

NOTICE OF MOTION**GREEN GROUP****HOMELESSNESS AND THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC**

Subject to available funding that Committee:

- declares its intention to consider how to provide appropriate move-on accommodation and support for all rough sleepers currently housed and supported in hotels/other accommodation in time to avoid them returning to rough-sleeping
- requests a report to its June meeting setting out needs assessments and an action plan, costings + timetable to provide suitable move-on accommodation and support that would avoid a return to the streets; such report also to consider how the current unconditional offer of accommodation to rough sleepers can continue once the hotel/other accommodation provided during the coronavirus outbreak is no longer available
- declares its commitment to explore ways of continuing the unconditional offer of shelter currently being offered to rough sleepers during the crisis.

Committee requests that the Chief Executive write to Robert Jenrick (MHCLG) urging the Government to provide the additional resources needed to ensure that the needs of those currently temporarily housed in hotels/other accommodation can be adequately met (once their needs for accommodation and support have been established) following the removal of the current restrictions associated with the pandemic.

Committee notes that the unprecedented measures taken to alleviate hardship and avoid overwhelming the NHS with coronavirus patients demonstrate what can be achieved when there is a national will to do so. Rough sleepers have been housed, there is a temporary halt to evictions and local housing allowance has been increased. We commend the work of officers and the administration in providing accommodation for over 170 rough sleepers. We have an opportunity to advance the pledge* to “end the need for rough sleeping” and now need to apply the same degree of urgency to ensuring that ex rough-sleepers are given suitable move-on accommodation and are not forced back onto the streets when the immediate crisis ends.

Proposed by: Councillor Gibson Seconded by: Councillor Heley
*See joint Housing and homeness programme 2019-2023