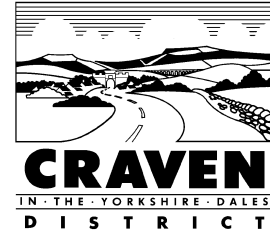


## Policy Committee – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017



# HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION PROGRAMME – ROUGH SLEEPER GRANT

Report of the Environmental Services & Housing Manager

Ward(s) affected: ALL

1. **Purpose of Report** – To advise Members of successful CDC bid for £162,000 funding for a joint Rough Sleeper Project with Horton Housing and the expected delivery outcomes.
2. **Recommendations** –
  - 2.1 Authorise the Director of Services to accept the Homelessness Prevention Programme Rough Sleeper Grant and deliver the project;
  - 2.2 Authorise the Solicitor to the Council in consultation with the Director of Services to complete all necessary legal documentation with the Delivery Partner, Horton Housing Association;
  - 2.3 Request that a report is presented to a future meeting of the Committee on the delivery of the project.
3. **Homelessness Prevention Programme – Rough Sleeper Grant**
  - 3.1 On 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2016 Craven District Council received an invitation to bids for Homelessness Prevention Programme Rough Sleeper Grant (HPP-RSG) funding by Communities and Local Government to be submitted no later than 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016.
  - 3.2 The objective of the Programme is to help new rough sleepers, or people at imminent risk of rough sleeping, get the rapid support they need to recover and move-on from a rough sleeping crisis.
  - 3.3 In making the bid Local authorities had to demonstrate how they would:
    - Reduce the flow of new sleepers to the street, through more targeted prevention activity
    - Ensure that people have a safe place to stay while services work with them to resolve the homelessness crisis
    - Help new rough sleepers off the street and into independence, through more rapid crisis interventions and support to access and sustain move-on accommodation.

- 3.4 It was specified that the response included strengthening or building partnerships with other agencies who play a crucial role in helping those at risk of, or already, sleeping rough exit homelessness.
- 3.5 The bid submitted was for revenue funding paying for the development of the project and support provided at a rough sleeping “hub” where rough sleeping assessments could be carried out, accommodation with support provided and a facility where mental health, drug & alcohol and probation services could utilise for delivery of recovery programmes.

#### 4. **Context:**

- 4.1 As a small rural authority with no direct access hostels, we have previously relied upon cross-border referrals to accommodation in Keighley, Bradford and Leeds for our single service offers under No Second Night Out. However during the last 12 months a number of these hostels have either closed or are no longer accepting referrals from out of area, leaving us with a reduced capacity to respond effectively to the needs of this client group.
- 4.2 Levels of Rough Sleeping in Craven are low compared to those nationally with our annual Rough Sleeper Estimate reported at 3 in 2016/17. However, Craven has seen a rise in numbers within our district (in particular on Skipton high street) and currently no specialist and dedicated support to address the issue.

#### 5. **Outcomes of the project:**

##### 5.1 **Number of individuals receiving interventions:**

	<b>2016/17 (3 months)</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>
Rough Sleepers	0	11	7
Targeted Prevention	3	6	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>

##### 5.2 **Cost savings to the public purse:**

- 5.2.1 By stabilising individuals there will be a reduction in the crisis use of health services, a reduction in anti-social behaviour and offending, and an increase in the effectiveness of current drug/alcohol treatments. Each of these impacts has a cost implication to the public purse e.g. A&E Attendance (all scenarios) per incident = £ 117.00. The Government recognise that by spending funding on prevention this can save funding in the future - this is a Spend to Save project.
- 5.2.2 Following an assessment of Craven Rough Sleepers (using the New Economy (Greater Manchester) Unit Cost Database) and individuals “at risk” in 2016/17 we estimated the total cost to services for an individual rough sleeper ranged from £3,332 to £45,000; and £6,000 to £53,000 for someone “at risk” of homelessness. The table below shows the estimated cost savings to the public purse (i.e. wider public services including health, police etc) as a result of the Project stabilising of 17 individuals over the course of the project:

	<b>Current cost to public services</b>	<b>Cost of project</b>	<b>Cost saving 100% (Success rate)</b>	<b>Cost saving 60%</b>
2016/17	£ 12,630	£18,000	£-5,370	£ -5,370
2017/18	£208,679	£72,000	£136,679	£82,007
2018/19	£236,897	£72,000	£164,897	£98,938
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£458,206</b>	<b>£162,000</b>	<b>£296,206</b>	<b>£175,575</b>

5.2.3 We shall be working with Communities and Local Government to develop a comparable and robust method of evidencing the impact of this project to be shared locally and nationally.

## **6. Selection of Delivery Partner: Horton Housing – sole provider**

6.1 To meet the requirements of the Bid we were required to include details of which organisations we currently work with and how we would enhance our working relationships to provide a fully integrated approach.

6.2 Horton Housing had been successful in receiving the Homelessness Prevention & Support contract following North Yorkshire County Council's Supporting People procurement process in July 2016. As existing support providers for homeless clients they met the DCLG criteria of "agencies who play a crucial role in helping those at risk of, or already, sleeping rough exit homelessness."

6.3 During October/November 2016 we had consulted with our partners who refer Rough Sleeper cases to our Housing Options team and although these partners supported the concept to develop a Rough Sleeper Hub, only Horton Housing expressed an interest and was in a position to be delivery partners to address the issue.

6.4 Horton Housing are able to provide:

- Financial capital resources to purchase centrally located 6 self-contained units of accommodation with communal space to utilise as the Rough Sleeper Hub with all necessary planning permissions and within the timeframe of the project
- Expertise in delivering support services to excluded and hard to reach client groups (e.g. Gypsy & traveller communities)
- Co-location of services – moving their Craven office within the Rough Sleeper Hub building providing additional value and presence within the building
- An integrated approach as existing provider of support services for the homeless.

## **7. Strategic fit**

### **7.1 Craven Homelessness Strategy 2015/20**

Tackling Rough Sleeping in Craven has been a priority for Housing for a number of years and was documented within our Homelessness Strategy 2015/20 which was approved by Policy Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2015 (POL.684) and confirmed by Full Council on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2015.

7.2 Sub-regional funding for support for Rough Sleepers was due to cease March 2016 and we included "actions within our Homelessness Delivery Plan to look at options to extend the successful projects developed using this funding stream and explore all new funding opportunities to improve services within Craven."<sup>1</sup>

### **7.3 Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2015/16**

The development of our response to tackling rough sleeping or "Rough Sleeper Pathway" has been included within our annual Action plans 2015/16<sup>2</sup> and 2016/17<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Craven Homelessness Strategy 2015-2020 Page 30

<sup>2</sup> CHH2 – Sustain levels of homelessness prevention activity and improve interventions: Develop exit strategy for North Yorkshire & York Single Homeless Action Plan projects and No Second Night Out Protocol when funding ceases March 2016

- 7.4 Our progress to achieving this actions to meet the objective preventing and responding to rough sleeping in Craven has been reported quarterly as part of Craven's Performance Management Framework.

## 8. Implications

### 8.1 Financial Implications

- 8.1.1 There are no financial implications for Craven District Council. All funding is from external sources.

- 8.1.2 Revenue Project Support Costs (Homelessness Prevention Programme – Rough Sleeper Grant):

	Cost of project	Funded by:
2016/17	£18,000	Grant Determination (2016-17) [No.31/2913] received
2017/18	£72,000	Grant Determination (2016-17) [No. 31/3063] received
2018/19	£72,000	Grant Determination due April 2018
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£162,000</b>	

- 8.1.3 This is a 3 year grant which will be spent to meet the Project aims.

- 8.1.4 The Contract Agreement with Horton Housing includes a “break clause” in the event that the 2018/19 Grant Determination is not received.

- 8.1.5 Capital Costs: Supported Accommodation and Hub Building – resourced by Horton Housing

### 8.2 Legal Implications

Craven District Council has been awarded this grant funding under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003.

### 8.3 Contribution to Corporate Priorities (see also 6 – Strategic Fit)

- 8.3.1 **Council Plan 2017/18** - The Project is included within the Council Plan for 2017/18 under the priority **Enable active communities and improve quality of life** by “Working with partners to provide improved support and intervention services for rough sleepers and those at risk of sleeping rough.”

### 8.4 Risk Management

- 8.4.1 Risks associated with this report if recommendations are:

- (a) Approved: No risks to the Council – meeting Council priorities
- (b) Not approved: Risk to the Council – not meeting Council priorities
- Delay in commencement of the project – thus not meeting outcomes required and putting Grant funding at risk
  - Horton Housing withdrawing Capital resources and purchase of currently vacant supported accommodation in Skipton not taking place – incurring additional expense to vendors who may seek compensation from the Council
- Measures in place to mitigate these risks:
- On-going dialogue with Horton Housing

<sup>3</sup> CHH2 – Increase and improve prevention activity by: Improve & co-ordinate the approach to managing and minimising Rough Sleeping and Set up Rough Sleeper Pathway and provision for additional support including health related support.

## 8.5 Equality Impact Assessment

- 8.5.1 The Council's Equality Impact Assessment Procedure **has been** followed. An Equality Impact Assessment **has not** been completed on the proposals as completion of **Stage 1- Initial Screening** of the Procedure identified that the proposed policy, strategy, procedure or function **does not have** the potential to cause negative impact or discriminate against different groups in the community based on •age • disability •gender • race/ethnicity • religion or religious belief (faith) •sexual orientation, or • rural isolation,

## 9. Consultations with Others

Financial Services, Legal Services.

## 10. Access to Information : Background Documents

Homelessness Strategy 2015/20

Rough Sleeping Grant Funding – Funding bid Application form

Equalities Impact Assessment

## 7. Author of the Report –

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Note : Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.