

Rapid Review Scope

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| Title | The legacy of ‘Everyone in’ and homelessness in Buckinghamshire. |
| Signed-off by | CLlr David Carroll, Chairman, Growth, Infrastructure and Housing Select Committee |
| Author | Tom Fowler, Senior Scrutiny Officer |
| Date | 6 th April 2023 |
| Rapid Review Group Membership | CLlr Thomas Hogg (Chairman), CLlr David Carroll, (TBC) |
| Scrutiny Team Resource | Tom Fowler, Senior Scrutiny Officer and Kelly Sutherland, Scrutiny Manager |
| Lead Cabinet Member | Mark Winn, Cabinet Member for Housing & Homelessness |
| Lead Service Officer | Lisa Michelson, Service Director, Economic Growth & Regeneration. Michael Veryard, Head of Housing |
| What is the problem that is trying to be solved? | <p>Homelessness – Everyone in</p> <p>In March 2020, the government took the unprecedented step of asking councils to move all those, and those at risk of, sleeping rough into accommodation in a scheme known as 'Everyone In'. By 18th April 2020, Government reported that over 90% of rough sleepers, (over 5,400) had been offered accommodation through ‘Everyone In’. By May 2020, Government reported that 14,610 people had been provided with emergency accommodation. The DLUHC 2022 Rough Sleeping Snapshot for Autumn 2021 showed that 40,000 had moved out of emergency accommodation into longer term accommodation between March 2020 and November 2021, with a further 4,300 people continuing to be housed in emergency or short term accommodation who would “otherwise have been sleeping rough or were at risk of sleeping rough.” Over 300 individuals were accommodated across Buckinghamshire during the “Everybody In” initiative.</p> <p>Central Government funding was a major contributor to the success of ‘Everyone In’ with over £700m allocated to rough sleeping in 2020/21 and a further £750m in 2021/22. The Government has now implemented their ‘Ending Rough Sleeping for Good’ strategy. This commits £2bn over the next three years to tackle homelessness and rough sleeping.</p> <p>We should note the general shortage of housing across the country – the National Housing Federation talks of 8.5m people in housing need in England with just over 300,000 social homes available to let each year.</p> |

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| | <p>The Council successfully brought all rough sleepers into temporary accommodation during this period. Since then, rough sleeping has increased and some anti-social behaviour has been observed.</p> |
| <p>What might the Rapid Review achieve?</p> | <p>It is proposed to hold evidence gathering sessions across April & May 2023 which would conclude with recommendations being developed and reported to Cabinet and other key partners.</p> <p>The review would look to achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity around the outcomes of Everyone in for Buckinghamshire. • Review the experiences of temporary accommodation providers that provided accommodation to rough sleepers during Everyone in. • Identification of potential gaps in provision of follow-up support for rough sleepers, including partners and Council teams. • Greater understanding of how support for rough sleeping is funded and the level of support provided to homeless individuals/groups. <p>Key lines of enquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore which areas officers and partners (police, housing providers and charities) have identified as ‘gaps’ and key challenges since the expiry of Everyone in. • Identify what currently works well from the council’s rough sleeping processes and also from those involved in providing temporary accommodation; • Provide clarity on how funding is provided to support for rough sleepers. • Clarify the work done to combat the increase in rough sleepers since Everyone in. • What has been the experience at comparable local authorities, and what lessons have they learnt. <p>By investigating the above, outcomes will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlight areas where resources could be shifted to achieve a better outcome for rough sleepers. • Review the successes of ‘Everyone in’ and what challenges prevent this from being ‘business as usual’. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify potential improvements where Buckinghamshire Council works with partners in relation to Rough Sleeping. |
| Is the issue of significance to Buckinghamshire as a whole and is the topic within the remit of this Select Committees? | Yes |
| What work is underway already on this issue? | Homelessness Strategy 2022-2025 agreed last year |
| Are there any key changes that might impact on this issue? | Buckinghamshire Housing Strategy is in development |
| What are the key timing considerations? | This will be a focussed rapid review |
| Who are the key stakeholders & decision-makers? | <p>Cllr Mark Winn, Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness Ilan Thompson, Corporate Director, Planning Growth & Sustainability Lisa Michelson, Service Director, Economic Growth & Regeneration Michael Veryard, Head of Housing Julie Oliver, Homelessness & Advice Manager Julie Nokes, Housing Options & Supply Manager</p> <p>Representatives from: Rough Sleeping Team Community Safety Team Thames Valley Police Temporary Housing Providers Charities addressing rough sleeping</p> |
| What is out of scope? | Reviewing the Housing Strategy |
| What media/communications support do you want? | None identified at this stage |

Evidence-gathering Methodology

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| What types of methods of evidence-gathering will you use? |
| <p>List them here:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desktop research Meetings Discussions with other local authorities |

Outline Project Plan

| Stage | Key Activity | Dates |
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| Scoping | Inquiry Scope Agreed by Select Committee | End of March 2023, |
| Evidence-gathering | Evidence-gathering phase, interviews and meetings with key stakeholders | April & May 2023 |
| Reporting | Final Inquiry Group report with recommendations completed (signed-off by SC Chairman) | May/June 2023 |
| | Report published for Select Committee | September – Agenda publication date (GIH) |
| | Select Committees agree report to go forward to decision-makers | September – Growth Infrastructure & Housing meeting |
| | Cabinet/Partners consider recommendations | October Cabinet TBC – Cabinet meeting |

Definition of a Rapid Review

A Rapid Review is a focussed investigation with fairly narrow parameters, that can be conducted in a relatively short time scale. For example, you may hold three or four meetings as a review group – one to establish and understand what the key issues are, one or two to gather evidence from service users or other authorities to gain insight into best practice and a final meeting to discuss what members have heard and identify any useful recommendations. A rapid review format will be useful when considering less complex issues and may be helpful in delivering ‘quick wins’ for the Council’s service users and residents.