




Brighton & Hove
City Council

Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee

Title:	Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee
Date:	8 October 2018
Time:	4.00pm
Venue	Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall
Members:	Councillors: Daniel (Chair), Marsh (Deputy Chair), Nemeth (Opposition Spokesperson), West (Group Spokesperson), Cattell, Morgan, A Norman, K Norman, Peltzer Dunn, Phillips
Invitees:	Representatives: Clinical Commissioning Group; Sussex Police; Joanne Martindale, Hangleton & Knoll Project; Anusree Biswas Sasidharan, BME Police Engagement Group
Contact:	Penny Jennings Democratic Services Officer 01273 291065 penny.jennings@brighton-hove.gov.uk
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AGENDA

PART ONE

Page

13 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

- (a) **Declarations of Substitutes:** Where councillors are unable to attend a meeting, a substitute Member from the same political group may attend, speak and vote in their place for that meeting.
- (b) **Declarations of Interest:**
 - (a) Disclosable pecuniary interests;
 - (b) Any other interests required to be registered under the local code;
 - (c) Any other general interest as a result of which a decision on the matter might reasonably be regarded as affecting you or a partner more than a majority of other people or businesses in the ward/s affected by the decision.

In each case, you need to declare

- (i) the item on the agenda the interest relates to;
- (ii) the nature of the interest; and
- (iii) whether it is a disclosable pecuniary interest or some other interest.

If unsure, Members should seek advice from the committee lawyer or administrator preferably before the meeting.

- (c) **Exclusion of Press and Public:** To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

Note: Any item appearing in Part Two of the agenda states in its heading the category under which the information disclosed in the report is exempt from disclosure and therefore not available to the press and public.

A list and description of the exempt categories is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls and on-line in the Constitution at part 7.1.

14 MINUTES

7 - 28

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2018 (copy attached)

Contact Officer: Penny Jennings

Tel: 01273 291065

15 CHAIRS COMMUNICATIONS

16 CALL OVER

- (a) Items (17 – 24) will be read out at the meeting and Members invited to reserve the items for consideration.
- (b) Those items not reserved will be taken as having been received and the reports' recommendations agreed.

17 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

29 - 32

To consider the following matters raised by members of the public:

- (a) **Petitions:** To receive any petitions presented by members of the public to the full Council or at the meeting itself.

To consider a petition requesting that the Council consider “Implementing a policy for the distribution of free sanitary products to schools to counter period poverty” – referred from the meeting of Council held o 19 July 2018 (copy attached).

- (b) **Written Questions:** To receive any questions submitted by the due date of 12 noon on the 2 October 2018.
- (c) **Deputations:** To receive any deputations submitted by the due date of 12 noon on the 2 October 2018.

18 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

33 - 36

To consider the following matters raised by Members:

- (a) **Petitions:** To receive any petitions referred from Full Council or submitted directly to the Committee;
- (b) **Written Questions:** To consider any written questions;
- (c) **Letters:** To consider any letters;

To receive and consider the letter submitted by Councillor Wealls requesting enforcement in George Street, Hove of Byelaw banning “touting” (copy attached)

- (d) **Notices of Motion:** to consider any Notices of Motion referred from Full Council or submitted directly to the Committee.

19 PRESENTATION

To receive a presentation on the Racial Harassment Forum consultation report by Monika Richards and Mahir Chowdhury of the Racial Harassment Forum.

20 COUNTER-EXTREMISM

37 - 44

NEIGHBOURHOODS, INCLUSION, COMMUNITIES & EQUALITIES COMMITTEE

Report of the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing (copy attached)

Contact Officer: Melinda King

Ward Affected: All Wards

21 OPTIONS FOR COMMISSION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE SERVICES 45 - 62

Report of the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing (copy attached).

Contact Officer: Jo Player

Tel: 01273 292488

Ward Affected: All Wards

22 ROUGH SLEEPING STRATEGY UPDATE 63 - 100

Report of the Executive Director of Health & Adult Social Care (copy attached)

Contact Officer: Matt Morgan

Ward Affected: All Wards

23 ST JAMES COURT PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER - CONSULTATION SUMMARY 101 - 114

Report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing (copy attached)

Contact Officer: Matt Eastal

Tel: 01273292152

Ward Affected: Queen's Park

24 BRIGHTON AND HOVE FAITH COVENANT 115 - 120

Report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing (copy attached)

Contact Officer: Emma McDermott

Tel: 01273 296805

Ward Affected: All Wards

25 ITEMS REFERRED FOR FULL COUNCIL

To consider items to be submitted to Council for information.

In accordance with Procedure Rule 24.3a, the Committee may determine that any item is to be included in its report to Council. In addition, any Group may specify one further item to be included by notifying the Chief Executive no later than 10am on the eighth working day before the Council meeting at which the report is to be made, or if the Committee meeting take place after this deadline, immediately at the conclusion of the Committee meeting

26 OPTIONS FOR COMMISSION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE SERVICES - EXEMPT CATEGORY 3

NEIGHBOURHOODS, INCLUSION, COMMUNITIES & EQUALITIES COMMITTEE

Report of the Executive Director, Inclusion, Communities, Equalities and Housing (copy attached at item 21)

Appendix 4 to the above report is exempt under Category 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and has therefore been circulated to members only. Therefore any discussion of its contents will need to take place whilst the public are excluded.

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Meeting papers can be provided, on request, in large print, in Braille, on audio tape or on disc, or translated into any other language as requested.

For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Penny Jennings, (01273 291065, email penny.jennings@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or email democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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Date of Publication - Friday, 28 September 2018

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

NEIGHBOURHOODS, INCLUSION, COMMUNITIES & EQUALITIES COMMITTEE

4.00pm 2 JULY 2018

HOVE TOWN HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBER - HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Daniel (Chair) Marsh (Deputy Chair), Nemeth (Opposition Spokesperson), West (Group Spokesperson), Cattell, Morgan, A Norman, K Norman, Page and Peltzer Dunn.

Also in attendance: Chief Superintendent Lisa Bell, Sussex Police, Joanna Martindale, Hangleton and Knoll Project, Aunsree Biswas Sasidharan, BME Police Engagement Group, Ian Wilson, Clinical Commissioning Group.

PART ONE

1 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

1a Declaration of Substitutes

1.1 Councillor Page was present in substitution for Councillor Phillips. Ian Wilson was welcomed who was in attendance on behalf Chris Clark of the CCG.

1b Declarations of Interest

1.2 Councillors Cattell and A Norman declared an in interest in, Item 10 on the agenda, "Domestic and Sexual Abuse: Future Commissioning Options" by virtue of their work as volunteer caseworkers with RISE. Neither had any involvement with the management of that organisation and both confirmed that they were of a neutral mind in considering the report, did not therefore have a prejudicial interest and would remain present at the meeting during the discussion and decision making process.

1c Exclusion of Press and Public

1.3 In accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 ("The Act"), the Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during an item of business on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present during that item, that there would be disclosure to them of

confidential information, (as defined in section 100A(3) of the Act) or exempt information as defined in section 100(1) of the Act).

- 1.4 **RESOLVED** – That the press and public be not excluded during consideration of any item appearing on the agenda

2 MINUTES

- 2.1 **RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

3 CHAIRS COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1 The Chair welcomed all to the meeting stating it was a busy time of year and that she would like to use her Chair's Communications to thank the wonderfully diverse communities, and community and voluntary groups of Brighton and Hove for their hard work and dedication and their efforts make our city the amazing place it was, so she wanted to thank:

Blindveteran's UK

- 3.2 Blindveteran's UK for organising such a successful and well attended Armed Forces Day the previous day; demonstrating the city's gratitude to the dedication of our armed forces and their families. Also to the WW1 centenary planning group for organising such a moving interfaith and drumhead service Sunday 24th to commemorate the end of WW1.

Collaboration of Local Groups for World Refugee Day, 20 June 2018 and On-going Work

- 3.3 There had been a wonderful collaboration of local groups – Sanctuary on Sea (the local group of the national Cities of Sanctuary network), the Crossing Borders music festival, the European and Mediterranean Resources Network the Hummingbird Project and the local Syrian community group for a fantastic range of music, performances, and film showings to mark Refugee Week and in particular World Refugee Day on 20 June. The purpose of both the day and Refugee Week in the UK was to commemorate the strength, courage, and perseverance of millions of refugees. It also marked a key moment for the public to show support for families forced to flee and for the promotion of events which brought together refugees who had settled in a new country with other residents.
- 3.4 The largest events had taken place at Brighton Dome and at Brighton Museum also on Sunday 24 June. Called 'Together', this free community led event had been part funded by the City Council and had also formed part of the national "Great Get Together" which honoured the memory of Jo Cox MP. A 'Refugees Welcome' parade started the event and inside the Dome workshops, performances, stalls and activities provided opportunities for people from all backgrounds to get together. On World Refugee Day the City Council had also announced that it had signed an international statement of solidarity for refugees, joining 50 other cities from around the world who signed up to the UNHCR statement. The Council had also agreed to continue its participation in the

national refugee resettlement programme for refugees from Syria and others who were in very difficult and unsustainable situations in the Middle East and North Africa. The Council had also renewed its appeal for private landlords to provide self-contained properties at affordable rents for the refugees when they arrived in the city.

Building a Stronger Britain Together Bids

- 3.5 Earlier in the year the council's community co-ordinator had supported 10 community groups from Brighton and Hove in applying for Home Office funding under the "Building a Stronger Britain Together" programme, to develop projects which tackled hate and built community cohesion. Whilst the bids were still in the process of being assessed, the Chair was pleased to announce that there had been an early success with the announcement that Brighton Table Tennis Club had been awarded funding. They were one of 10 sports-based bids nationally that had been announced as successful and this funding would allow them to roll out their successful approach in bringing people together through providing table tennis in schools; she wanted to place on record her congratulations to the club. Also, "Brighton and Hove Faith in Action" had been successful in its bid for £75,000 worth of in-kind communications support including website development and branding to help them maximise their reach with positive inter-faith messaging.

Volunteers Week

- 3.6 Early in June as part of Volunteers Week a cross sector celebration event had been held for a few (100) of the many 100s of volunteers in the city it was but a small thank you for their time and kindness in providing support for many organisations and initiatives in the city on a regular basis.

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government Funding

- 3.7 The Chair stated that she would also like to thank officers, members and the council's partners for their hard work in successfully securing £495,000 from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to reduce rough sleeping in the city. The money would fund:

3 additional outreach staff (1 to focus on women)

A Hub for outreach staff to take people who are rough sleeping (building and staffing costs)

21 bed temporary accommodation service (staff)

Post to support the expansion of the Churches Winter Night Shelter

Expansion of the psychological support service to focus on people rough sleeping with personality disorder, trauma and complex needs

An Occupational Therapist to support re-ablement when people move into accommodation

A floating support worker to work with people in emergency accommodation (in city and out of area) at risk of rough sleeping

Dedicated funding to support reconnection work

- 3.8 The Chair stated that she would like to conclude by looking forward and offering thanks to all those working hard on the city's 4th Annual Trans and Non Binary conference and its 5th Annual Trans Pride event. As Chair of the NICE Committee, she believed she had support of all other committee members when stating:

"I want everyone – Trans, non-binary, cis – to know they are welcome in our city and we will do our utmost to provide a safe, inclusive and respectful environment for everyone, and we understand that anti-Trans hate speech is harming both individuals and wider communities and we commit to challenge the narrative of exclusion and hatred at each and every opportunity. We will not tolerate bullying and harassing behaviour in our city.

Some days it's easy to only see and hear the negative and the sad and the frustrating but there is so much good and kindness that I wanted to use my privilege as Chair to take this opportunity to say thank you."

- 3.9 **RESOLVED** – That the content of the Chair's Communications be received and noted.

4 **CALL OVER**

- 4.1 All items appearing on the agenda were called for discussion.

5 **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

5a **Petitions**

- 5.1 There were none.

5b **Written Questions**

- 5.2 It was noted that one written question had been received. The question and response given to it are set out below:

Question on Behalf of Friends Families and Travellers (FFT)

- 5.3 Mr David Thomas of the Housing Coalition was invited to put his question and also had the opportunity to ask one supplementary question should he so wish.

"On 21 February 2018 FFT wrote to the Chief Executive, pointing out that the Statutory Guidance on the use of PSPOs had changed to make it absolutely clear that they should not be used to target homeless people setting out the way that the Brighton & Hove Park and Open Spaces PSPO breached the new Guidance and Equalities Act, and demanding that the PSPO be withdrawn. The recent council report (16/03/18) on its operation makes clear that the PSPO is used only to target homeless people and travellers. What changes is the council proposing to make to its operation."

5.4 The Chair gave the following response:

“The claim that the way the council implemented PSPOs breaches the specific guidance you are asking about is completely refuted. I responded to a similar question at the meeting of the Committee held in March making it clear that a further letter from our Chief Executive had been sent out refuting this as well. I will explain why we refute this now:

The PSPOs prohibiting amongst other things, vehicles and encampments on public spaces are limited to 12 specific sites and are not a general citywide prohibition as some local authorities have brought in. They were brought in because some communities were unable to use their public spaces for significant periods and experienced significant anti-social behaviour.

These sites were chosen and this policy brought in after extensive consultation, including with the Equalities and Human Rights Commission (EHRC).

They said they recognised that we were in a difficult place, needing to balance two sets of rights, those of residents to use facilities and those of ethnic travellers and gypsies.

In reviewing responses to that consultation and making decisions they advised we needed to be certain that we were having regard to genuine loss of amenity and not responses that were purely driven by prejudice. In my view the review on the agenda for the March meeting and the original paper had been very careful to take an evidence base that was extremely secure on loss of amenity.

They also agreed that the safest way forward to have regard to undue impact and to the council’s role in creating an environment which protects Gypsy/Traveller rights is to ensure that any PSPO relating to encampments is not a blanket ban across all public spaces. As I have already said, this is limited to 12 sites.

This duty and best practice includes specifically signposting to transit sites or stopping places when warning on PSPOs. To my knowledge, this is how we behave and take a strong welfare role too. The EHRC also recommended that we did not implement these PSPOs until we had our transit site fully open after refurbishment. We ensured this policy was not live until it was re-opened.

There is a lot of confusion over these PSPOs and it is important to clarify that they are only on limited sites. They have improved the lives of residents, that our implementation takes due regard to the rights and welfare of gypsies and travellers and, that the term PSPO covers a range of interventions not just these specific ones. We have PSPOs prohibiting dogs off leads and also gating orders.

We have not implemented our PSPOs in any way that contravenes the guidance issued last winter and, the voluntary review which was discussed at our last committee meeting is part of our commitment to openness and transparency on how they are working.”

5.5 Mr Thomas demurred stating that he disagreed with the response provided by the Chair. However, the Chair, Councillor Daniel stated that a light touch approach had been

adopted in Brighton and Hove which was completely legal and sought to be sensitive to the needs of all.

5c Deputations

5.6 There were none.

6 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

6a Petitions

6.1 There were none.

6b Written Questions

6.2 The Chair noted that four questions had been received and the questions and the responses given to each are set out below:

Councillor West - The Bridge

6.3 Councillor West asked the following:

“Last month, when the shocking news broke that the Bridge Community Education Centre was being forced to close due to financial difficulties following loss of funding, I wrote to Cllr Yates, as incoming Leader of the Council, and yourself Councillor Daniel, as Chair of NICE Committee. I’m disappointed to say that I received only a referred reply from the Executive Director for Neighbourhoods, Communities & Housing and no acknowledgment from either yourself or Cllr Yates. In the Executive Director’s reply she states that officers were unaware of the financial crisis faced by the Bridge before the Board sought emergency funding at the eleventh hour. However, I understand that the Chair and CEO of the Bridge met with Cllr Yates and Cllr Meadows Chair of Housing on the 11th April to brief them about the situation, but there was then no follow up from either of these leading councillors. The Bridge also inform me they engaged with funders and a number of other high profile figures in the city.

Chair, did Councillor Yates inform you of the perilous situation facing the Bridge, and if so what did you and the rest of the Administration decide to do to help save the Bridge?

6.4 The Chair, Councillor Daniel, responded that:

“Councillor Yates provided this response for you Councillor West:

They didn’t tell Councillor Meadows or I that they were going to close – simply that some of their services were going to be affected. I even have emails where I asked how precarious things were and was only told ‘very’ but never received a more detail;

I followed up that meeting with meetings with a range of other community groups as I promised the chair and CEO I would;

As soon as the news ‘hit’ the whole community sprang into action and the majority of funded services and projects have now established themselves elsewhere in our community – St Georges Hall, The Bridge, the Library, The Hillview Centre, The Bevendean *Foodbank* all came forward to offer to take on the work and many services are already rehomed

The council’s Communities, Equality and Third sector team (that administers the council’s Third sector Investment programme) was not approached by The Bridge – staff or trustees – regarding its financial situation or received any requests from The Bridge for support ahead of its insolvency announcement and nor was I.

I was informed as was the team I mention, for courtesy, of this organisations decision, which had already been taken, to go into insolvency about two days prior to the public announcement.

Despite offering free access to me via my voluntary sector surgeries this wasn’t taken up and nobody from the Bridge contacted me to warn me directly that they were in a perilous funding position.

Had this organisation come forward however, given the size of the gap they had it is unlikely we could have helped prevent the insolvency. This was caused by the diminished funds available for community adult education nationally and via trusts. This means that all providers of this type are in a perilous position. What we do in these situations, is look to our internal team and the voluntary sector infrastructure providers we fund to support organisations in the voluntary sector, to identify funds, partnerships and expertise where possible.

As spelt out in Cllr Yates response I read out, what we are doing, as looking to save the service provision we can in different locations and with different organisations.

- 6.5 Councillor West stated that he remained deeply concerned in respect of this matter considering that those at the Bridge had been placed in an untenable position and that action should have been taken at an earlier point following the discussions which had taken place.
- 6.6 The Chair, Councillor Daniel, stated that the position was as stated and as set out in the paperwork which had been circulated to Members separately and that she had nothing to add to her earlier statement.

Councillor West - Community and Voluntary Sector

- 6.7 Councillor West asked the following:

“We understand a number of community voluntary organisations are struggling and vulnerable as a result of funding cuts and loss of contracts. We are aware of valued community learning services at Whitehawk Inn, a threat to Brighton and Hove Food Partnership work through loss of Public Health funding, the loss of a key contract for Direct Payments held by local group Possibility People, and concern expressed by RISE about likely contract changes, as well as Brighton Women’s Centre. As with The Bridge,

these highly respected organisations provide vital services that support and enhance the lives of thousands of vulnerable people in the city.

Chair, what consultation are you making with Community Works to establish the financial vulnerability of community voluntary sector organisations providing essential services in the city, and what lead is the Administration as a whole taking to ensure these organisations will be supported to not only survive but to thrive?"

6.8 The Chair, Councillor Daniel, responded that:

"The council has a three year funding agreement with Community Works Partnership which includes Community Works, Trust for Developing Communities, Resource Centre, HKP, Serendipity, Faith in Action, LGBT Switchboard, LGBT Working to Connect, Friends Families and Travellers, Clare Project, Sussex Interpreting Services.

Together the partnership works to provide seamless and co-ordinated infrastructure support to the voluntary and community sector in the city and engage with communities with shared protected characteristics. The council's Third Sector Policy advocates and endorses that third sector support is best delivered to the third sector by the third sector.

Together the Partnership provides a wide range of activities to support the sector these include (not an exhaustive list):

Learning and development workshops on finance, fund raising, governance, H &S, GDPR, etc.;

Networking events to share experiences and learning between organisations on specific topics;

Skill exchange – where mentors from public, third and private sector are matched with needs of specific VCS organisations

The Partnership provides an annual monitoring report to the city council and also receives a six monthly monitoring visit from the council commissioner to feed-back on progress and sector concerns per se. Community Works itself has an ongoing relationship with the council's Communities, Equality and Third Sector team and within the boundaries of confidentiality, commercial sensitivity and GDPR shares intelligence about the sector.

Monthly reporting meetings are held with the chair of the committee to discuss progress across her portfolio including the third sector.

It would be inappropriate and not possible within the resources of Community Works to do a financial viability assessment of individual VCS organisations in the city. However, Community Works is undertaking Taking Account 4 – the fourth social and economic audit of the VCS in the city five years on from the last audit to ascertain the current contribution of the sector to the city, its strengths and its areas of vulnerability.

In addition, Community Works has a very wide membership and works hard to ensure its services are easily accessible to members and well communicated.

The budget for the third sector commission has been maintained for 2018/19 and indications are that this will continue to 2019/20“.

- 6.9 Councillor West whilst noting the content of the responses given stated that he still had major concerns in relation to this matter and the levels of support which would be available going forward.

Councillor Nemeth - Street Homelessness

- 6.10 Councillor Nemeth asked the following:

“Will the Chair list what actions this committee has taken to date in discharging its function of co-ordinating the Council’s policies and actions with a view to reducing and eliminating street homelessness?”

- 6.11 The Chair, Councillor Daniel responded that:

“On 11 July 2016 the committee approved the Rough Sleeping Strategy 2016 and authorised the Executive Director Health Wellbeing & Adults and Acting Executive Director Economy Environment & Culture to carry out any actions necessary to implement the strategy and respond appropriately to related Fairness Commission recommendations (see section 5.12).

As part of its governance of the strategy at its meeting on 9th October 2017 committee considered a progress update on the implementation of the Rough Sleeping Strategy. This included a detailed strategic action tracker document. A progress report will be considered by the committee at its meeting on 8th October 2017 The committee noted the progress and welcomed the work which had been undertaken to date, this included:

Successful launch and implementation of an alternative giving scheme “Make Change Count”;

Successful launch of BThink – a system to effectively share information concerning rough sleepers to ensure that they get the best possible service;

Successful recommissioning of homeless support services;

Successful tender and appointment of a support service “The Passage” ”to co-ordinate and guide third sector voluntary services;

Successful initial phase of “Trailblazer” project to prevent tenancy breakdown and rough sleeping;

Successful funding application for Social Impact Bond to improve outcomes for entrenched rough sleepers – full roll out from October 2017.

At that time the Committee requested a further report in 6 months. At the Chair’s discretion and with her agreement an additional six months was given in order to give council officers and partners sufficient time to progress new actions. The report now was due to come forward to NICE Committee in October 2018.”

Councillor Knight – Gender Neutral Toilets

6.12 It was noted that Councillor Knight had been unable to attend to put the question in person due to sickness, however with her agreement her question was put on her behalf and responded to in her absence.

6.13 Councillor Knight's question was as follows:

“Can the Chair confirm what progress has been made in installing gender neutral toilets in buildings other than the Brighton Centre, Hove Town Hall, University of Brighton and the University of Sussex? Additionally, please clarify whether current gender neutral toilets in the listed buildings are set up as facilities in their own right, and what provisions have been made for any signage denoting gender neutral facilities?”

Furthermore is there a means of sharing location information, to help alleviate concerns as mentioned in the Trans needs assessment 2015, about entering public buildings with no gender neutral toilet facilities? Additionally, please clarify whether current gender neutral toilets in the listed buildings are set up as facilities in their own right, and what provisions have been made for any signage denoting gender neutral facilities?”

6.14 The Chair, Councillor Daniel, responded that:

“A list printed separately for Councillor Knight and available for any Members of the Committee who should like a copy) details toilet facilities at 91 sites across the city has been collated in response to this question, gathering information from client officers, building managers, personal knowledge and information from council ‘corporate maps’. The list covers a wide variety of buildings including libraries, leisure facilities, museums, venues, parks and civic buildings. The majority have at least one gender neutral WC available. Often this is also a wheelchair accessible facility. The list indicates 142 gender neutral toilets. (54 of these are new (2016) are blocks of self-contained, individual, non-gender specific compartments on seven of the 8 levels within New England House. Some are also wheelchair accessible). It is understood from the Education Team that “it is believed that every BHCC school has accessible toilet facilities and that some have shared use facilities.”

Unless located within gender specific WC provision all wheelchair accessible WCs are intended to be gender neutral, however this is not always ‘spelled out’ in the associated signage - which may just be a wheelchair symbol – and sometimes people could assume that it should only be used by wheelchair users. However the larger size, provision of grab rails, increased privacy and gender neutrality of such compartments means they are the preferred choice for many users.

Hove Town Hall, Brighton Town Hall, Bartholomew House, The Brighton Centre, some libraries*, some parks/open spaces* have specific signage to indicate that facilities are gender neutral. (35) – i.e. ‘Accessible and for Everyone’

*12 sites across the city have ‘individual gender neutral units’.

The majority of the 54 gender neutral WCs at New England House are not defined as such and are simply signed as 'Toilets'. (The wheelchair accessible compartments use the wheelchair symbol and a few compartments have a 'female' symbol to indicate the presence of a sanitary disposal bin)

The Sports Facilities Dept has recently purchased signs with the wording 'Accessible and for Everyone' to be used at all nine of their sports and leisure sites (19 accessible and gender neutral compartments)

*There is currently a (not exhaustive or fully up-to-date) list of publically available toilets on the BHCC website page <https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/leisure-and-libraries/public-toilets/accessible-public-toilets>

This can also be found using the key words 'Public Toilets' or 'Accessible Public Toilets' or 'Gender Neutral Toilets' in the Search box. This was last updated in June 2016. It lists facilities as either gender specific, gender neutral, or wheelchair accessible (which are always gender neutral unless located within gender specific provision).

The page states that *'All our new toilets are fully accessible, gender neutral units'*

A link to this information can be shared directly with LGBT and Trans and Non-Binary groups in the city for sharing with the participants of their groups/activities/services. In addition, the information can be shared with the Trans sub-group of the city's Equality and Inclusion Partnership that is working to deliver the recommendations of the Trans Needs Assessment. The group can also discuss how the information can best be shared with Trans and Non-binary individual."

6.15 **RESOLVED** – That the questions received and responses given to them be noted.

6c Letters

6.16 There were none.

6d Notices of Motion

6.17 There were none.

7 UNIVERSAL CREDIT UPDATE

7.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Finance and Resources the purpose of which was to provide an update on the rollout of Universal Credit (UC) in Brighton and Hove and further intelligence on the impact of other associated welfare reforms.

7.2 It was noted that the Universal Credit Full Service had rolled out across Brighton and Hove between October 2017 and January 2018. It was payable to those of working age, those of pensionable age were excluded. According to published statistics there were 920,000 households nationally in receipt of Universal Credit (UC). There were currently 5,564 households in the city in receipt of Universal Credit Of those 1,266 were previously in receipt of Housing Benefit and had had their claim for that ended as a result of the claim for Universal Credit. The other claims were from people who had

made new claims or had not previously made a claim for housing benefit. The council estimated around 20,000 households would eventually move onto Universal Credit. The Head of Revenues and Benefits, Graham Bourne, explained that at present rollout only affected households who automatically moved to UC and that this only occurred when one or a number of changes to circumstances took place. It was the Government's stated intention to move remaining households onto UC between 2019 and 2023 and that claimants' would at that point be expected to make new claims rather than go through a process of automatic transition.

- 7.3 It was highlighted, that the report to the Committee of 3 July 2017 had set out what the council had considered were the key risks presented by the introduction of UC. Since that time the Government had made a number of changes to the way that the scheme operated as set out in the report, with further changes announced on 7 June 2018, although the legislation to enact them would not be brought to parliament until Autumn 2018. The council's own approach to managing the impact of UC had been to adopt a cross-service approach; the perspectives of third sector partners regarding the impact of UC measures being taken to mitigate that and to assist those who needed to make claims through Digital Brighton and Hove formed were the subject of separate presentations following consideration of this report.
- 7.4 The Revenues and Benefits Manager, Paul Ross-Dale, explained in answer to questions that whilst a significant programme of work had been undertaken within the council the changes presented by the introduction and scale of UC, had meant that council services and relevant stakeholders were dealing with a fundamental shift in the way that citizens on low incomes were supported, to illustrate that point a series of anonymised individual case studies had been set out in order to provide members with a flavour of the diversity of cases dealt with and details of how the council had sought to respond.
- 7.5 The clearest area of financial risk to the council had been the potential impact on rent collection for both Housing Rent account and temporary accommodation properties and in order to address that the council had taken a number of steps to support its tenants and to protect rental income. Whilst it was too early to provide meaningful figures for arrears enforcement action such as the serving of notices and evictions the council was strongly committed to taking action only as a last resort where tenants did not engage or accept the support which was offered to them. Tenants in arrears were always offered a payment plan which was tailored to the individual to ensure that they were able to repay their debt over a reasonable time period. In answer to questions, the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing, explained that currently, the figure for rent arrears had risen very slightly and that temporary accommodation was now exempt although there had been no evictions for temporary accommodation, nor had any tenants been evicted from permanent accommodation at present.
- 7.6 Councillor A Norman referred to those who were self-employed but might also be on a low income, although probably small in number, such individuals could be particularly vulnerable when seeking to make a claim. Also, to concerns which arose in consequence of financial considerations within the legislation being largely driven by a default position of rent being paid directly to the claimant rather than the landlord, with single large monthly payments being paid, five weeks after a claim had been made.

- 7.7 Councillor Morgan acknowledged all the work which had been undertaken and dealt with in a neutral, balanced manner whilst seeking to provide support to those who were the most vulnerable. It was concerning that the proposed changes had been announced in June but would not be effected in legislation until the autumn. Although these changes were intended as improvements it was difficult to judge what their impact might be at this stage.
- 7.8 Councillor Page welcomed the pro-active approach which had been taken and the input to the DWP which had taken place. He remained concerned however at the potential in-built delays that could occur and the impact that could have on some of the most city's poorest and most vulnerable residents.
- 7.9 Councillor Cattell, referred to the disproportionate impact on women and children, hoping that the changes made would address and improve on that.
- 7.10 Councillor Peltzer Dunn whilst welcoming the work undertaken continued to have severe reservations about how Universal Credit worked in practice and its impact overall. Clearly, as evidenced by the fact that changes had been made there was recognition that it was not working as intended and it was up to this authority and others to highlight areas of concern whilst continuing to seek to make the scheme work.
- 7.11 Joanna Martindale, Hangleton & Knoll Project referred to the pro-active approach which had been adopted and the collaborative work which had been carried out with third sector partnership organisations.
- 7.12 Councillor West stated that he considered it regrettable that Central Government was continuing with UC and was of the view that any dampening down of policy would still have a negative impact. It was important to continue to lobby against this draconian system and to highlight its flaws.
- 7.13 **RESOLVED** - That the Committee notes the latest available information as set out in the report regarding implementation of Universal Credit in the city.

8 PRESENTATION(S)

8a Moneyworks - Partnership Working - Universal Credit

- 8.1 A presentation was given outlining the work which had been undertaken and giving perspectives by the third sector of the impact that the rolling out of Universal credit had had across the city. It was noted that input and advice had fed into the work carried out to date and which would continue to/from a number of partnership organisations. These had included: Citizens Advice, Brighton & Hove; Money Advice Plus; BHT; Possability People; St Luke's Advice Service; Whitehawk Inn; the Hangleton and Knoll Project; Brighton Unemployed Centre Families Project and East Sussex Credit Union.
- 8.2 Moneyworks had been commissioned by the council to deliver Department of works and Pension (DWP) funded digital and budgeting support (39 k Oct 2017 - March 2018) (64k April 2018 – March 2019). It had worked with libraries and East Sussex Credit Union and other Moneyworks partners to plan for provision and had planned for the roll out and key communications with DWP, the Welfare Reform Programme Manager, libraries

and Digital Brighton and Hove as well as with other Moneyworks partners. Information and resource sharing had taken place with partners and advice services and networking with other agencies. This had included shared training in respect of Universal Credit.

- 8.3 This work had been important because Moneyworks had been able to provide a single point of contact. Moneyworks had a trusted reputation amongst residents and professionals and people knew that they could come to Moneyworks for help and that there was strong local knowledge of services. A triage approach was often adopted because Universal Credit usually formed part of a cluster of issues which people might present with. There was the ability to provide assisted self-help if that was appropriate and the ability to refer or signpost clients to the most appropriate service to meet their needs.
- 8.4 Additionally, a digital and budgeting support service had been provided at Job Centre Plus offices. A digital and budgeting support worker was available in each Job Centre for 22 hours per week, 400 sessions had taken place between November 2017 – May 2018 and an excellent and mutually productive relationship and problem solving approach had been built up with Job Centre staff. It had been possible to take referrals directly from Job Centre Plus work coaches and there had been the ability to work with the most vulnerable in order to resolve issues quickly e.g., street homeless clients. Referral paths had been set up which had the ability to pick up clients who were not linked in with other services. Linkages to other funded partnerships and projects had been beneficial and greatly appreciated by clients.
- 8.5 Overall, holistic support had been provided which had included support with completing applications and critically on-going support in completing the required journal, help in searching for work, help with CVs, which was particularly helpful where clients had issues with literacy, were English speakers of other languages or where there were poor digital skills or low confidence. In casework terms assistance had been provided in accessing and submitting Employment Support Allowance (ESA) applications and in completing UC50 forms, in resolving complex issues around entitlement, challenging decisions and in resolving errors.
- 8.6 Moneyworks saw their role very much in the context of partnership working, solution finding and seeking to influence change. The Moneyworks coordinator was able to represent the partnership and to share issues that they were facing with a view to resolving issues. They also worked closely with Digital Brighton and Hove with job centre's and the council to seek to ensure that there was joined up digital provision and that they also fed into the Welfare Reform Working Group, Complex Needs Forum, Advice Services Network and undertook social policy work with national corporate appointees. On-going issues which had arisen to date and would continue to be addressed, liaison arrangements were in place with Mill View Hospital in instances where clients were being treated under the umbrella of their service for mental health, substance abuse problems; visits, corporate appointees, issues around explicit consent being given; lack of access to decision makers and in dealing with instances where there had been errors with claims, when errors had occurred it appeared to be very difficult to put them right.
- 8.7 Following the presentation members had the opportunity to ask questions.

8.8 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of the presentation be received and noted.

8b Digital Inclusion Update

8.9 Richard Denyer-Bewick, Operations Director, Citizens Online and David Scurr, Project Manager, Citizens Online outlined their on-going work in working in partnership with community and the third sector in order to assist residents of the city in becoming more computer literate and accessing information and services on line. There had been particular emphasis over recent months which would continue in relation to helping individuals to process claims for Universal Credit. The overarching principle of their work was to help address digital exclusion.

8.10 Since 2015 the project had recruited 308 Digital Champions, helped 1978 individual learners and had engaged with 184 organisations including the council, the Department of Works and Pensions, Job Centre Plus, the Citizens Advice Bureau, Brighton Housing Trust, Community Works, Ability Net, the Carers Centre, Hangleton and Knoll Project, Brighton and Hove Food Partnership, Age UK and BUFCP. The 308 Digital Champions had been trained to include work in respect of the council's revenues and benefits, work of the Brighton Housing Trust and had provided work in concert with the library service across all sites. Overall, digital support provision had been enhanced by providing weekly services at the Barts House Customer Service Centre, food banks and as part of seniors housing schemes. Feedback received from those using the service had indicated that their sessions had helped them to find things on line and to find ways around things that they found difficult.

8.11 In total there were now 37 internet access points listed across the city, 39 digital support sessions listed and leaflets had been produced signposting the services available and in total 2500 had been displayed across the city.

8.12 Following the presentation members had the opportunity to ask questions following which there was a short break before proceeding to consider the remaining business on the agenda.

8.13 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of the presentation be received and noted.

9 COMMUNITY SAFETY & CRIME IN BRIGHTON & HOVE

9.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing providing an update in respect of community safety and crime in Brighton and Hove.

9.2 It was noted that under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, there was a requirement for statutory and other partners to formulate and plan every three years to tackle crime and disorder and monitor progress. This report provided an update on the work which had been undertaken by the Community Safety Partnership (formerly known as Safe in the City Partnership in relation to the Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy.

9.3 Councillor West referred the fact that recorded incidents in relation to domestic violence crimes and incidents, particularly sexual offences continued to rise. Given that demand for support to address these issues continued and was increasing the issues that he

had referred to earlier in relation to RISE, this was an area for significant concern, particularly as the level of resourcing available appeared to be diminishing. Chief Superintendent Bell stated that the police were aware of this and were seeking to target resources to address this. The police were not complacent but it was important to stress that the conviction rate for cases finalised at court (77%) remained relatively high although the solved rate for sexual offences in 2017/18 was marginally lower than for 2016/17 and poorer than for previous years. It should also be noted that there had been increased reporting in relation to stalking crimes and incidents.

- 9.4 Councillor West was pleased to note that robust structures were in place and that agencies were working very hard to encourage reportage of such crimes.
- 9.5 Anusree Biswas Sasidharan, BME Police Engagement Group, stated that where figures for reported crime appeared to be low it was important to seek to ensure that there was no hidden crime and that those who were vulnerable were not coerced either into crime itself or deterred from reporting it due to fear of reprisals. It was explained that intelligence gathering took place and feedback from that was used to address issues which emerged.
- 9.6 Councillor Nemeth referred to the work undertaken in his own ward in concert with his fellow ward councillor, Councillor Peltzer Dunn, the police and with local media to highlight the means of reporting crime which were available to the public. It was important for the public to know how issues could be reported via the web/social media for instance.
- 9.7 Councillor Marsh stated that as the lead on Community Safety she had met with the Police and had early discussions around strategies which were appropriate and fit for purpose. Chief Inspector Bell, reiterated that whilst on-going discussions and monitoring fed into the police' structures and processes and would continue to do so it was important to note that overall Sussex remained a safe place to live and work.
- 9.8 Councillor Daniel, the Chair referred to the rise of far right extremism enquiring regarding figures for that. The Head of Safer Communities, Jo Payer, explained that she would provide details to members separately.
- 9.9 Councillor Morgan referred to the "Prevent" initiative noting that it was anticipated that an updated strategy would be released soon, hoping that it would address this continuing problem.
- 9.10 Councillor A Norman referred to the apparent increase in stalking incidents, domestic and sexual violence. Whilst it was understood that in part increases in the number of this type of crime was due to more accurate recording and that this had resulted in better services and outcomes for victims. It was nonetheless a matter for concern.
- 9.11 Councillor Peltzer Dunn considered that the report was valuable in that it highlighted problem areas which had been identified and the solutions which were being put into place to address them. He asked whether feedback/input was received which indicated that the public were aware of these initiatives and considered that they were re-assured as a result. It was explained that this information was cascaded forward by a number of

means including via LAT's. Councillor Marsh stated that in her capacity as the Council's Community Safety Champion she was aware of the initiatives being undertaken.

9.12 **RESOLVED** – (1) that the information contained in the report providing an update on the work being undertaken by the Community Safety Team in relation to Community Safety and the Crime Reduction Strategy for 2017-20 be noted; and

(2) The Committee gives its support to the partnership work described in the report and the commitment to the work described within the council's remit, thereby contributing to the management of crime and community safety priorities for the city.

10 DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL ABUSE: FUTURE COMMISSIONING OPTIONS

10.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing seeking approval to a joint commission of specialist and community based services for victims/survivors of Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) and Sexual Violence (SV) for Brighton and Hove by Brighton and Hove City Council (BHCC), East Sussex County Council (ESCC) and the Office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner (OSPCC). These services were currently collectively known as "The Portal". The report outlined the rationale for the joint commissioning arrangements, involvement of providers and beneficiaries and indicative timescales for the commission.

10.2 It was explained that the commission would include 1) a pan-Sussex initial needs and assessment centre with a specialist DVA and SV service 2) community-based DVA and SV services and 3) refuge provision. The refuge provision would be Brighton and Hove only. The tender and contract arrangements would be developed as part of the new commission. The Council was not committed at this stage to tendering or contracting with either OSPCC or ESCC.

10.3 In answer to questions, the Executive Director explained that there were a number of drivers which made a new commission appropriate. SV and DVA had increased substantially. Usually reporting to the Police as an example between 2013/14 and 2016/17 there had been an increase of 28% in reporting domestic violence and crimes and an increase of 115% in sexual offences in Brighton and Hove. Notwithstanding that this represented a significant increase it was accepted that police recorded data was likely to under represent the scale of violence and abuse. Details of those who had been supported by existing services was set out in the report. These crime types had an impact on victims/survivors, their children and the wider community and impacts could include poor mental, sexual or physical health,, reduced economic prop behavioural problems, substance abuse, poor school achievement, reduced economic prospects and the risk of further violence. Consultation was currently being undertaken by AVA a national organisation to inform the refresh of the VAWG strategy. The consultation would specifically seek the views of victims/survivors, their families and children, as well as what local provision was needed. This would be important information to help commissioners in understanding service users experience of current provision and to inform the new specifications for future provision. The consultation was due to be completed by the end of June with an initial report due at the end of July.

10.4 The proposed joint commission, process, timescale and principles were also set out in the report and it was proposed that a new contract to support victims of all crime types

would be in place by April 2019. The DVA, SV and stalking aspect of the model had been designed in collaboration with BHCC, ESCC and counterparts in West Sussex as well as other key stakeholders such as Sussex Police. That part of the model would need to work in conjunction with any local specialist support services and would build upon existing partnerships across service providers.

- 10.5 Councillor Marsh, stated that she was happy that the process was broken down into three constituent parts as there were a number of complex strands to service provision. She was pleased to receive re-assurance around the referral process and that clients would not be disadvantaged by any changes to the referral process. A new officer could be in place by July which would allow a six month engagement process to take place.
- 10.6 Councillor West stated that this was clearly very complex and represented an emerging situation. Considering that currently, there were potential gaps in the available information, it might be more appropriate to enable more time for the results of those needs and how they could best be delivered to be explored further, rather, than becoming locked into arrangements for a further five year period. To do so at the current time could be premature. Councillor West also sought confirmation regarding the costs/risk implications if any contract entered into required amendment subsequently. The Executive Director explained that the suggested approach would facilitate economies of scale, shared costs and shared expertise and information. Whilst the detailed financial arrangements were to be finalised, following sign up by all ESCC would carry half of the costs.
- 10.7 Councillor Nemeth stated that in his view he did not consider that the report contained sufficient information to enable the committee to make such a far reaching decision at this stage. In his view there were a number of question marks and uncertainties at the present time, he was not saying that these proposals might not represent an appropriate way forward, but that more information was required in order to make an informed decision. Members needed to be certain that a Pan Sussex Initial Needs and Assessment Centre would answer the needs of the city's residents. Whatever option(s) were ultimately pursued needed to address the specific needs of those in the city which might be different from those of the rest of Sussex. He would have been happier if a series of options had been set out rather than one fully integrated one. Councillor Nemeth also asked whether it was possible for charities to bid for service funding direct. He also considered it important that proper interim/change over arrangements were in place to ensure that current provision did not just "cease" at a given cut-off date.
- 10.8 The Executive Director explained that proceeding at this stage would not commit other than in the terms set out in the report and on the rationale set out for using joint commissioning arrangements. By not proceeding in that way it could increase the pressure on other local providers and result in increased costs. It was explained in answer to further questions that to enter into a separate consultation process focussing specifically on Brighton and Hove was unlikely to be beneficial as if carried out in tandem with or soon after the current consultation there was likely to be consultation fatigue. There would be elements of any provision which would need to be tailored directly for Brighton and Hove.
- 10.9 Councillor Page stated that whilst he had read the report and heard all that had been said but was still somewhat confused and was struggling to understand the urgency to

proceed at the current stage. The Chair, Councillor Daniel, stated that it was important for members to be mindful of the process.

- 10.10 Councillor West stated that he recognised that there were complex issues to be considered, the implication seemed to be to proceed for five years or go forward with nothing. He considered it was important to consider a full range of worked up options.
- 10.11 Councillor Peltzer Dunn sought clarification regarding the contractual arrangements that needed to be put into place and the implications of extending the existing contract. Councillor Peltzer Dunn sought clarification regarding deferral of the report before the Committee.
- 10.12 Anusree Biswas Sasidharan, BME Police Engagement Group stated that she found the report very challenging and was concerned that insufficient detail of past provision and potential future need had been included.
- 10.13 Councillor West stated that he was seeking to be helpful and did not feel able to support the report recommendations at the present time.
- 10.14 Councillor Nemeth concurred, stating that he had four concerns regarding the options set out as currently framed; possible disruption for service users and charities; potential loss of control; loss of opportunity to experiment and uncertainty regarding costs.
- 10.15 A vote was taken in respect of the recommendations as set out in the report and they were lost on a vote of 6 to 4. Notwithstanding that Members were of the view that further options to extend the existing contract for a suitable period should be explored and fully costed.
- 10.16 It was then agreed that a further report be provided for consideration by the Committee as soon as was practicable taking on board the concerns of Councillor Nemeth set out in paragraph 10.14 above, also detailing fully costed potential options for future commissioning arrangements and for extending the existing contract to enable suitable future arrangements to be put into including potential appointment of a Commissioner for Brighton and Hove.
- 10.17 **RESOLVED** - That a further report be provided for consideration by the Committee as soon as was practicable taking on board the concerns of Councillor Nemeth set out in paragraph 10.14 above, also detailing fully costed potential options for future commissioning arrangements including appointment of a Commissioner for Brighton and Hove.

11 REVIEW OF WARD BUDGET SCHEME

- 11.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Lead Officer for Strategy, Governance & Law requesting that the Committee note the contents of the report detailing how ward budgets had been spent to date and requesting that they give consideration to whether they wished a similar ward budget scheme to be funded and included in the budget setting process for 2019/20.

- 11.2 The Head of Democratic Services explained that at its meeting on the 13 July 2017, the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee, following an amendment to the Provisional Outturn report had approved an allocation of 60k for a Ward Budget Scheme for 2017/18. It had been agreed that the scheme would be administered by the Democratic Services Team and that it would be allocated on a first come first serve basis. He noted that at its meeting on the 17 September 2017, the Leaders Group had agreed that an initial allocation of £1,000 per Member should be made, although the option to use funds collaboratively was also available to enable wider support to various projects that were identified. The report before the Committee for consideration provided a breakdown of how the Members' Ward Budget Scheme was co-ordinated and funds used by Ward Members to support local communities (set out in appendix 1).
- 11.3 Councillor K Norman stated that this funding had been able to be used to good effect in his own ward and in addition to the projects set out that funding had made available to purchase and plant 25 lilac trees at Surrenden Field and for visual improvements (£1252.87) and for footpath safety improvements at Westdene Children's Playground and Nursery.
- 11.3 Councillor A Norman commended the report stated that having pulled together information from several sources it showed clearly what had been spent and how, showed that this initiative had been welcomed, with funding utilised for a variety of improvements across the city. She certainly supported use provision of a similar scheme in future.
- 11.4 Councillor Cattell, stated that this scheme had been valuable in her own ward in supporting works carried out in Preston Park, a much loved and well used facility.
- 11.5 Councillor West agreed that this scheme had been beneficial and it was amazing what had could be achieved in consequence of small sums of money being targeted towards a specific end. He considered that it would be helpful if a greater degree of advice/assistance given when putting funding bids together considering that in future greater use could be made of using "crowd funding" which gave communities, the public and businesses the opportunity to assist. Councillor West considered that it was unhelpful that in several instances it appeared that budgets had not been spent whereas in several instances they had been earmarked for particular schemes and were awaiting being spent. He considered that the appendix needed to be updated to reflect that.
- 11.5 Councillor Nemeth referred to the benefits to which funding made available under this scheme had been put in his own ward confirming that in his view if the Committee were in agreement that a ward budget scheme be reinstated for 2019/20 that should be put forward as a positive recommendation rather than that committee being requested to "consider" doing so.
- 11.6 Councillor Peltzer Dunn stated that tangible positive improvements had been effected within local areas across the city out which were far greater than suggested by the relatively small sums involved. Local Ward Members were in tune with the needs of their local communities and it gave Members the opportunity to support them.
- 11.7 Councillor Page echoed all that had been said querying why it was proposed that implementation of any scheme should be held in abeyance until 2019/2010.

11.8 It was explained that that had been considered appropriate in the context that Council wide elections were due to take place in 2019 and there would be a number of newly elected members who would need to familiarise themselves with the manner in which the council operated.

11.9 RESOLVED:

- (1) That the information as detailed in the report at Appendix 1 (including the additional information set out above) be noted; and
- (2) That a similar ward budget scheme (to that referred to in the attached report) be funded and included in the budget setting process for 2019/2020.

12 ITEMS REFERRED FOR FULL COUNCIL

12.1 There were none.

The meeting concluded at 8.10pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2018

Subject:	Implement a Policy for the Distribution of Free Sanitary Products to Schools to Counter Period Poverty – Petition for Debate: Extract from the proceedings of the Council Meeting held on the 19 July 2018		
Date of Meeting:	08 October 2018		
Report of:	Executive Lead Officer for Strategy, Governance & Law		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Mark Wall	Tel: 01273 291006
	E-mail:	mark.wall@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

Action Required of the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee

To receive the petition referred from the Council for consideration.

Recommendations: That the petition be referred to the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee meeting on the 8th October, 2018 for consideration.

Petition: 1, 528 Signatures

We the undersigned petition Brighton & Hove Council to implement a policy for the distribution of free sanitary products to schools to counter period poverty. We see this as an integral part of the Council's Health and Wellbeing strategy.

Lead petitioner: Samantha Whittaker

Additional Information:

Girls and young woman are feeling stigmatised, experiencing bullying and often missing school due to not being able to afford sanitary products. Research undertaken by Plan UK in 2017 found that:

- 1 in 7 girls (15%) have struggled to afford menstruation products.
- More than 1 in 10 (12%) have had to use items other than menstruation products to stem their menstrual flow (i.e. they have had to improvise menstruation towels/tampons).
- Almost half (48%) are embarrassed by their periods.
- Only 22% feel comfortable to talk to a teacher about their periods.
- More than a quarter (26%) said they did not know what to do when they started their period.
- 1 in 7 girls (14%) said they did not know what was happening when they started their period.

Brighton and Hove Council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy is to make Brighton and Hove a healthier, more equal city, with a thriving population by 2020 including the goal to improve the emotional health and mental health and wellbeing of children and young people.

We believe that the provision of sanitary products for all girls and young women at school will remove the stigma and bullying experienced by these young women and help support their educational engagement and attainment in school.

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**COUNCIL****4.30pm 19 JULY 2018****COUNCIL CHAMBER - HOVE TOWN HALL****MINUTES**

Present: Councillors Simson (Chair), Phillips (Deputy Chair), Allen, Atkinson, Barford, Barnett, Bell, Bennett, Bewick, Brown, Cattell, Chapman, Cobb, Daniel, Deane, Druitt, Gibson, Gilbey, Greenbaum, Hamilton, Hill, Horan, Hyde, Inkpin-Leissner, Janio, Knight, Lewry, Littman, Mac Cafferty, Marsh, Meadows, Mears, Miller, Mitchell, Moonan, Morris, Nemeth, A Norman, K Norman, O'Quinn, Page, Peltzer Dunn, Platts, Robins, Sykes, Taylor, C Theobald, G Theobald, Wares, Wealls, West and Yates.

PART ONE**17 PETITIONS FOR COUNCIL DEBATE****(3) IMPLEMENT A POLICY FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF FREE SANITARY PRODUCTS TO SCHOOLS TO COUNTER PERIOD POVERTY**

17.10 The Mayor then invited Ms. Whittaker to come forward and present the second petition.

Distribution of Free Sanitary Products to Schools

17.11 Ms. Whittaker thanked the Mayor and stated that the petition had secured 1,528 signatures of support and called on the council to implement a policy for the distribution of free sanitary products to schools to counter period poverty. She stated that this was a national problem with 1 in 10 girls unable to afford sanitary ware. She hoped that the city could lead the way and ensure that all schools in the city were able to provide free products to all girls who were in need, thereby meeting the council's own objectives for child poverty and equality.

17.12 Councillor Daniel thanked Ms. Whittaker for presenting the petition and bringing the issue to the council's attention. She stated that the council was working with schools to provide products and noted that success of the Red box scheme that encouraged people to donate products for distribution within schools. It was a voluntary based scheme which meant that its success was dependant on those volunteers but she hoped that it would expand across other schools and noted that a collection box had been set up in the reception of Hove Town Hall. She felt that it was an important issue and one that needed to be discussed further at the next NICE committee meeting.

17.13 Councillor Brown welcomed the petition and stated that the subject needed further consideration and access to products needed to be made less intrusive and more convenient.

- 17.14 Councillor Phillips also welcomed the petition and stated that the consequences of not providing these products should be noted i.e. increased levels of absenteeism; bullying and an impact on well-being. The products should be easily available and pupils should not have to ask but get them anonymously.
- 17.15 Councillor Daniel noted the comments and stated that she looked forward to considering the matter at the committee meeting in October.
- 17.16 The Mayor thanked Ms. Whittaker for attending the council meeting and presenting the petition. She noted that it was recommended to refer the petition to the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee and put the recommendation to the vote which was carried unanimously.
- 17.17 **RESOLVED:** That the petition be referred to the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee meeting on the 8th October, 2018 for consideration.

Subject:	Letter received from Councillor Wealls in respect of : Enforcement in George Street, Hove of Byelaw banning to touting		
Date of Meeting:	08 October 2018		
Report of:	Executive Lead Officer for Strategy, Governance & Law		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Penny Jennings	Tel: 01273 291065
	E-mail:	penny.jennings@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

***Action Required of the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities
Committee***

To receive consider the letter received from Councillor Wealls and to consider what further action the Committee may wish to take in respect of its contents.

Recommendations: That the Committee determine any further action they may wish to take in response to Councillor Wealls' letter.

Councillors Gill Mitchell and Emma Daniel
Chairs, Environment, Transport and Sustainability
Committee and NICE Committee,
Brighton & Hove City Council
Hove Town Hall
Hove
BN3 3BQ

16th July 2018

Dear Councillors Mitchell and Daniel

Re: Enforcement in George St of Byelaw Banning Touting

Further to discussions I have been having with the Council's Head of Law, please consider this a formal request that a report is brought to the next appropriate committee (ET&S or NICE Committee) regarding the practical implications of enforcing the following clause of the attached byelaw as follows;

'5. No person shall in any street or public place for the purpose of selling or advertising any article or obtaining custom tout or importune to the annoyance or obstruction of passengers.'

My request is in order to deal with complaints from businesses in George St, Hove, where charity 'chuggers' are obstructing members of the public and in some instances accused of intimidating passers-by. Given George St is a challenging retail business environment, any help we can give in making sure shoppers and visitors are not put off by charity fund collectors will be welcomed.

Should there be alternative means of deterring chuggers in George St (such as a new bye-law or PSPO), please do include them for consideration.

Thank you in advance.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor Andrew Wealls

Cc Councillors Moonan and Wares
Abraham Ghebre-Ghiorghis

Subject:	Counter Extremism		
Date of Meeting:	8th October 2018		
Report of:	Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Melinda King	Tel: 01273 292949
	Email:	Melinda.king@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to brief the committee on work being undertaken under the local Counter Extremism (CE) strategy to challenge extremism in all its forms.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That committee:
- 2.2 Note the contents of the report.
- 2.3 Note that the committee has access to the national Special Interest Group on Countering Extremism (SIGCE), and is invited to nominate a lead from each political group on the committee to join the SIGCE.
- 2.4 Note that committee members are invited to attend the half day *Workshop on Countering Extremism* facilitated by the Communities Coordinator, and agree to feedback relevant concerns from constituents to the Communities Coordinator.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

National Context

- 3.1 The National Counter-Extremism (CE) Strategy was published in October 2015. This strategy sets out the Government's overarching approach to tackling extremism in all its forms. The strategy defines extremism as "*vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs*"
- 3.2 The CE Strategy recognises the wider harms of extremism, outside of terrorism and radicalisation which come under Prevent. These wider harms are identified

as hate incidents and hate crimes, less cohesive society, harmful practices (e.g. forced marriage), and rejection of democracy and of the rule of law. The CE strategy is therefore distinct and complementary to the Prevent Strategy.

- 3.3 In December 2017 a national Special Interest Group for Countering Extremism (SIGCE) was launched to bring together Local Authorities to share learning, co-produce tools and resources, and collectively resolve shared challenges. The dedicated online SIGCE Knowledge Hub hosts the emerging outputs from the SIGCE's work, including a resource library and a platform for discussing issues and ideas. The SIGCE has held an initial seminar on "extremist speakers" and future seminars on extremism topics are being planned.
- 3.4 On 24th January 2018 the Home Office announced the appointment of the new lead Commissioner for Countering Extremism. The Commission is engaging widely to support communities and public sector in confronting extremism where it exists.
- 3.5 Nationally the most significant risks in relation to extremism have been identified as extreme right-wing groups and Al-Qaida (AQ) or Daesh inspired or affiliated extremists.

Local Context

- 3.6 The Communities Coordinator came into post in the council in July 2017, as a dedicated resource to embed the national CE strategy and build capacity in countering extremism at the local level. This is a Home Office funded post in the Communities Equality and Third Sector Team, currently funded until the end of March 2019.
- 3.7 The local CE Strategy sits within the *The Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy 2017-20*. An action plan has been developed to support this strategy.
- 3.8 In agreement with the Home Office, initial work has focused on pillar 2 of the national strategy (*building a partnership with all those opposed to extremism*), which is closely linked to pillar 4 (*building cohesive communities*).
- 3.9 In May 2018 the Home Office announced a renewed focus on pillar 1 (*countering extremist ideology*) and pillar 3 (*disrupting extremism*). Whilst in many areas the focus is on disrupting extremist speakers and events, in Brighton & Hove, current local strategic assessment suggests the need to prioritise ongoing focus on tackling extremist ideology through developing counter-narratives and on addressing hate crime, whilst being flexible to respond to emerging risk and focus on the disrupting extremism as the need arises.
- 3.10 The Communities Coordinator has developed CE work through building an understanding of the wider harms of extremism in the local area, identifying partners, building networks between partners, and supporting groups to build capacity and amplify reach. Detail on each strand is provided directly below.

Building Understanding

- 3.11 Building an understanding of the nature of extremism in Brighton and Hove is complex as the harms of extremism can often exist under the surface within communities. In addition there is not one single set of data but rather a series of indicators which together give a picture of the nature of extremism within our communities (including hate crime reports, harmful practices reports, graffiti, protests, events of concern, online comments and anecdotal information from communities).
- 3.12 Through strategic assessment key concerns for Brighton & Hove have been identified as anti-minority narratives (of the type most commonly associated with far right extremism), hate incidents and hate crimes (across the protected characteristics), and the associated impact on community cohesion. In 2017/18 there were 572 racially and religiously motivated hate incidents and crimes reported, 236 homophobic/biphobic/transphobic hate incidents and crimes reported, and 62 disability hate incidents and crimes reported. However information from community groups suggests that not all incidents are reported and that the real number is higher. In particular recent concerns have been raised around Islamophobia and particularly the targeting of visibly Muslim women, anti-Semitism, racist incidents (including within schools), and incidents of transphobia. Positive partnership work is being developed with community groups to tackle these concerns.
- 3.13 Reported incidents of harmful practices (female genital mutilation, 'honour based' violence and forced marriage) are low, with 15 police recorded crimes and incidents of harmful practices and incidents in 2016/17, however the real number may be higher. The Communities Coordinator continues to work with colleagues and partners to understand these issues in the local area and shape future work.
- 3.14 Work with local communities identified public transport as one of the locations where hate crimes occur. Positive partnership work has been done with Brighton & Hove Bus Company who have been facilitated to attend community group meetings to build trust and confidence and a partnership hate crime campaign will be launched for Hate Crime Awareness Week.
- 3.15 Two City Conversation events were held in May attended by approximately 50 people to give their views on the National Integrated Communities Green Paper with the feedback sent to national Government. The feedback highlights the importance of use of positive language, taking an asset based approach, and not focusing negatively on any particular community.
- 3.16 The Communities Coordinator continues to undertake work to further build an understanding of extremism, a Joint Workshop between the council and Sussex Police will held in September.

Identifying Partners

- 3.17 Approximately 70 community groups have been met with to raise awareness of the CE strategy, hear community concerns, and gain buy-in for working together on countering extremism. This includes groups who have tackling hate as their main priority such as the LGBT Community Safety Forum, but also those which use art and sports to bring people together, those working in neighbourhoods, and those working with young people. The Communities Coordinator has, for

example, met with young people participating in UK Unsigned to hear their views, supported Ambigo CIC to ensure their ambition workshops reach a diverse audience building cohesion, and supported events held by the International Network of Women.

- 3.18 This work seeks to ensure that projects with communities of identity are linked with work in geographical neighbourhoods and support work to tackle the harms of extremism in the Neighbourhood Action Plans.
- 3.19 Communication with partners takes place on a regular basis to continue relationship building and share information and opportunities.

Building Networks

- 3.20 All extremisms are divisive in nature hence local work is focused on bringing people together and doing positive work around intersectionality.
- 3.21 A Joint Networks Forum has been created to bring together a range of community groups representing diverse communities (including BME, LGBT, inter-faith and women's groups) to discuss common issues and joint working, the forum has now met three times. This has enabled the Racial Harassment Forum to share the learning from their hate crime consultation with other community groups, and for the groups to have a presentation on restorative approaches, with a full training session now being planned. This has also given Forum members the opportunity to discuss their shared priorities which have been identified as social media training and advice for witnesses when a hate crime occurs. The Communities Coordinator is now working collaboratively with community groups to develop projects on these priorities. Two open networking events have also been held for groups and networking across community groups is supported on an ongoing basis.
- 3.22 A range of positive cohesion events have been held and supported including the Strong Sisterhood women's panel event held as part of LGBT History Month and the participation of inter-faith groups in the Brighton Pride parade. Positive messaging is maximised through social media.

Building Capacity and amplifying reach

- 3.23 The local approach to CE is collaborative working with community groups and starting from an asset based model, recognising and build on the wide range of work already being undertaken in Brighton & Hove.
- 3.24 Two funding events have been held to support groups to apply for funding streams to help maximise their work in CE. Several individual groups have been supported to apply for funding and successes have included Racial Harassment Forum, Brighton Table Tennis Club, and Brighton & Hove Faith in Action. Information about funding streams is shared with community groups on an ongoing basis.
- 3.25 The Communities Coordinator supports ongoing projects being run by community groups such as the Combatting Faith Hate Partnership which will include a panel of religious leaders doing assemblies in schools to model religious tolerance and

run a faith tour of places of worship. The post also delivered hate crime awareness sessions to young people taking part in the National Citizens Service.

- 3.26 There has also been use of the Safe in the City social media accounts to spread positive messages of cohesion and communicate information from community groups to reach a wider audience.

Future Plans

- 3.27 Future plans include:

- Continue to build an understanding of the nature of extremism in Brighton & Hove through partnership work with Sussex Police and direct engagement with residents
- Launch a partnership hate crime awareness campaign with Brighton and Hove Bus Company and work with Brighton and Sussex Universities on hate crime awareness.
- Hold a half day CE Workshop with Councillors.
- Build further links with the SIGCE to maximise the knowledge gained from national learning.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 This report is intended to provide an update on current progress on the work under the CE section of the Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy, this section is not applicable. The work of the Communities Co-ordinator is required by the Home Office.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The full strategic assessment for current *Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy* was carried out in autumn 2016, and included a consultation event on the findings and proposed priorities for 2017-20. Invited participants included members of the Safe in the City Partnership Board, and community and voluntary sector partners, including representatives of Local Action Teams and communities of interest.
- 5.2 A draft of the Community Safety Strategy was made available for public comment via the consultation portal and in more targeted arenas.
- 5.3 Ongoing engagement is central to the work of countering extremism and projects are developed accordingly.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The report is to provide an update on progress of work relating to CE and to invite any comment.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 The Communities Coordinator is a Home Office funded post in the Communities Equality and Third Sector Team, currently funded until the end of March 2019.

Finance Officer Consulted: Name Michael Bentley Date: 21/08/18

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 There is a specific statutory duty to have due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism (section 26, Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015). This is primarily focused on the Prevent agenda but there is some crossover in to the agenda around extremism as this could lead to terrorism.

Local authority responsibilities for community safety fall to be discharged in such a way which counters extremism. Extremism often includes discriminatory behaviour and all local authorities have duties under s149 of the Equalities Act 2010 to promote equality.

This Committee has delegated authority for discharging the Council's functions relating to community safety, and for monitoring risk and co-ordinating Prevent and other counter-extremism activity. As such it is the appropriate body to receive this report.

Lawyer Consulted: Victoria Simpson Date: 12.09.18

Equalities Implications:

- 7.3 Work within the CE strategy focuses specifically on building good relations, increasing positive messaging about and between diverse communities and avoiding harm to vulnerable people and communities. Assessments of equality impact and engagement with diverse groups are central to the approach

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.4 None

Any Other Significant Implications:

- 7.5 None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. None

Documents in Members' Rooms

1. None

Background Documents

1. National Counter Extremism Strategy
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/counter-extremism-strategy>
2. Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy 2017-2020
<https://www.safeinthecity.info/sites/safeinthecity.info/files/Brighton%20%26%20Hove%20Community%20Safety%20and%20Crime%20Reduction%20Strategy%202017-20%20-%20Yr%201%20Review.pdf>

Subject:	Options for the Commission of Domestic Violence and Abuse and Sexual Violence Services		
Date of Meeting:	8th October 2018		
Report of:	Executive Director - Neighbourhoods Communities & Housing		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Jo Player	Tel: 29-2488
	Email:	Jo.player@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 In July 2018 the NICE Committee requested that officers provided options for the effective development of commissioned services for Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) and Sexual Violence (SV) provision in the City. This paper reports on aspects of the current service known as The Portal and the proposal to involve service users and providers from all sectors in the co-production of a strategy to address the needs of those requiring support as a result of DVA and SV and which will inform the re commissioning of services.
- 1.2 To seek committee approval to the joint commission of specialist and community based services for victims/survivors of Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) and Sexual Violence (SV) for Brighton & Hove and East Sussex by Brighton & Hove City Council (BHCC) and East Sussex County Council (ESCC) which services are to commence on expiry of the current contract arrangements.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Neighbourhoods, Communities, Inclusion and Equalities Committee:

- 2.1 Note the intended timescales and development plan as set out in Appendix 3 of this report for the redevelopment of the DVA and SV Strategy will inform the recommissioning of DVA and SV services.
- 2.2 Approve the extension of the current Portal contract until 30th November 2019.
- 2.3 Grant delegated authority to the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing to participate in the joint commission of DVA and SV services in Brighton and Hove and East Sussex and refuge provision in Brighton and Hove only, and including the procurement process and contract award with services to commence in December 2019.

- 2.4 Agree to establish a cross party member working group to provide oversight on the commission and request that the officers report to the working group at key stages throughout the procurement process.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Drivers for a New Commission:

Increasing Demand

- 3.1 SV and DVA reporting has increased substantially. Using reporting to the Police as an example, between 2013/14 and 2016/17, there has been an increase of 28% in reporting of domestic violence incidents and crimes and an increase of 115% in sexual offences in Brighton and Hove. In 2016/17 there were 4,703 domestic violence incidents and crimes reported to the police and 821 police recorded sexual offences in the city.
- 3.2 Although this increase is substantial, it is accepted that police recorded data is likely to under represent the scale of violence and abuse since as many numbers of people do not report. Applying the latest prevalence rates from the Crime Survey for England and Wales to 2015 mid-year population it is estimated that in Brighton & Hove:
- 7,639 women and girls aged 16-59, and 3,868 men and boys, will have experienced domestic violence and abuse in the last year
 - 2,515 women and girls, and 677 men and boys, will have experienced sexual assault in the last year.
- 3.3 Between October 2017 and March 2018 across East Sussex and Brighton and Hove:
- The Portal Services received 3502 referrals, of which 9% were internal referrals between different elements of the service, leaving 3184 external referrals recorded: an average of 27 new referrals per working day.
 - In October and November 2017 referral levels rose by 24% and have remained consistent at this level.
 - The number of people referred who engaged with the service rose by 13% compared to the previous 6 month period.
 - 934 (30%) Domestic Violence and Abuse referrals were of Brighton and Hove residents (35% in the previous 6 month period)
 - 200 (42%) Sexual Violence referrals were for Brighton and Hove residents, consistent with the previous year's data
- 3.4 These crime types have a significant impact on victims/survivors, their children and the wider community. Impacts include: poor mental, sexual or physical health, and behavioural problems such as substance abuse, poor school achievement, reduced economic prospects and the risk of further violence.
- 3.5 These crime types have a significant financial cost: The individual, economic and social cost of domestic and sexual violence and abuse to the city is estimated to be at least £143 million per annum.

Findings of the Domestic Homicide Review and the Business Improvement Review

- 3.6 Although the current service model allows multiple access points for victims/survivors which, whilst positive, has resulted in an inconsistency in the application of referral guidelines. There is a systemic issue with the design of victim care pathways from the Police to victim support services. Currently, those victims of DVA crime who are assessed as being at 'standard' risk receive support from Victim Support commissioned by the Office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner (OSPCC), while 'medium' and 'high' risk victims are referred for support through The Portal. This means there are different offers made to clients depending on their level of risk at the point of a report to the Police. The response is therefore driven by a Police risk assessment rather than a specialist service assessment of victim risk and need. This is inefficient and creates parallel pathways (e.g. where risk levels change). There is also an inbuilt element of unmet need as those victims who are assessed as being at 'standard' risk but who have not been victims of crime are not referred to either service routinely.
- 3.7 Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) in both Brighton & Hove and East Sussex¹ have each recommended action be taken to simplify pathways and ensure that victims can access support regardless of level of risk or whether a crime has occurred.

Work to further map the victim journey, and review triage and assessment processes to make best use of resources is continuing as part of necessary service review: pathways for referral and assessment relating to DVA, SV and safeguarding need further exploration in order to reduce parallel pathways and make best use of resources.

- 3.8 It is noted that efforts to manage the increasing demand means that the priority afforded to high risk cases has led to reduced availability of prevention and recovery services. This has been exacerbated by failure of referring agencies to obtain consent of victims of DV and SV to their referral to specialist services.

Since July 2018 work has continued to review triage and assessment processes, which has included an OPCC funded triage pilot project involving providers from the Portal (RISE and CGL) working in partnership with Victim Support. Whilst the pilot is ongoing, evidence shows that the introduction of the triage process for crimed incidents has resulted in a marked reduction in the number of non-consenting referrals, immediately reducing demand on Portal services at initial contact stage.

The pilot works with victim choice and a consent or vulnerability led referral approach. There is a need to better understand flow in demand for DV and SV specialist support services, and the relationship between prevention and demand for services at all levels of risk. This includes focus on early intervention with both victims (and potential victims) and perpetrators (e.g. Pilot projects with

¹ <http://www.safeineastsussex.org.uk/Domestic%20Homicide%20Reviews.html>

perpetrators are showing early evidence of direct and positive impact for victims in their own ability to access services and make progress in recovery).

Stakeholder Engagement and Involvement

- 3.9 There is a commitment to ensure that service user and service provider insight is central to service review and commissioning, and in overall partnership management of DVA and SV issues. There is also opportunity to explore the relationship between DVA and SV commissioning and other service commissioning to ensure targeted and best use of resources. These amongst other recommendations have been highlighted in the BHCC Business Process Improvement Review response to which will form part of the development work required to plan for and enable continuous service improvement (Appendix 1) along with the National Statement of Expectations for Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence services.
- 3.10 In April 2018, AVA (Against Violence and Abuse), a national organisation, was jointly commissioned by BHCC and ESCC to undertake a consultation to inform the development of a joint strategy for Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence, and Violence Against Women and Girls. The consultation sought the views of victims/survivors, and their families, as well as providers of specialist services, and referring services with a view to identifying the value in services, and where there are gaps in or issues with and barriers to the effectiveness of existing services. This work has been completed. However the report makes admission to significant missing data and insight, and commissioning officers for the work consider that the report exhibits shortcomings with regard to both methodology and reach. There is therefore a need for further consultation and engagement with stakeholders to verify the findings and explore and understand development requirements for services in order to meet the needs of victims and survivors. The AVA report will form part of the information set that will be used to produce a comprehensive needs and service assessment to inform new specifications for services.
- 3.11 Further stakeholder engagement will take place alongside strategic data review to inform development of the joint strategy and future required service model which would include the joint commissioning of DVA and SV services. The proposed approach and associated timeline for this work is attached at Appendix 3, which works towards commissioned services going live in December 2019.

Current Contracts and Provision

- 3.12 Brighton & Hove City Council currently has a contract with RISE (as lead partner) for the delivery of victim support services. This is known as '[The Portal](#)' and is delivered by a partnership between RISE as lead provider, Survivors' Network and CGL. They provide a single point of access and help victims/survivors of DVA and SV to find advice and support in Brighton & Hove and East Sussex, principally through community based support services. The Portal was jointly commissioned across Brighton & Hove and East Sussex and is funded by B&HCC, ESCC and the OSPCC. Additional funding is provided for targeted provision by Brighton and Hove CCG, delivery of which is managed as part of The Portal programme. BHCC manages the contract with a Memorandum of Understanding with the OSPCC and a service level agreement with ESCC.

RISE and its subcontracted partner, Survivors Network, raise and invest significant funds in their own right to deliver services for victims and survivors outside The Portal and should be noted as key contributors to the funding landscape.

- 3.13 The initial contract period for The Portal is 1 October 2015 to 30 September 2018. The contract was extended in conformity with the contract for six months to 31st March 2019, to allow sufficient time for learning from the triage pilot funded by the OSPCC and other new initiatives to come forward so as to inform the redevelopment of the strategy and the design of a needs-led new commission. Within the Portal contract BHCC also contracts for refuge provision in Brighton and Hove. Therefore this is also currently due to end 31 March 2019.
- 3.14 It should be noted that due to the post vacancy of the Joint Strategic Commissioner (vacant from April-August 2018), and additional pressures due to staff shortage within the Joint Unit, opportunity to develop the strategy has been delayed for a period of 6 months.
- 3.15 At the time of writing this report, BHCC, ESCC and the OSPCC had agreed to extend the contract to September 2019.
- 3.16 The combined spend on DVA and SV services by BHCC for The Portal in 2017/18 was £0.670m. Together with the investment by ESCC and the OSPCC and the clinical commissioning group, the value of the existing contract for The Portal was circa £1.4 million in 2017/18. Appendix 4 (Not Public) shows a breakdown of the funding contributions from partner agencies for 2018/19
- 3.17 The OSPCC has commenced a commissioning process to implement a new contract to support victims of all crime types from April 2019. The proposed model makes provision for a countywide DVA and SV initial needs and triage service (to specifically include stalking also) – this represents a considerable change in current processes and is in direct response to the drivers outlined above notably the review of DHR findings and BHCC BPI Review. The PCC wishes to work with partners to develop the DVA and SV response for victims following the initial needs and triage service.
- 3.18 East Sussex County Council has also indicated it would consider further extension to December 2019 (subject to the main funding partners doing the same) to facilitate the best outcomes for victims, survivors and their families.

4 OPTIONS

- 4.1 The original service contract for The Portal was for 3 years until 30 September 2018. The contract allows for a two year extension from September 2018 until September 2020. An extension to March 2019 has already been agreed with the commissioners and providers.
- 4.2 As noted above the Head of Commissioning at the OSPCC will lead the commission of a pan Sussex wide assessment and triage centre which will create a needs and consent led referral pathway into onward specialist support services. The OSPCC has confirmed that it will support an extension to the Portal contract and the PCC will maintain funding at a sustainable level toward the contract extension which will be managed through the pooled budget arrangements. A

new grant agreement between the PCC and BHCC will come into force following the expiration of the current MOU at the end of March 2019.

- 4.3 In the light of the change in funding priorities of the current joint commissioners of the Portal Service it is appropriate for the new Joint Strategic Commissioner for DVA and SV for ESCC and BHCC to lead a strategic cross-sector partnership project to develop the strategy. This work would take place between September 2018 and April 2019 and include comprehensive stakeholder engagement and cross-sector involvement with current partners, specialist providers and voluntary and community sector organisations. It is the intention of the Strategic Commissioner to bring the resultant draft strategy back to the Committee in March 2019 for approval.
- 4.4 The strategy will inform the development of the service requirements which will be incorporated in a specification for a robust procurement process for specialist community based DVA and SV services in East Sussex and Brighton and Hove, as well as a Brighton and Hove refuge. Whilst this work would take a number of months to complete, the value in undertaking a meaningful partnership development approach will come through securing commitment across sectors to work together towards sustainable services to support victims and survivors and reduce incidence of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence, in a climate of reducing local authority budgets.
- 4.5 It is estimated that the commission of new DVA and SV Specialist Services can be completed by the 30th November 2019 to go live on the 1st December 2019, and that the commissioning arrangements will make provision for pooled budgets and/or joint commissioning with other partners the terms of which will be set out in a service level agreement.

In order to ensure continuity of service provision until the establishment of a new service provision the committee is asked to consider two options as set out below.

Option 1- Extend current contract until the 30th November 2019

- 4.6 The extension of the current contract until the 30th November 2019 would allow sufficient time for robust stakeholder engagement, cross-sector co-production of the joint strategy and multi-agency cross-sector partnership working to develop the new service specification that meets the needs of B&H residents and uses effectively the available resources across the relevant sectors. It also provides sufficient time for a procurement process to take place in accordance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 and Council Standing Orders.
- 4.7 ESCC has indicated its support of a contract extension to the 30th November 2019 and the OSPCC has also indicated continued funding until the end of 2019.

Option 2- Extend current contract until September 2020

- 4.8 This option would be to extend the contract by the full 2 years permitted under the contract, thereby allowing additional time to develop and procure a new contract. The Council's commissioning partners have indicated they will not commit to funding the current contract beyond the 30th September 2019 (and potentially the 30th November 2019 subject to negotiation). Therefore if BHCC chooses to extend the current contract a reduction in scope reflecting the shortfall in funding would need to be negotiated and formalised by way of a contract variation which could lead to an overall reduction in the services for B&H residents.

5. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 5.1 All options with potential viability have been set out in section 4 of the report above. Officers do not consider that the option of allowing the contract to terminate at the end of March 2019 is a viable alternative because it would leave many B&H residents without or with very limited access to the support services, and would put the council in breach of its statutory crime and disorder duties and its health responsibilities.
- 5.2 A joint commission with East Sussex County Council allows both authorities to benefit from economies of scale and develop more efficient communication and integrated services with providers and partners for the benefit of those accessing the services.
- 5.3 The Joint Strategic Commissioner is currently jointly funded by B&H and ESCC to deliver work that benefits both organisations. The partnership work with East Sussex also provides a joint training and development officer, a partnership development officer and a MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Committee) team leader. Should it be deemed necessary to commission services just for B&H the joint strategic commissioner would have to undertake two separate commissions. If BHCC chose to commission services independently it would need to budget for a support team to include commissioning, training and project development the funding for which would have a direct impact on the funding available for commissioned services. The extent of impact is not known at this stage, but could result in loss of specialist service capacity. It would also be less likely that specialist BME, LGBT or Male posts would be sustainable within a contract solely from BHCC.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The council currently has one viable option (Option 1) that would provide additional security to contracted specialist services and their service users during a period of review and service commissioning. Whilst this may not be an ideal scenario for commissioned services who wish to continue delivering the existing contract until September 2020, it offers the best outcome possible in an environment of necessary service and budget review. Officer view is that a joint commissioning process provides the council with a strong opportunity to maximise the benefit of its investment in the service so as to ensure high quality services are available for residents.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 The council has an indicative budget of £0.670m for 2019/20, subject to annual budget council approval in February 2019. At this stage a standstill budget is anticipated for future years of the new commission, however this will be subject to council's annual budget setting process. The same will be applicable for ESCC and the OSPCC.
- 7.1 Both of the options set out in Section 4 highlight the potential financial risks to BHCC. Option 1 represents the most viable option, but there is a possible

requirement that additional funding is provided by BHCC and ESCC to meet the 3 month shortfall in OSPCC contribution. There would be no financial implications arising from a contract variation.

Finance Officer Consulted: Michael Bentley

Date: 06/09/18

Legal Implications:

7.3 The Council has a statutory duty under S17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to consider the crime and disorder implications in the exercise of its functions. DVA and SV impact on the Council's responsibilities under the Act which requires Council involvement as a statutorily responsible authority. Additionally the Council has a responsibility under the Health & Social Care Act 2012 to reduce health inequalities and improve the health of their local population. Contracts valued at sums in excess of £500,000 require approval to tender and award from the relevant Committee (the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities (NICE) Committee). If the value of each of proposed contracts also exceeds the EU threshold for a Light Touch Regime service, being £615,278, the services must be procured in accordance with the Public Procurement Regulations 2015 and advertised in the OJEU (Official Journal of the European Union). Procurements of Schedule 3 or "Light Touch" contracts which include social and health care services such as these are subject to less strict procedural regulations but the process must be compliant with the treaty principles of fairness, transparency and equal treatment and be conducted in conformance with the information provided in tender documentation including the award procedure. In order to comply with these principles the time allowed for the preparation and submission of a bid must be reasonable and commensurate with the complexity of the service being procured.

7.4 Re-commissioning a service or commissioning a new service may result in a TUPE event (Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 as amended by the Collective Redundancies and Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (Amendment) Regulations 2014). The TUPE Regulations apply when there is a relevant transfer either as a result of a business transfer or when there is a service provision change. Prospective tenderers must be notified of this consideration at the time of tendering and legislative requirements must be complied with.

*Lawyer Consulted: Judith Fisher
2018.*

Date: 10 September

Equalities Implications:

7.5 An equality impact assessment will be carried out as part of developing the specification for the community based services and refuge.

Sustainability Implications:

7.6 Decisions made may have implications for sustainability including support for victims/survivors in achieving Safety, Health & Happiness: Encouraging active, sociable, meaningful lives to promote good health and wellbeing.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 7.7 Creating opportunities for safe disclosure and pathways to support survivors and victims will have a positive impact on community safety and reduce the impact of crime and disorder.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

- 1. Business Process Improvement Review**
- 2. National Statement of Expectations**
- 3. Proposed Strategy Development and Recommissioning Timetable**
- 4. The Portal Funding Contributions**

Appendix 1: National Statement of Expectations

The NSE are intended to reinforce the importance of bringing local service providers together, understanding local needs, commissioning services accordingly and publishing data about their local needs, and how services are being provided to meet them, and setting out clear leadership and accountability for delivery.

The key principles within the NSE are:

- *The victim at the centre*: Every victim, whether adult or child, is an individual with different experiences, reactions and needs. Local areas should ensure that services are flexible and responsive to the victim's experience and voice.
- *A clear focus on perpetrators*: In order to keep victims safe, local areas should ensure that there are robust services in place which manage the risk posed by perpetrators and offer behavioural change opportunities for those willing and able to engage with them.
- *A strategic, system-wide approach to commissioning*: Good commissioning always starts with understanding the issue and the problem you are trying to solve.
- *Is locally-led and safeguards individuals at every point*: Commissioned services should make use of local initiatives and services already in place to utilise resource, share best practice and ensure that there are coordinated pathways of support.
- *Raises local awareness of the issues and involves, engages and empowers communities to seek and deliver solutions*: Commissioners should work with local partners to provide a multiplicity of reporting mechanisms to better enable victims to come forward and access the support they need.

Appendix 2: Draft recommendations from BHCC Business Process Improvement Review

Strategic Recommendations

1. Refresh the partnership structure, reviewing representation from statutory and non-statutory partners to ensure it is relevant and inclusive, to enable the delivery of a Coordinated Community Response so that partners can coordinate their activities, review their performance, identify gaps, and support improvement.
2. Ensure that the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) and Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) are able to make the best use of the partnership structure to support local priorities (see recommendation 1) and additionally consider having a common slot for joint Board business related to this agenda.
3. As a minimum, all BHCC services in scope, statutory partners and commissioned providers to ensure effective protocols / referral pathways are in place to provide interventions to victims, and to manage perpetrators.
4. Review the current pathways for referral / assessment relating to DVA, SV and safeguarding in order to identify opportunities to reduce parallel pathways, make best use of resources and ensure a 'Whole Family' approach. E.g. scope capacity and feasibility to review DVA and SV in one hub.
5. Revisit the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between FCL and DVA SV Commissioning Team in relation to the Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programme (DVPP) to make amendments as necessary to reflect revised programme.
6. Review the current commissioning group with reference to other joint commissioning arrangements within the council, and across local partners, and agree how to deliver integrated commissioning in relation to this agenda.

Other recommendations

7. As part of the refresh of the partnership structure (see recommendation 1), BHCC should explore opportunities to streamline structures with East Sussex and Pan-Sussex groups to reduce duplication in the current set-up and improve clarity in terms of decision making.
8. Further monitor levels of demand for victim/survivors (and their families) and consider:
8. Whether the current investment in specialist services is sufficient to meet need
9. Explore future funding options including how best to meet increase in demand
10. Where there is unmet need, work with statutory services to manage unmet need
11. Identify other opportunities to increase options for earlier intervention (e.g. the role of field officers)
9. Complete the current work with the specialist service to map the victim journey and review triage and assessment processes to make best use of resources
10. Implement recommendations emerging from the Sussex review of the SARC conducted by NHS England
11. Clarify and communicate our offer for clients who are vulnerable and seek external funding to meet the unmet need.
12. Work with the CCGs in Brighton & Hove and East Sussex to develop business case(s) for role of CCGs in MARAC, including representation at MARAC, as well as the specialist service training and support offer in primary and secondary care (e.g. Health Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (HIDVA)), from 2018/19 onwards.
13. Clarify funding and commissioning arrangements for the Trauma Pathway for those affected by DVA and SV, from 2018/19 onwards.

14. Review the outcome of the bid to the Police Transformation Fund for perpetrator provision and associated provider support and, if successful, identify how this can be aligned to existing local provision
15. Undertake a review of pathways for perpetrators to clarify the programme offer(s), including existing provision through children and criminal justice providers and areas of unmet need within the community and substance misuse services, and address issue around pathways, unmet need and outcomes
16. Ensure the recommendations for the sexual assault Health Needs Assessment are shared and inform the commissioning of provision as agreed by statutory agencies at the Pan-Sussex Executive Board
17. Set baseline data monitoring protocols with commissioners and partners and streamline the reporting of key data to have consistent recording and to reflect the true measures of DVA and SV
18. Use the recommendations from the Business Improvement review, alongside with local needs assessments, service mapping and stakeholder and community consultation, to inform the development of a DVA, SV and VAWG Strategy
19. Ensure there is a robust action plan to deliver partnership priorities as part of a Coordinated Community Response with joint working between statutory partners, commissioners and providers. This could be held in the annual Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy and Action Plan.
20. Complete the planned review of the Joint DVA SV Unit in accordance with BHCC procedure and principles which includes customer and communities insight.
21. Review co-commissioning arrangements to inform future commissioning cycles, including decision making in relation to The Portal after September 2018 and other areas such as refuge and wider victim support pathway
22. Carry out a refresh and review of contract monitoring arrangements to maximise resources and capacity, looking at both the requirements of the commissioner and the needs of the provider
23. Continue to deliver a DVA SV and Harmful Practices multi-agency training programme through the integrated training prospectus, ensuring this is co-produced with statutory and Voluntary and Community Sector partners and refreshed annual in light of national and local policy / guidance and outcome from various reviews. Ensure that there is clear communication regarding mandatory requirements
24. Review findings of Pan Sussex MARAC Review and agree / implement changes to local process to manage volume, in particular considering MARAC chairing, structure of MARAC meetings and administration of the MARAC process.
25. Review findings of Pan Sussex DHR Review and, building on existing local good practice, explore options for a collaborative approach to commissioning, conduct and learning from reviews with East and West Sussex County Councils.
26. Continue to work with the CCG to ensure that GPs receive training in relation to domestic and sexual violence and this is rolled out within practices.
27. Ensure that there is a clear understanding of the training needs of council offers from the Directorates in scope who deliver universal and targeted services and that staff can access to the appropriate levels of training relating to DVA and SV.

Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Services Partnership Improvement Programme 2018/19

1. Strategic Objectives

- 1.1. Redefine strategy to reflect local needs and context
- 1.2. Develop cross-sector partnership working opportunity and commitment
- 1.3. Broaden market place/service capacity to engage in the agenda
- 1.4. Re-commission services with focus on service user need and sustainable quality service provision

2. Governance

A Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Strategy and Commissioning Executive Board

would operate on behalf of Brighton and Hove and East Sussex areas to ensure the programme is delivered (*VAWG Commissioning Group?*) and report in to the statutory Community Safety Executive Boards in each area.

Beneath this oversight board, a ***Strategy Task/Finish Group*** (to produce the draft strategy and delivery plan), and a ***Service Commissioning Task/Finish Group*** (to agree procurement approach/s and service specification/s) would be established consecutively to deliver the programme. Task/finish working groups and sessions would enable appropriate engagement of partners in shaping and delivery of key components that bring development forward:

2.1. Component Task/Finish Work

- Data analysis
- Stakeholder insight by theme (Place/Geography, Identities, Issues (DVA/SVA/S&H/HBV etc), Experience) including service user and victim/survivor involvement: experiences, 'real pathways', needs and gaps
- Service/intervention mapping (Specialist services and access point services including prevention (including training and awareness raising), acute response and recovery, and including how they fund their work)
- Commissioned services review including the Joint Unit (including MARAC administration), MARAC, The Portal, and Talking Therapies. This in addition to consideration of existing audit and review outcomes and recommendations including DHRs and SARCs.
- Best Practice and Innovation: research on partnership governance, procurement methods, service capacity and sustainability, service systems/procedure, urban and rural response in the context of specialist services and access to services
- Strategy and Action Plan
- Develop outline specification of component services and developments required to respond to the needs of victims and survivors and their families in relation to violence and abuse in line with the strategy, and including prioritisation for commissioners
- Commissioners develop service specification/s for procurement process (best mode to be determined through evidenced based work above).

3. Outline Programme Delivery Plan and Timescales

A detailed project plan will be developed to include component task/finish work and project costs. At the time of writing this paper, negotiation is taking place to secure 'in-kind' resources

to deliver the work from BHCC, ESCC, and voluntary and community sector partners, led by the Safer Communities - Joint Domestic, Sexual Violence & Abuse and Violence against Women & Girls (VAWG) Unit Brighton & Hove and East Sussex. The outline plan below is indicative only, and seeks to provide information and context for partners.

Table 1: Outline Programme Delivery Plan and Timescales

Month	Activity
August 2018	Collaboration with AVA to update and complete Stakeholder Consultation Report
September 2018	<p>Engage VCS infrastructure providers to support strategy development</p> <p>Engage cross-sector partners to set up multi-agency cross sector steering group for strategy development</p> <p>Engage members in gathering initial data and insight: what have we got already?</p> <p>Develop stakeholder contacts for the purposes of strategy development</p> <p>Agree approach with funding partners and commissioned services to complete review of function and pathways including: The Joint Unit, The Portal, MARAC, Talking Therapies and Victim Support Triage</p> <p>Arrange stakeholder engagement events as key milestones in the strategy development process.</p>
October 2018	<p>Steering Group work to develop and finalise project plan and initiate task/finish work</p> <p>Complete data based needs assessments for Brighton and Hove and East Sussex</p> <p>Begin light touch review of services: service led</p>
November 2018	<p>Undertake task/finish work</p> <p>Continue light touch review of services: service led</p>
December 2018	<p>Launch event for Strategy Development Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Present AVA findings - Present Data Needs Assessment - Present partnership insight to date - Identify and confirm key themes of interest for further exploration during strategy development process (For targeted workshops and task/finish work) <p>Plan and run targeted thematic workshops and collate findings</p> <p>Plan stakeholder strategy verification conference</p>
January 2019	

	<p>Undertake Task/Finish Work including complete light touch review of services: service led</p> <p>Progress report to NICE Committee</p>
February 2019	<p>Draft Joint Strategy, and partnership delivery plan (East Sussex and Brighton and Hove components) and associated governance/infrastructure.</p> <p>Run stakeholder strategy verification conference</p> <p>Present draft strategy and delivery plan to NICE committee</p>
March 2019	
April 2019	<p>Review membership of Strategy and Commissioning Executive Board and associated governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategy Development Task/Finish Group ends
May 2019	<p>Formation of Service Commissioning Task/Finish Group under direction from Executive Board</p> <p>Task/Finish group commences development of specification/s for required services including specialist support services based on findings of service review and emerging strategy.</p>
June 2019	<p>Procurement Process: activity and milestones to be confirmed dependent on commissioning model/s chosen</p>
July 2019	
August 2019	
September 2019	
October 2019	
November 2019	
December 2019	

For more information please contact Lindsay Adams, Strategic Commissioner:
Lindsay.adams@brighton-hove.gov.uk/lindsay.adams@eastsussex.gov.uk

Document is Restricted

Subject:	Rough Sleeping Strategy Update		
Date of Meeting:	8th October 2018		
Report of:	Executive Director for Health & Adult Social Care		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Matt Morgan	Tel: 01273 290351
	Email:	matt.morgan@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The report provides a progress update on the implementation of the Rough Sleeping Strategy.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the committee note this report.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Rough Sleeping Strategy (2016-2020) was approved by the Local Authority and partners and signed-up to by Brighton & Hove Connected in June 2016.
- 3.2 The issue of rough sleeping remains acute with a visible presence on the streets. This not only impacts on the individual's wellbeing and life chances, but also the city's reputation and incurs costs to public services and businesses.
- 3.3 It is estimated that there are currently around 10 new arrivals to the city per week who are either already rough sleeping or at risk of rough sleeping. This means that local agencies have to work effectively together with over 1000 individuals per year.. The numbers who come from outside the city and those with a local connection is currently approximately a 50-50 split. The vast majority of individuals have complex needs, often relating to substance misuse and mental health issues connected with their vulnerability.
- 3.4 The strategy that was approved unanimously and signed up to by all local agencies in June 2016 is now being closely monitored and all activity reviewed to ensure that we achieve the most effective outcomes for rough sleepers and the city as a whole.
- 3.5 At the Brighton & Hove Connected meeting in February 2017, following the MHCLG annual rough sleeper count in November 2016 where the number of rough sleepers in the city had risen to 144, BHCC and citywide partners agreed that, to ensure the implementation of the Rough Sleeping Strategy, a Coordinator role was required. The Rough Sleeping Strategy Coordinator was appointed and

in post by September 2017. This role has now been extended until 31 March 2019.

3.6 Also in June 2017 a Charity Link Project Co-ordinator (funded by a MHCLG grant for 2 years) was appointed via a support service, The Passage, to coordinate and support community, voluntary and third sector voluntary services.

3.7 **The strategy is broken down into 5 Priorities and 12 Goals:**

- **P1: Prevent Homelessness and Rough Sleeping** – to provide a consistent message about housing options that helps services prevent homelessness and moves people away from sleeping rough
- G1: Develop a consistent citywide approach to prevent homelessness and rough sleeping
- G2: Improve housing options for single person households
- **P2: Rapid Assessment and Reconnection** – outreach to assess the needs of people sleeping rough to plan support, and where appropriate, reconnect people with friends, families and support networks, before they are fully immersed in street life
- G3: Provide rapid assessment, support planning and effective reconnection for those new to rough sleeping
- G4: Target people sleeping rough with complex needs to ensure there is an integrated plan to move people into accommodation
- G5: Ensure services are sensitive to the needs of all vulnerable groups including LGBT people, young, older, women and ex-service personnel
- **P3: Improving Health** – to ensure people sleeping rough are supported by health and social care services that help them to regain their independence
- G6: Improve health and care outcomes through the delivery of integrated and flexible service
- G7: Ensure those on the streets continue to have access to emergency shelter during extreme weather
- **P4: A Safe City** – making sure people sleeping rough, residents and visitors are safe and free from intimidation
- G8: Focus on managing risks, preventing harm and promoting appropriate behaviour
- G9: Promote alternatives to discourage street life and begging

- **P5: Pathways to Independence** – making sure supported accommodation offers solutions appropriate to residents’ needs. Our vision and priorities acknowledge that some people may initially choose to remain on the city’s streets. We will make sure that services continually engage with all those sleeping rough to support them into a position where ultimately they do decide to move away from street life
- G10: Have a flexible accommodation pathway that responds to changing needs
- G11: Develop bespoke supported housing options where appropriate
- G12: Ensure timely move on to independent accommodation

3.8 As reflected in the national trends the rough sleeper count rose again in November 2017 to 178 and Brighton & Hove remained the second in terms of rough sleeper numbers across Local Authorities in England (see table below).

MHCLG Annual Rough Sleeper Count/Estimate Autumn 2017

England total = 4751 up 617 from 2016 – 15% rise

Local Authority	Region	2016	<u>2017</u>	Change from 2016	% change on 2016
Westminster	London	260	217	-43	-17%
Brighton and Hove	South East	144	178	34	24%
Camden	London	17	127	110	647%
Manchester	North West	78	94	16	21%
Luton	East	76	87	11	14%

3.9 **Key Factors and Challenges Locally:**

- Housing within Brighton & Hove is limited and expensive and there are issues with planning restraints for change of use and with public consultations
- Lack of suitable move on accommodation for existing hostel and supported accommodation residents, leading to blockages in supported accommodation
- There is a need for social/affordable housing for many demographic groups including: young families, the elderly, people requiring disabled access,

- people with learning disabilities, vulnerable young adults leaving care and ex-service personnel. Rough sleepers do not necessarily take priority over all these groups; however they must be included in the mix
- The level of complex needs among rough sleepers in the city is high. Accommodation alone is not sufficient for people with multi complex needs to maintain a tenancy. Support, often intense, is required to help people in this cohort to develop skills and maintain accommodation
 - A multi-agency strategy to address access to mental health and substance misuse support is needed for this cohort
 - The number of tents and encampments in the city has increased significantly over summer 2018 which poses safeguarding and social issues as well as concerns nuisance to the public

3.10 **Key achievements to date:**

Winter night shelter 17/18 (Priority 2, Goal 3)

The night shelter at Brighton Centre was open last winter, 10 Dec to 11 Mar. The facility provided a safe shelter for rough sleepers. Successful moves into supported accommodation, detox services and safe reconnections outside the city were achieved through from service. It was assessed that the service helped reduce risk of death in periods of severe weather alongside the churches' night shelter and Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) provision

Implementation of Bthink (P2, G3)

The implementation and roll out of Bthink has enabled accurate recording and capturing of information related to those people coming into contact with services. This enables services to have access to an individual's case notes and provides detail on the interventions and support being provided. Work is underway to ensure all relevant services are using this system to improve the sharing of information across various providers.

MAP (P1, G1)

A Multi-agency protocol (MAP) was developed through a series of workshops facilitated by the Policy, Partnership and Scrutiny team working with BHCC staff in ASC and Housing along with commissioned services. There was agreement on principles and guidelines for an action plan or single service offer for all rough sleepers that is agreed by the individual, all services and entered onto the shared database (Bthink). The aim is to give every rough sleeper the best and most appropriate offer of accommodation, given the resources available, to move them off the streets as quickly as possible in order to reduce harm.

Local Connection (P2, G3)

The Local Connection protocol for BHCC had not been updated since 2005 and this needed to be reviewed and updated to meet the current needs of rough sleepers and the provision available in the city. This was developed by co-working with Commissioning, Housing and the Refugees & Migrants lead in BHCC.

Business Pack (P1, G1) and (P5, G10)

An advice and guidance pack for businesses to help support rough sleepers and report concerns around begging and anti-social behaviour was developed and distributed to all businesses in the BID area and through the Brighton & Hove Chamber of Commerce. The pack gives businesses practical advice on what to do and who to contact in various scenarios and explains the difference between rough sleeping and aggressive begging, usually to support an addiction, to give a clearer picture of the challenges we face.

Make Change Count 2018 (P1, G1) and (P4, G9)

BHCC's online giving campaign to encourage the public to give online to a group of homeless support charities in the city rather than directly on street was extended to eight charities in 2018. In 2017 £28K was raised and so far in 2018 £11k has been raised, which hopefully will rise steeply in the build up to Christmas as it did last year. The aim is as much about raising awareness of the issues we face in the city and promoting the vital and varied support work of the charities as it is about raising money.

Galvanise (P1, G1)

YMCA Downs Link Group (YMCADLG) led a project to pull together community support and volunteers to undertake a five day/night survey and head count of rough sleepers across Brighton & Hove in November 2017. This event was based on the European End Street Homelessness Campaign led by World Habitat. Data was gathered on the profile of people sleeping rough in the city and what led them to becoming homeless and will be used for further analysis to help develop homeless support services.

3.11 Homelessness Reduction Act (HRA) 2017 (in effect from April 2018)

3.11.1 This builds on Trailblazer initiatives that have been in place since June 2017, with all Housing Officers taking up generic roles as Homelessness Prevention Officers. Placing homeless prevention as the first action of all homeless enquiries/presentations is now embedded into service and procedures. The HRA places a duty on all Housing Authorities to provide assistance to anyone who is within 56 days of being a risk of homelessness. A minimum of advice and guidance and a Personal Housing Plan (PHP) is provided to everyone to find the best solution and prevent homelessness and a homeless application being made. The key aims of the HRA are:

- Improved advice and information about homelessness and the prevention of homelessness
- Introducing new duties to prevent and relieve homelessness for all eligible people, regardless of priority need and intentionality
- Introducing assessments and personalised housing plans (PHPs), setting out the actions housing authorities and individuals will take to secure accommodation
- Encouraging public bodies to work together to prevent and relieve homelessness through a duty to refer (Oct 2018)

3.12 Tackling Begging and Encampments

Op Doorway:

- 3.12.1 Sussex Police have been working with the Equinox drug and alcohol service ASB Officer and the Community Safety Team to deal with aggressive begging in the city. This operation is undertaken weekly and has shown positive results in tackling the issue.

Encampments:

- 3.12.2 A flowchart with procedures of how to deal with encampments has been completed with advice from Legal Services. The aim is to encourage rough sleepers to engage with services and work to get vulnerable people in a safe space rather than on the streets. The process also helps reduce harm to both the community and rough sleepers.

3.13 MHCLG Rough Sleeper Interventions Funding

Health & Adult Social Care was successful in bidding for Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government funding in August 2018 to provide services and support that will have an immediate impact on reducing rough sleeper numbers in Brighton & Hove by the annual rough sleeper count in November 2018. The funding of **£495,107** is for **8 interventions**, expanding on existing services, until 31 March 2019. A further bid for £711,524 has been submitted to continue some of these interventions for 19/20 and expand Housing First. The 8 interventions are:

- **Additional outreach provision** within the existing street outreach service. Two additional posts can each work intensively with 15 people, with one post working specifically with women. One further navigator post can focus on people new to the street and link to the Hub and other day centres
- **Increase 'in-reach' support** for rough sleepers placed by Housing in emergency accommodation to ensure they are linked into services and able to sustain their accommodation. One worker will work with out of area placements in Eastbourne & Newhaven, working closely with other local authorities and partners
- **Expand the psychology service** which works with people with complex trauma and Personality Disorder. These are people the statutory services won't pick up or who require additional support or advocacy to access services and accommodation
- **Establishment of a Hub** to embed a NSNO approach and place of safety. 17 bed Hub to be located in an existing day centre focusing on moving rough sleepers off the streets quickly
- **Dedicated funding to support reconnections work**, move on support based at the Hub to ensure that those with a Local Connection elsewhere or who want to resettle elsewhere are supported to settle in the best accommodation option to meet their needs

- **Move off the streets temporary accommodation**, and move on from the Hub. This expands existing non-commissioned accommodation services. 21 units with 3 support staff
- **Fund 0.5 FTE Occupational Therapist** Band 7 to work with rough sleepers to support people into and to sustain accommodation, while expanding resilience and life skills
- **Expand the churches winter night shelter to 6 months provision** of the existing 15 beds per night

3.14 **Winter Provision**

3.14.1 Following the success of the winter night shelter at the Brighton Centre last winter, open mid-Dec to mid-March, the facility is to be provided again for winter 18/19. It will run alongside the SWEP provision and Churches night shelter. In addition a Hub with 17 beds is being operated at First Base by BHT to get people new to rough sleeping in Brighton & Hove off the streets rapidly and assess them as to what is their best option. This may be housing them in or outside the city depending on their needs and Local Connection status.

3.15 **Government Rough Sleeping Strategy**

3.15.1 The Government Rough Sleeping Strategy was released 13 August 2018. This latest action is part of the government's ongoing work to halve rough sleeping by 2022 and eliminate it by 2027. The three areas of focus are: Prevention, Intervention and Recovery. A Further £100 million was proposed but it was later announced that 50% of that had already been allocated or spent through funding for MHCLG rough sleeper intervention and other related schemes.

3.15.2 The area of recovery, particularly around funding for move on accommodation, is where Brighton & Hove could definitely apply for additional funding.

4. **ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

4.1 Not relevant for this report which is an update rather than a report presenting decisions.

5. **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION**

5.1 The development and implementation of the strategy has been and continues to be widely consulted upon, engaging businesses, community and voluntary sector organisations as well as communities themselves.

6. **CONCLUSION**

6.1. This report outlines activity being undertaken to implement the Rough Sleeper Strategy.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. The overall budget within Health & Adult Social Care for commissioned Housing Related Support services is £5.4m for 2018/19. Tenders for the individual services within this report will be requested against an agreed service specification. The Council is experiencing financial challenges and is subject to annual government financial settlements which can impact on the availability of funding. However it is anticipated that financial resources will be available to enable the commissioning of the services detailed above. Any services commissioned from the MHCLG Rough Sleeper Interventions Funding, will need to be within the funding awarded. If the accommodation cannot be sourced then the funding will have to be returned.

Finance Officer consulted: Sophie Warburton Date: 21/09/2018

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 The Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities and Equalities Committee has delegated authority to discharge the Council's functions in relation to street homelessness. As well as being responsible for co-ordinating the Council's policies and actions in relation to street homelessness, it has responsibility for ensuring - in conjunction with the Policy, Resources and Growth Committee, the Housing and New Homes Committee and the Health & Wellbeing Board - that appropriate action is taken in relation to it.
- 7.3 This Committee formally approved the Rough Sleeping Strategy in July 2016 (as did the Housing and New Homes Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Board). It is appropriate that this Committee consider this Report on progress in implementing the Strategy.

Lawyer Consulted: Victoria Simpson Date: 12/09/2018

Equalities Implications:

- 7.4 None directly to this report for information. Equality issues were considered in the formulation of the Rough Sleeper Strategy and in the development of the tenders detailed in the body of the report.

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.5 None identified to this report for information.

Any Other Significant Implications:

- 7.6 None directly to this report for information. Public Health and risk/opportunity issues have been considered in formulating the Rough Sleeper Strategy and in the development of the tenders detailed in the body of the report

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Rough Sleeping Strategy: Action Tracker
2. MHCLG Eight Rough Sleeper Interventions: Action Tracker

Documents in Members' Rooms

1. None

Background Documents

None

Brighton & Hove - Rough Sleeping Strategy 2016

Strategic Action Tracker



Brighton & Hove
City Council

Priority 1: Prevent Homelessness and Rough Sleeping

Action completed

Suggested key priorities

Goal 1: Develop a consistent citywide approach to prevent homelessness and rough sleeping

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Encourage all partners to pledge their support to the vision, partnership work and priorities of this strategy.	Sign up event July 2016.	BHCC Adult Services	Sign up to strategy took place at launch event at First Base.	n/a	n/a
Review routes in/out of street life and how organisations work together to prevent homelessness and move people away from the streets.	Process mapping with statutory and third sector groups 2016/17 to inform the Protocol.	BHCC Adult Services; St. Mungo's	Third Sector led Campaign (by DLYMCA) to End Rough Sleeping, Galvanise, to hold a Connections week end of November 2017 to interview every rough sleeper in the city using community volunteers. The aim is to connect the city to the issue of rough sleeping and to gather information on why people have ended up on the street. From the information gathered services can be developed and realigned to provide the most effective solutions to rough sleeping and feed into the Rough Sleeping Strategy. Data analysis will be provided by Public Health. Existing data is collated by St Mungo's and other services.		Set up a Homeless prevention working group to co-ordinate actions across services. Findings from Connections Week to be used to explore opportunities to reduce numbers of people rough sleeping.

Develop a Multi-Agency Protocol for Brighton & Hove. Ensure the Protocol is promoted and understood by staff, volunteers and residents.	Protocol agreed by March 2017! Agree protocol on 2nd March 2018 at Board meeting	Rough Sleeping Strategy Coordinator; BHCC Adult Services;	A draft protocol has been developed by St Mungo's. The next stage is to refine the protocol so that it can be used and understood by all stakeholders in the city. Once agreed the protocol will be launched.	Roll out and sign up of organisations required.	Wider protocol for all agencies to be agreed by the steering group after commissioned services signed off MAP.
Ensure a rolling communications programme on reducing rough sleeping that engages the general public.	Roll out communications from July 2016.	BHCC Communications; BHCC Adult Services	Clear messages for a proactive communications strategy are required. Increase awareness of 'make change count' campaign, promoting online donations to homelessness support services.		Direction required from steering group and elected members.
Ensure that awareness of the 'Make Change Count' campaign is maximised.	Relaunch of MCC campaign for Feb 2018 – promote work of the 8 charities involved	Rough Sleeping Strategy Coordinator; BHCC Communications; BHT – justgiving page	Second push on MCC campaign closing 31 Dec 2017 & £23k raised divided between 5 charities involved. Campaign relaunched in Feb 2018 to run until end Jan 2019. All participating charities must promote the campaign on their website linked to the campaign webpage. 3 new charities added for 2018 campaign; The Clock Tower Sanctuary, BYMCA and YMCADLG.		

Goal 2: Improve housing options for single person households

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Publicise where to go for assistance and to seek help at an early stage.	Incorporate into the Multi-Agency Protocol.	BHCC Housing	Currently devising a communications plan as part of the Trailblazer project about seeking help at an early stage.		

			Flyer and webpage launched October 2017.		
Develop an easy early referral mechanism so that other professionals (e.g. GPs, Police, social care) can direct clients to housing advice before crisis point.	Now in place Dec 2017	BHCC Housing Options (Bob Proctor)	Trailblazer team developed draft on-line form for professionals with Communications team. Have links to information prescriptions on housing web pages. Contact email in place earlyintervention@brighton-hove.gov.uk . Review use of information prescriptions for housing advice with to date.		
All partners to be aware of the housing market and benefit rates.	Circulate B&H Housing Market Reports to Partners.	BHCC Housing; BHCC Adult Services	Supported accommodation providers and outreach teams are aware of the housing market and benefit rates. Universal Credit training has also been offered to all providers. Taken to Homeless Operational Forum so they have links and they are available on our web pages. TB co-ordinators are also sharing it with other agencies.		
Investigate creative solutions to increase accommodation options (such as lodgers, temporary modular homes and rent deposit schemes).	March 2017	BHCC Adult Services; BHCC Housing	Umbrella Group commenced, so far positive outcomes. Commissioning is investigating night shelter provision. YMCA Downslink YCubes – committee approval June 2017 – build delayed . Trailblazer expanding Night Stop provision to over 25s as well as existing service for under 25s. Rough sleepers can only access if there is capacity and if the rough		Strategic Accommodation Board established. ToFR being established to look at accommodation needs of different groups.

			sleepers are actively being worked with. Housing and ASC are exploring obtaining PRS under rent deposit scheme.		
Improve access to housing information to raise awareness affordable housing options locally and in other parts of the country.	IT approach to be developed.	BHCC Housing	A 6 monthly event with Housing management to promote alternative options to move has been agreed. Housing have also set up accommodation finding drop-in for people who are using other intervention e.g. Night Stop, to demonstrate they are positively engaging with moving on and getting help to get tenancy ready e.g. attending Council run workshops. This is also focused on those in our Temporary accommodation to enable them to move on. Trailblazer team looking at move on in all TA & EA.	Are rough sleepers accessing this? Sue Forrest asked	

Priority 2: Rapid Assessment and Reconnection

Goal 3: Provide rapid assessment, support planning and effective reconnection for those new to rough sleeping

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcomes Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Set up a permanent assessment centre(s) with temporary (sit-up) beds.	Operational Summer 2017?	BHCC ASC; St Mungo's	Unsuccessful tender. One bid was made but assessed as unsuitable. Tender currently being revised while pilot of a short stay assessment service was to be launched in Nov with St Mungo's. Steering group set up which is managing the development of the pilot. This has been delayed – why? Due to issues with securing a building. This has been resolved and a tender is due out by mid 2018.		
Develop integrated and coordinated joint assessments and support planning across housing, care and health (including primary care, SCT, SPFT, BSUH and community & voluntary sector).	All clients to have their own Multi-Agency Plan. Pilot late 2016 to go live March 2017?	BHCC ASC (Sue Forrest) ; BHCC Housing; St. Mungo's; NHS Partners;	All clients to have their own Multi-Agency Plan. Linked to launch of Bthink July 2017, roll out to agencies and services will ensure coordinated plans. This has been delayed due to GDPR compliance – now approved. Delay in roll out to services – why? Trailblazer funded social work leading on work with	Bthink is GDPR compliant. Signed off by legal and IG. Training and roll out amongst partners is in progress. Access to Bthink for Council Teams is still to be signed off by IG through	

			homeless people and rough sleepers. Operational manager in post to lead on homeless issues. Housing is awaiting access to Bthink. Housing will be responsible for developing Personalised Housing Action Plans which is a statutory requirement under the Homelessness Reduction Act along with a requirement for public bodies to work with Housing to address housing need through the housing Action Plan. Under the TB project plan launched trial mid-September with Housing needs.	completed Data Protection Privacy Impact Assessments. Link between Bthink and Housing Action Plans to be developed.	
Share client information across all partner organisations to ensure a consistent approach and improve interventions / outcomes.	March 2017	BHCC Adult Services	Bthink launched with St Mungo's July 2017. Roll out to partner organisations once data protection review has been completed. All high and medium supported accommodation have access to Bthink. Training schedule in place for yp services and day centres to use the system.	Delay in roll out.	
Ensure a swift response to enable a No Second Night Out approach.	Incorporate into Multi-Agency Protocol.	BHCC Adult Services; BHCC Housing	Role of Trailblazer in reducing rough sleeping. TB early intervention will aim to prevent homelessness at an earlier stage. For those who become rough	Accommodation availability to move people off the street quickly.	

			sleepers, the Rough Sleepers Grant Actions will come into play.		
Work with providers and charities to ensure safe and sustainable reconnections.	21 st Dec 2017	BHCC Adult Services (Sue Forrest); St Mungo's	Consistent approach to be taken by services. Memorandum of Understanding to be developed relating to good practice.	SHORE (Sussex Homeless Outreach Reconnection & Engagement) no longer exists for working across Sussex authorities. St Mungo's now leading on this.	Suggest a cross service working group looks at this.

Goal 4: Target people sleeping rough with complex needs to ensure there is an integrated plan to move people into accommodation

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Provide temporary beds for those with complex needs to ensure engagement before reconnection assessment.	Set up a permanent assessment centre(s) with temporary (sit-up) beds by March 2017.	BHCC Adult Services	Unsuccessful tender of in-house accommodation tender. Tender currently being revisited while trial of assessment service is made. Steering group set up which is currently managing the development of the assessment and sit up beds trial. Delayed – why? Due to issues with securing a building. This has been resolved and a tender is due out by mid 2018.		
Implement a scheme to target	Scheme late	BHCC Adult Services;	SIB grant funding in place. Tender	Reported	

those entrenched / complex rough sleepers based on bespoke responses to individual needs through a multi-agency response.	2016	St. Mungo's	out July 2017; new service mobilised March 2018. St Mungos is the service provider.	engagement issues for complex rough sleepers with SMS and MH services.	
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Goal 5: Ensure services are sensitive to the needs of all vulnerable groups including LGBT people, young, older, women and ex-service personnel

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Ensure providers implement recommendations of Stonewall Housing LGBT report.	Include recommendations in Multi-Agency Protocol.	BHCC Adult Services; BHCC Housing St. Mungo's	Implemented across all HASC commissioned services. Fulfilling Lives undertaking case studies of how LGBT rough sleepers access services.		
Consult women and other groups about delivery of service which best meet their needs.	Develop women only accommodation provision.	BHCC Adult Services	Women only service tendered and awarded following comprehensive consultation with service users and research into good practice. Equinox manage service opened Jan 2018; phase one – 10 beds. Phase two - 9 beds – to be opened April.		
Continue to develop the Young People's Accommodation and Support Pathway.	Young people's bed spaces in the Housing First Jan 2016.	BHCC Adult Services; BHCC Housing; BHCC Children's Services	Complete. Housing chair Young People's Supported Accommodation Panel and involved with ASC in commissioning of young people's services. The tenders are being evaluated currently. April 2018.		
Ensure Care Act assessments are carried out for older and	Include in integrated	BHCC Adult Services	Statutory duty is being fulfilled.		

<p>frail people sleeping rough.</p>	<p>joint assessments across housing, care and health March 2017.</p>				
<p>Maintain commitments to ex-Armed Forces personnel through the Armed Forces Covenant.</p>	<p>Monitoring and reporting of rough sleeping amongst ex-forces personnel.</p>	<p>BHCC Adult Services; Armed Forces Network</p>	<p>In place. Quarter.1. 2017/18 figures show 6 ex-personnel seen by support services; this is 1.7% of those worked with. All 6 cases are now closed.</p>		

Priority 3: Improving Health

Goal 6: Improve health and care outcomes through the delivery of integrated and flexible service

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Commission services to deliver new integrated health and social care model for homeless.	March 2017	Brighton & Hove CCG; BHCC Adult Services; BHCC Public Health	Joint procurement NHS England and CCG for specialist primary care and primary care plus services. Contract started February 2017 with new provider ARCH CIC. Regular mobilisation meetings being held. SCFT contract for specialist homeless services aligned. Increased GP sessions, and outreach sessions. New patient health checks, MDT meetings continuing. PPG established. Workshop held in June 17 to agree next priorities and to develop Integrated Health and Care Steering Group work plan – mental health response identified as key priority.		
Review access and delivery to assessment (including Mental Capacity Act and Care Act) to ensure the needs of those who are sleeping rough, or at risk of	March 2017	BHCC Adult Services; CCG and NHS Trusts (BSUH, SPFT, SCFT); Other Services	Statutory duty is being fulfilled. A fortnightly multiagency meeting supports joint assessment and support planning and the development of joint plans and agreement on key working.		

<p>rough sleeping, are identified.</p> <p>Ensure professionals and staff are trained and skilled to deliver the model of care, including joint assessment and care planning.</p>	<p>June 2017</p>	<p>CCG and NHS Trusts; BHCC; Third Sector Providers</p>	<p>Wellbeing CQUIN (Commissioning for Quality and Innovation payments framework) – included mental health training provision for hostel staff. New ARCH primary care contract includes training role. Training delivered includes Whitehawk GP reception staff and ARCH has started to deliver training to other city practices.</p>		
<p>Align substance misuse services including co-location of workers, and joint assessments where possible.</p>	<p>June 2017</p>	<p>Pavilions and Public Health</p>	<p>Pavilions and supported housing hostels have been having 3 monthly reviews and care plan reviews between care coordinators and keyworkers. Fulfilling Lives led on this piece of work. Needle exchange service at Glenwood and plan to roll out other hostels. Dual Diagnosis CPN funded through Homeless Grant located in Mental Health Homeless Team. Outreaching to RS with team. DD group within ARCH jointly run by Experts by Experience and CPN.</p>	<p>Ensuring this happens throughout Pavilions partnership, not just with pro-active care coordinators and keyworkers.</p>	<p>Monitoring internally that joint-working takes place, through Pavilions case management tool.</p>

Goal 7: Ensure those on the streets continue to have access to emergency shelter during extreme weather

Strategic Action	Target	Lead Partner	Progress to	Barriers	Suggested
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	end date		Date/Outcome Achieved		Solutions
Review Severe Weather Emergency Provision protocols.	September 2016	BHCC Adult Services	Review complete. Service due for retender in 2018. BHT. 2 days below zero or amber weather warning (storms)		

Priority 4: A Safe City

Goal 8: Focus on managing risks, preventing harm and promoting appropriate behaviour

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Work with partner agencies to ensure they are not inadvertently entrenching the street community.	Ongoing	Adult Social Care; Council Housing; Communities Team; Third Sector	Funding from DCLG awarded for a charity project to The Passage. Greg Headley in place and started work 15 th June 2017 working with the church, community and voluntary sector.		
Engage the street community to understand their impact on others.	Ongoing	St Mungo's; Sussex Police; BHCC community Safety Team; City Clean; City Parks; Ambassadors	Aim to reduce ASB reported, perpetrated against and by street community cohort. Twice weekly action day with partner agencies, Close relationship with accommodation providers enabling support and intervention for residents. Daily sweeps by team signposting to relevant support. Operation street process for third party reporting system. Removal and storage of abandoned rough sleepers' belongings in the city centre producers to be		

			reviewed.		
<p>Support people into appropriate treatment services where possible.</p> <p>Give advice on harm reduction including safe disposal of drug litter.</p>	<p>Update by 21st December 2017</p>	<p>BHCC Public Health; Pavilions & Equinox;</p>	<p>Aim: Increase number of street community people accessing treatment as required.</p> <p>Reduction in drug litter in public places. Over the financial year 2016/2017, the Equinox outreach team have worked with 81 different clients who are rough sleeping or in hostels. Of these, 12 have been supported to enter structured treatment and 10 have been supported to enter rehab. The outreach team also supported clients already in treatment to attend appointments, and this represented 129 interventions.</p> <p>The community substance misuse service is working with community pharmacy providers of needle exchange to ensure that safe disposal of drug litter is promoted. Public health analysts are currently compiling data on drug litter in the City from various sources and this will be reported in the next Rough Sleeping Strategy Action Planner. Improve prep for</p>		

			detox/rehab.		
Take action where necessary to reduce the risk and harm.	Reduced ASB reported perpetrated against, and by, street community people.	Sussex Police; BHCC Community Safety Team	High Impact case work forum (HICWF) monitors effect subjects can have on both street community and wider population. Op Street third party reporting system allows monitoring of persistent offenders/victims. Immigration operations allow targeting of non UK nationals breaking treaty rights.		
Use tenant and resident support services where appropriate to manage behaviour on the street.	Reduced ASB reported perpetrated against, and by, street community people.	BHCC Housing; BHCC Adult Services; Community Safety team	Rough Sleeper outreach team liaise with resident groups affected by rough sleeping activity. Begging Action Days in operation with Police, St Mungo's and Equinox.	Housing Tenancy services cannot provide for managing behaviour on the street as they have no influence for non- tenants.	

Goal 9: Promote alternatives to discourage street life and begging

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Promote alternatives to giving to beggars focussed on helping people move away from street life.	Use communications to sustain and embed alternative giving in the public psyche.	BHCC Communications Team	Successful launch of Make Change Count July 2017, with 5 local charities benefitting – BHT, St Mungo's, Equinox, Nightstop and Antifreeze. Now expanded to 3 other charities in 2018 to help increase public awareness.		

Priority 5: Pathways to Independence

Goal 10: Have a flexible accommodation pathway that responds to changing needs

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Ensure emergency, temporary and supported accommodation is safe and a suitable quality.	Regular monitoring and inspections of accommodation with action plans where necessary.	BHCC Housing Services; BHCC Adult Services	Commissioned supported accommodation is regularly monitored under the HASC contract monitoring framework which includes service user and stakeholder feedback. All services were contract monitored in 2016/17. Regular visits take in place. This does not include emergency and temporary accommodation.		
Ensure emergency, temporary and supported accommodation supports wellbeing.	Introduction of Psychologically Informed Environments in all hostels by March 2017.	BHCC Housing Services; BHCC Adult Services	Supported accommodation tenders for all accommodation and support include PIEs, improving access to services and improving health and wellbeing. 'Just Life' is a charity commissioned by CCG and NHS England working the TB team providing life skills support for those in emergency and temporary accommodation. 2 x Welfare Officers now joined Trailblazer team to support those in TA & EA.		
Review eviction protocols in	Eviction	BHCC Housing	In supported accommodation		

<p>emergency, temporary and supported accommodation.</p>	<p>protocols reviewed by March 2017.</p>	<p>Services; BHCC Adult Services</p>	<p>services, there is a new unplanned moves policy in place launched Dec 2016 to minimise people returning to rough sleeping. This is being monitored through quarterly service contract monitoring of supported accommodation providers. Also being considered by the TA Action Group. New eviction protocol now drafted by Commissioning.</p>		
<p>Allow flexibility for those with complex needs when making nominations to supported accommodation.</p>	<p>Incorporate into the Multi-Agency Protocol.</p>	<p>BHCC Adult Services</p>	<p>New multiple and complex needs accommodation service to be commissioned. Out to tender November 2017. Is this in place? No tenders, so service is being remodelled in house. Transitioned to new service specification April 2018.</p>	<p>Heavy demand limits options for making personalised accommodation nominations.</p>	
<p>Remodel and recommission supported accommodation within the integrated support pathway.</p>	<p>Remodel and recommission 2016. Mobilise 2017.</p>	<p>BHCC Adult Services</p>	<p>Tranche 1 tender complete – high and medium supported accommodation to be mobilised by Sept 2017. Tranche 2 tender – low support and women’s service awarded to Equinox in July 2017 and first 10 beds opened Jan 2018. Further 9 beds to open in April. Tranche 3 tenders work and learning & peer support due for release Oct 2017. Tranche 3 are in the process of being awarded. MCN’s out to tender. Is this now in place?</p>		

Implement findings of review Homeless Strategy Working Groups.	Implemented by March 2017.	BHCC Adult Services; BHCC Housing	New meetings and priorities are being established.		
Recommission Peer Support services.	March 2017	BHCC Adult Services	Tender due for release October 2017. At award stage. Contract is live as of 1 st March 2018.		
Commission Work and Learning services.	June 2017	BHCC Adult Services	Tender due for release October 2017. Tender awarded and being mobilised. Contract is live as of April 2018.		
Encourage social enterprise solutions between the Third Sector and business community that provide work and learning opportunities for service users.	To be discussed as part of consultation.	BHCC Adult Services; Third Sector; Business Community	Encouraged and supported by Community and Voluntary Sector DCLG funded post (Greg Headley).		

Goal 11: Develop bespoke supported housing options where appropriate

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Deliver new supported scheme for older people with complex needs.	Accommodation to be sourced and developed March 2017.	BHCC Housing	No accommodation found. HCA funding returned to the DCLG. New property identified and new HCA bid made by Housing. Is this now done?	Lack of accommodation. Loss of funding from HCA.	New bid made - awaiting decision.
Commission Housing First accommodation with units for young people.	Contract live January 2016.	BHCC Adult Services	Action Complete.		
Consult women and other groups about delivery of service which best meet their	Develop women only accommodation Provision.	BHCC Adult Services	Consultation completed. Women only service opened Jan 2018. Annual consultation to be embedded with service users of		

needs.			supported accommodation, outreach and day centre service users.		
Explore options to develop the most effective type of supported housing or alternative solutions appropriate to clients' needs.	Ongoing review of local, national, government and International opportunities for good practice and funding.	BHCC Adult Services; BHCC Housing; BHCC Regeneration; BHCC International Team	To be developed at the Accommodation Board. The regeneration team continue to progress the New Homes for Neighbourhoods programme to build new council homes. As Part of this work the team is working with YMCA DownsLink Group to develop up to 21 Y:Cube homes for local, young, single people and received committee approval for this project in June 17. When will YCubes be ready?	Heavy demand. 300 people waiting for supported accommodation	BPI currently taking place looking at referral system into supported accommodation services. Working group suggested to explore how support needs can be met for people who cannot access or are waiting some time to access supported accommodation.

Goal 12: Ensure timely move on to independent accommodation

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Ensure all those on the pathway to independence have a move-on plan developed at an early stage.	Incorporated as part of the new model tender March 2017. Update by 21st December 2017	BHCC ASC; Justlife	Included in all tenders and services being mobilised. Move on Co-ordinator post to support hostels with complex cases now filled (Kerrie Carlie). Ongoing intense monitoring of HASC Commissioning of Move on Plans of all service users. PRS access guidance being developed to support providers and service users. High needs and MAPPA clients blocking up hostel	Lack of move on accommodation and PRS access.	

			accommodation as difficult to place in PRS - Prioritise move on of MAPPA clients.		
Work with third sector and landlords to source secure accommodation suitable for single people.	Target to be developed in 2016. Ongoing	BHCC Adult Services; BHCC Housing; Third Sector	Umbrella Group is working with the credit union to assist people to access PRS with the help of loans. PRS access service level agreement to be signed with Housing so that properties are procured for rough sleepers and single homeless people. To be piloted for 1 year.	Limited funding available.	Regular Donations required and a fundraising campaign due to be launched for the Umbrella Group.
Ensure those ready for general needs accommodation are supported to manage their tenancy.	Update by 21st December 2017	BHCC Adult Services; Third Sector	Incorporate into the Multi-Agency Protocol. Floating support service (Just life) is in place to accept referrals. In addition supported accommodation providers are monitored on the sustainability of the people who move on from their services. Out of area placements e.g. Newhaven – develop support networks to help maintain tenancies and help with independent living e.g. meet up groups - work with East Sussex County Council & Lewes District Council – link to local GPs	Limited support options for people who move into council accommodation should they require it.	
Improve access to social housing where appropriate to meet needs of those ready.	Allocations Policy Review in progress 2016/17.	BHCC Housing	EIA identified that the impact of the new Allocations Policy means that people in supported accommodation may find it	Supported accommodation clients are held to a higher standard of	Manager of Homemove, Equalities Team and H&ASC have

			<p>harder to access to social housing than members of the general public. But this was not a significant impact and there are mitigations. Housing is developing additional accommodation on smaller sites and in conjunction with Hyde Housing as a Joint venture. Review completed and new policy being implemented. This will be completed by end of March 2018. New policy lettings plan being implemented so up to 40% available social housing allocated to homeless in TA which is enabling a lot more move on.</p>	<p>tenant readiness proof.</p>	<p>agreed to monitor and review the situation.</p>
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MHCLG 8 Rough Sleeper Interventions (Sept 18-April 19)

Action Tracker



**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Intervention 1: Additional Outreach provision

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Additional outreach provision within the existing street outreach service. A smaller caseload through extra capacity enables intensive work which is more likely to produce positive outcomes. 2 additional posts can work intensively with 15 people each. One to work with women specifically. 1 further navigator post can focus on people new to the street and link to the Hub and other day centres. Only 2018-19 funding confirmed.	Up and running September 2018	ASC Commissioning St Mungo's	Recruitment has been completed, new staff will be in post Sept 2018.		

Intervention 2: Increased "in reach or floating support"

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Increase 'in-reach' capacity for rough sleepers placed by Housing in emergency accommodation to ensure their needs are met, they are linked into services and that they sustain their accommodation. This will reduce the risk that they return to rough sleeping. 1 worker will work across in city and out of area placements in Eastbourne & Newhaven, working closely with local authority partners. There were 96 single people placed out of area as of 15 May 2018. Only 2018-19 funding confirmed.	Up and running September 2018	ASC Commissioning Southdown Housing	Recruitment has been completed, new post holder will be in place Sept 2018. Preparation work is taking place with Housing, Justlife, H&ASC.		

Intervention 3: Expand psychology service

<u>Strategic Action</u>	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcomes Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Expand the psychology service which is working with people with complex trauma and Personality Disorder (Emotionally Unstable, Anti-social). These are people the statutory services won't pick up or who require additional support or advocacy to access services and accommodation. Additional capacity will offer focused work with rough sleepers, offering an assessment service for rough sleepers identified at the Complex Risk Management Meeting and longer term rough sleepers who are experiencing barriers to accessing services. Only 2018-19 funding confirmed.	Up and running September 2018	ASC Commissioning Tara O'Neill	Expanded service started August 2018.		

Intervention 4: Identify and funding temporary accommodation

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Move off the streets accommodation, and move on from the Hub. This expands existing non-commissioned accommodation services. 21 units. 3 support staff required to meet the needs of rough sleepers with medium level support needs. Only 2018-19 funding confirmed.	Up and running September 2018	ASC Commissioning/ ELMel/Southdown	The service is on track to be ready at the end of September, with 2 support workers being recruited by Southdown.		

Intervention 5: Establishment of a Hub to embed a NSNO approach

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Establishment of a Hub to embed a NSNO approach and place of safety. To provide a safe and structured space for outreach services to work with people and for people to be properly assessed while accommodation options are explored. 17 bed Hub to be located in an existing day centre focusing on moving rough sleepers off the streets quickly. This will be expanded if another venue becomes available. Only 2018-19 funding confirmed.	Up and running September 2018	ASC Commissioning BHT	Opening end of August 2018 on a 3 month pilot at First Base.		

Intervention 6: Non-housing solutions - Occupational Therapist Band 7

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Fund 0.5 FTE Occupational Therapist Band 7 to work with rough sleepers to support people into, to sustain accommodation, expanding resilience and life skills. This is a post to sit within the outreach team working with rough sleepers in the Hub and newly accommodated to support their ability to sustain accommodation. Only 2018-19 funding confirmed.	Up and running September 2018	ASC Commissioning/SCFT	Contract being drafted between SCFT and BHCC.		

Intervention 7: Non-housing solutions – expand churches winter night shelter

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
The churches winter night shelter wants to expand their service from 15 beds over the next winter for rough sleepers to 25 beds over 26 weeks. This will take rough sleepers with higher needs which will better meet the needs of the city. This Team Leader will provide links with services across the city including the Hub and improve the outcomes for people accessing the night shelter. 1 FT post to support this development work. Only 2018-19 funding confirmed.	Up and running September 2018	ASC Commissioning One Church Brighton	Proposal from the Churches regarding the use of the funding is with the MHCLG for sign off.		

Intervention 8: Reconnection work

Strategic Action	Target end date	Lead Partner	Progress to Date/Outcome Achieved	Barriers	Suggested Solutions
Dedicated funding to support reconnections work, move on and move on support to ensure that those who are needed to be reconnected or moved on have the dedicated resource to support this. Post and personalisation budget to support reconnections work. Only 2018-19 funding confirmed.	Up and running September 2018	ASC Commissioning/St Mungos	Recruitment has been completed, new staff will be in post end August 2018 and will be based at the Hub.		

Subject:	St James Court Public Space Protection Order Consultation Summary		
Date of Meeting:	8th October 2018		
Report of:	Executive Director Neighbourhoods Communities and Housing		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Matt Eastal	Tel: 01273 292152
	Email:	Matt.eastal@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	Queens Park		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to feedback to committee on the statutory consultation which was carried out regarding the proposed St James Court Public Space Protection Order, and to recommend action based upon this.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the committee grant the proposed St James Court Public Space Protection Order (See appendix 1)

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's) and access restriction.

- 3.1 Using powers under the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 (ASBCPA) a local authority can make a public spaces protection order (PSPO) as a measure to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour. PSPOs require or prohibit certain activities from taking place in certain places in order to prevent or reduce any detrimental effect caused by those activities to local people. PSPOs can restrict access to public spaces (including certain types of highway) where the public space is being used to commit anti-social behaviour.**3.3** A council can make a PSPO after consultation with the Police, the Police and Crime Commissioner, and other relevant bodies and communities. The following criteria must be met in relation to the behaviour being restricted:

- be having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality;
- be persistent or continuous;
- be unreasonable.
- justifies the restrictions imposed.

- 3.2 The maximum duration of a PSPO is three years. At any point before expiry, the council can extend a PSPO by up to three years if they consider that it is necessary to prevent the original behaviour from occurring or recurring.

3.3 Following the decision at the Neighbourhoods Inclusion and Equalities Committee meeting of March 2018, a statutory consultation for a Public Space Protection Order which would have the effect of restricting access to the St James Court footpath took place:

- The draft order (see appendix 1) was placed on the council website and promoted using BHCC social media channels
- Copies of the draft order were displayed in the alleyway and on George Street
- A paper copy of the draft order was posted to addresses within, adjoining and close to the St James Court
- A draft order with background information was placed on the St James Area Community Action Group website and was discussed at two meetings of the CAG – one of these was an open meeting in the presence of Katy Bourne – Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner
- Sussex Police, the Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC), and BHCC offices – Parking Strategy, Community Safety, and Highways Have been invited to comment on this proposal

The consultation ran for a thirty day period from 1st to 30th of May 2018.

3.4 **Consultation Responses - community:**

During the consultation period, no responses were received from the public. Because those directly affected – occupants of nearby properties – had already provided supportive testimony as part of the pre consultation, it is likely that they felt no need to respond further. No views in opposition to the proposal were received. The consultation process was felt to be suitably rigorous as described above, and this outcome supports the conclusion that this proposal to restrict access as described in the draft order is not seen as locally problematic.

3.5 **Consultation responses – statutory agencies**

Sussex Police: St James Street and its surrounds (including St James Court) have seen an increase in open drug dealing and use in recent times. This anti-social behaviour has been witnessed by the public and the access to this footpath provides an opportunity to continue the activities, discard used drug paraphernalia and in general terms reduce the appeal of the general environment for those using it. Sussex Police therefore fully support the recommendation of this report to restrict access as described.

Police & Crime Commissioner: A copy of the draft order has been sent to the Sussex PCC for comment.

BHCC Community Safety: Fully support this report to restrict Highway Access

BHCC Highways: support the recommendation of this report to restrict Highway access , subject to retention of access from the Northern end of the footpath shown in appendix 2 site plan for statutory services).

3.6 **St James Court PSPO proposal**

The proposal which has been developed is for closure of the southern entrance of the footpath only by placing a gate at its junction with George Street between No's 1 and 2 George Street. (See site plan Appendix 2)

The Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 includes the following condition (64;5) :

“A public spaces protection order may not restrict the public right of way over a highway that is the only or principal means of access to a dwelling”

This means that – because St James Court provides the sole access to a number of residential properties – we are not permitted to place gates at both ends of the alleyway, however, placing a gate at the southern end only is still seen as a useful measure, as this section of the alleyway has the higher number of residential properties, experiences the highest level of community concern and is closest to St James Street, making it more of a target for opportunistic activity.

The gate will be operated by a key or code which will be restricted to residents and businesses within St James Court.

- 3.7 In meeting the statutory tests, evidence from residents’ testimony and the community safety survey, as well as comment from Sussex Police indicates that the problems experienced by the community are having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, are persistent or continuous, and unreasonable.
- 3.8 In terms of the impact of the proposed restriction on the broader community, this measure would restrict access to St James Court at this location, meaning that those without a key/code would need to use the northern entrance only to access the alleyway. The proposed restriction would add approximately 20 metres to a pedestrian journey from St James Street.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 Alternative interventions – aside from access restriction – have been considered, but, because of the nature of the activities taking place, and the role that the alleyway has in this, no other approach has been identified which would resolve matters effectively. Recent attempts have been made to improve the alleyway by clearing debris and other obstructions and painting out graffiti, but this has not impacted upon the issues of current concern. Of the reported activities, street fouling, drug use and drug dealing are all offences at present, with existing enforcement tools to address them, which suggests that additional enforcement powers would not be helpful in this situation, however restricting access to the alleyway would offer protection for residents and businesses, and may make existing enforcement tools more effective and assist local policing as restricting access to the southern end would be likely to reduce the amenity of the alleyway for drug dealing, street fouling and other criminal and antisocial behaviour, and impact on the levels of crime and antisocial behaviour taking place around George Street generally.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 This proposal has been in development since early 2017, and residents in the immediate vicinity, as well as those in the wider community have been involved in this via the Community Action Group and through the community safety survey. The statutory consultation, described above, has provided further opportunity to comment on and shape the final scheme.

- 5.2 For this proposal to go ahead – if granted by committee – the local community will be responsible for funding the gate permitted by this order and taking responsibility for management and upkeep, and this arrangement is outlined in the St James Court PSPO Community Agreement (see appendix 3).

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 There have been significant reported incidences of crime and antisocial behaviour taking place in St James Court . The nature of activities reported are detrimental to public safety and impact upon residents and others making use of the alleyway and this impact is such that it is felt to justify the restricts imposed by this proposed order.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 The council has no identified resources to deliver an intervention of this nature, but has worked with the community to help develop and implement a project. The local community will be responsible for funding the gate permitted by this order and taking responsibility for management and upkeep, and this arrangement is outlined in the St James Court PSPO Community Agreement (see appendix 3).

Finance Officer Consulted: Name Michael Bentley Date: 22/08/18

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 A PSPO may be used to restrict the public right of way over a highway in order to prevent anti-social behaviour and may authorise the installation, operation and maintenance of barriers for enforcing the restriction.
- 7.3 The St James Court alleyway does not fall within the category of highway over which the public right of way may not be restricted under ASBCPA. The relevant factors relating to the restriction of a right of way have been considered as detailed in this report.
- 7.4 PSPOs are intended to cut down on consultation requirements by only requiring local authorities to comply with “light touch” consultation requirements in order to save costs. The consultation referred to in this report fulfils the requirements of the ASBCPA.

The impact of the restriction has been considered as detailed in this report.

Lawyer Consulted: Stephanie Stammers Date: 4/09/18

Equalities Implications:

- 7.5 The impact of this proposal will be to restrict access along the St James Court alleyway, and as a part of this process we are obliged to consider the impact of this restriction on the population generally and upon those with a disability which is identified as a protected characteristic under the terms of the Equality Act

2010. The proposed restriction of the alleyway will place a gate at the southern end. As access is to be restricted to residents only, ensuring that the locking mechanism can be operated by all those intending to use it is not seen as problematic, and will be addressed by the residents group at implementation stage. PSPO will be subject to regular review and maximum life of 3 years giving opportunities for changes in response to changed circumstances of residents. The alternative route is along George Street and into the northern entrance entrance – a distance of approximately 20 metres – which is along a level pavement.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. St James Court Public Space Protection Order 2018 DRAFT
2. St James Court – Consultation site plan
3. St James Court PSPO Community Agreement

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

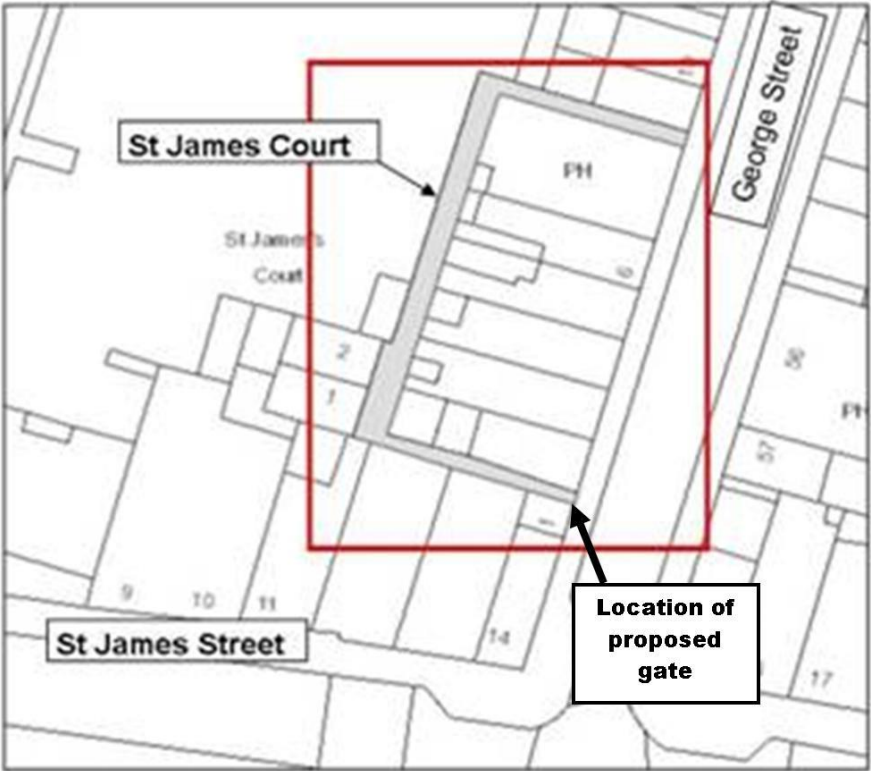
Draft Order

Brighton & Hove City Council (St James Court) Public Spaces Protection Order 2018

Brighton & Hove City Council in exercise of its powers under Section 59, 64 and 72 of the Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ('the act') hereby makes the following Order:

1. This order shall come into operation on xxxxxxxxxx and shall have effect for a period of three years thereafter, unless extended by further orders under the council's statutory powers.
2. This order relates to the footpath know as St James Court linking as shown on the attached plan.
3. The effect of this order is to restrict entry via the southern access point as shown on the attached plan at all times except for owners or occupiers of property adjoining the highway affected by this order needing to access the property. The northern access point will remain unaffected.
4. This order authorises the installation a lockable gate at the southern end of the affected highway, as shown on the attached plan. The gate will not restrict exit on to George Street at this point.
5. The alternative route for pedestrians will be along George Street. St James Court will remain accessible at all times via the northern entrance point.
6. Responsibility for the maintenance of the gates will lie with the residents and will be jointly managed by the council and residents and will be governed by a joint management agreement which will be put in place before this order is enacted.
7. The council is satisfied that the conditions set out in Sections 59, 64 and 72 of the act have been satisfied and that it is in all the circumstances expedient to make this order for the purposes of reducing crime and antisocial behaviour in and around the affected area. The council makes the order because criminal and anti-social behaviour in and around the affected area has had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality. The effect or likely effect of this is of a persistent or continuing nature such as to make this unreasonable, and justifies the restrictions imposed by this order.
8. If any interested person desires to question the validity of this order on the grounds that the council had no power to make it or that any requirement of the act has not been complied with in relation to this order, he or she may apply to the High Court within six weeks from the date on which this order is made.

St James Court Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) Consultation Map



THIS AGREEMENT is made the day of Two thousand and
eighteen **BETWEEN** (*insert names of community representatives*) (hereinafter
together called “the Community”) of the one part and **BRIGHTON & HOVE
CITY COUNCIL** of Hove Town Hall, Norton Road, BN3 3BQ acting by the
officer who has signed this document (hereinafter called “the Council”) of the other
part

WHEREAS

(1) The Council is the highway authority for Brighton and Hove for the purposes
of the Highways Act 1980 (“the 1980 Act”) and is empowered to make a public
space protection order pursuant to Section 59, 64 and 72 of the Antisocial
Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 restricting access into St James Court alley
for the purposes of reducing crime or anti-social behaviour

(2) The Council has resolved to make the St James Court Public Space
Protection Order (PSPO) 2018 permitting the erection of a gate at the southern
entry to the St James Court alley subject to the provision and day to day operation
of the gate being procured, installed and operated by interested residents

(3) The Community have agreed to finance and operate the Gate in accordance
with the provisions hereinafter appearing

WITNESSETH

I. **THE** Community hereby jointly and severally agree as follows:

- (i) To work in close partnership with the council to install the
Gate and thereafter to maintain the same to the satisfaction of
the Council
- (ii) To maintain and replace when necessary locking mechanisms
on the gate

- iii) To ensure that BHCC Highways, Cityclean and out of hours service are informed of any change to the combination code or access arrangements

- 2. **IT IS HEREBY AGREED AND DECLARED** that all costs associated with this Agreement (and which for the avoidance of doubt include the installation and maintenance of the Gate) shall be borne by the Community jointly and severally

- 3. THE Council reserves the right to terminate this Agreement should there be any default by the Residents in the terms of the same or should the Council be satisfied that the restriction imposed by the Public Space Protection Order is no longer expedient in all the circumstances for the purpose of reducing crime or anti-social behaviour.

- 4. If this agreement were to be revoked and/or the Public Space Protection Order rescinded, the council reserves the right to remove the gate.

- 5. Nothing contained or implied in this Agreement shall prejudice or affect the rights discretions powers duties and obligations of the Council under all statutes by-laws statutory instruments orders and regulations or other enabling power in the exercise of its function as the highway authority for Brighton & Hove.

SIGNED by the said

SIGNED by the said

SIGNED by the said

SIGNED BY

For and on behalf of Brighton & Hove City Council

DATED _____ **2013**

- and -

Brighton & Hove City Council

AGREEMENT

To erect and maintain a gate at the St James Court alley
Brighton

Abraham Ghebre-Ghiorghis
Head of Law
Brighton and Hove City Council
Hove Town Hall
Hove BN3 3BQ

Subject:	Brighton & Hove Faith Covenant		
Date of Meeting:	NICE Committee 8th October		
Report of:	Executive Director Neighbourhoods, Inclusion Communities and Equality		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Emma McDermott	Tel: 01273 291577
	Email:	emma.mcdermott@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval from committee for the council to sign up to a covenant with the faith communities of Brighton & Hove which commits both the council and the communities to working together in an open, respectful and collaborative manner for the benefit of the city.
- 1.2 The covenant sets out practical commitments within the partnership with the common goal of helping more people and communities in the city to flourish and meet their full potential.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That, on behalf of the council, NICE committee approves the Brighton and Hove Faith Covenant as set out in Appendix 1.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Birmingham City Council was the first local authority to respond to a call from the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Faith and Society for all local authorities across the UK to sign the newly-developed Faith Covenant. The Birmingham City Council and faith group representatives signed the Faith Covenant December 2014. Since then eleven other¹ local authorities have signed up to a faith covenant for their area.
- 3.2 The APPG's aims were to highlight the contribution to society by faith-based organisations, to identify best practice, and to promote understanding of the groups providing innovative solutions around the country. The APPG is convinced that faith groups have a great deal to offer as providers and advocates for the communities in which they serve, and that some of their potential is being unnecessarily overlooked at present.

¹ Blackpool, Preston, Leeds, Calderdale, Wolverhampton, Solihull, Northamptonshire, Essex, Barnet, Brent, Southampton

3.3 To help tackle the problem, the APPG has drafted a Covenant which can be adopted by faith groups and local authorities in cities across the UK. Together, local authorities and faith communities should work out a local version of the commitments below, according to the priorities and needs of that locality.

3.4 The Faith Covenant is a joint commitment between faith communities and local authorities to a set of principles that guide engagement, aiming to remove some of the mistrust that exists and to promote open, constructive and collaborative partnership working.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

4.1 Do nothing however this would not help provide clarity and reassurance to both faith communities and the council in terms of what they could expect from the relationship and to break down some of the cultural resistance to working together from both sides.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

5.1 Representatives from the Brighton & Hove Faith Council including its coordinator and chair worked together with officers from the council's Communities, Equality and Third Sector team to develop the covenant as presented in appendix 1. In early 2018 the co-ordinator sent a draft of the covenant to all faith communities in the city. Sixty-six faith groups signed up in principle to the draft covenant covering the following denominations: Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Spiritualist and Buddhist.

5.2 In August and September the co-ordinator recirculated the covenant to all faith groups in the city asking if any objected to signing off the final text. Representatives from 41 faith groups, including the Anglican Bishop of Lewes, have said they have no objection and wish to proceed. No faith group has raised any objection. The BHFA board of trustees (who manage the Faith Council) is made up of Christian, Muslim, Jewish and Buddhist representatives and they have given the text their unanimous support.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 Approval to sign up to the covenant is sought in order to establish a clearer partnership relationship between the council and faith communities. The covenant will provide a platform for that relationship to develop and deepen. This will help to maximise the impact of council and faith communities resources for the benefit of the city.

6.2 The next steps will be to hold a formal signing ceremony during Interfaith week in November and to identify the areas of joint interest to start working together on. The faith council has indicated that it is keen to work with public sector and other civil society groups on reducing social isolation, homelessness and substance abuse.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations made in this report.

Finance Officer Consulted: Name Michael Bentley Date: 21/08/18

Legal Implications:

The proposals will assist the Council in meeting its public sector equality duty to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations (Section 149 Equality Act 2010),

Lawyer Consulted: Elizabeth Culbert Date: 22/08/18

Equalities Implications:

- 7.2 The Faith Covenant is inclusive of all faith communities in the city and the Faith Council includes members from across the city's faith groups. The covenant specifically recognises that differences between faiths are to be respected and that public services provided by faith groups are to be accessible to all, meaning that the council's public sector equality duties of fostering good relations and promoting equality of opportunity are supported.

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.3 Working together to achieve communities' needs and aspirations the faith covenant supports activity to strengthen the sustainability of communities.

Any Other Significant Implications:

- 7.4 None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Brighton and Hove Faith Covenant 2018

Crime & Disorder Implications:

1.1 Working together to achieve communities' needs and aspirations the faith covenant supports activity to tackle crime and disorder issues in the city.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

1.2

Public Health Implications:

1.3 Working together to achieve communities' needs and aspirations the faith covenant supports activity to tackle public health priorities.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

1.4 By signing up to the covenant the council is recognising the role that faith communities play, independently of the public sector in supporting the communities.

Draft Brighton and Hove Faith Covenant - A Covenant for Engagement

2018

This agreement is between the faith communities of Brighton and Hove and Brighton and Hove City Council. The purpose of the covenant is to provide a set of principles to guide partnership working between faith communities and the city council to ensure an open, collaborative and respectful relationship. It also sets out practical commitments for the faith communities and the city council to abide by to create a constructive partnership with the common goal of helping more people and communities in the city of Brighton and Hove flourish and meet their full potential.

The covenant sets the following principles for partnership between the city council and faith communities, that:

- Faith communities are a key component of civic society; free, within the framework of UK law, to practice their beliefs and religious observance, to speak their voice in public debate, to be respected and respectful.
- Faith communities hold different and distinct doctrinal beliefs and respect their equal dignity. This may lead them to contribute to the common good as individual communities as well as working together.
- Public services and faith based social action should be accessible to all, without discrimination on the grounds of sex, gender identity, marital status, pregnancy/maternity, race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, disability and or belief, religion or none.
- The voice, the participation and the solutions that faith communities bring are important and involvement of faith communities in local decision making will enable them to help more residents and communities in the city.
- Mutual respect and appreciation for the resources and unique role of the council and faith communities. This includes the council's status as a democratically elected public body with a wide range of statutory responsibilities, and faith groups' status as independent, community-led, volunteer run organisations.

As part of the covenant the city council commits to:

- Welcoming and encouraging the involvement of faith communities in the delivery of social action and improvement of public services on an equal basis and same terms as other Civil Society groups;
- Building relationships and trust with faith communities;
- Facilitating appropriate strategies for the engagement of faith communities in local decision making;
- Recognising Brighton and Hove Faith Council as a vehicle for developing and maintaining partnership working between faith communities and secular society, and for the city council to maintain an ongoing relationship with the Faith Council, including attending meetings wherever possible
- Alerting the Faith Council to relevant city council committees that may be of interest to faith communities and ensuring faith communities are aware of how to participate in the democratic process;
- Sharing, where possible, training and learning opportunities with faith communities;
- Treating faith based groups fairly and equally in council tendering processes, with the same expectations as other organisations bidding either from the Voluntary and Community Sector or the Private Sector, ensuring faith based groups are aware of how to participate in the council's commissioning and funding processes.

As part of the covenant faith communities, via representative faith based groups, commit to:

- Working to support diverse communities in the city to achieve their goals and aspirations and to support the delivery of services to the public. This maybe independent to or in collaboration with the city council;
- Seeking opportunities to bring people together to serve the community, building social cohesion and empower people - particularly mindful of its poorest and most isolated members;
- Serving all people seeking to access services equally, irrespective of sex, gender identity, marital status, pregnancy/maternity, race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, disability and or religion, belief, or none.
- Participating, where possible, in the Faith Council as a vehicle for developing and maintaining partnership working between faith communities and secular society, and feeding back to their communities on work of the Faith Council with and independent of the city council
- Ensuring excellence in accountability and transparency, safeguarding, child protection, health and safety, and collaborating where appropriate with public agencies on these issues.
- Responding to local and national government and other public sector organisations' consultations when they are likely to impact on faith communities
- Sharing, where possible, training and learning opportunities with the city council.

