. The Homelessness Prevention / Supporting People Planning Group and Denbighshire Homelessness Forum will play key roles in the delivery and monitoring of the Homelessness Strategy and Annual Plan joined up action plan. These Groups will then feed into the Housing Strategy Monitoring Group, which will ensure both effective governance arrangements and a coordinated and holistic approach to the prevention of homelessness in Denbighshire.</p>	
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