

# DECISION NOTICE

Notice is given that the following decision has been taken under the Provisions set out in the Council's Constitution

**Decision maker:** Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning

**Date:** 5 October 2017

**Decision in the matter of:** Homelessness Strategy

**Decision:** That:

1. the draft Homelessness Strategy and its preliminary findings be noted;
2. officers be authorised to publically consult on the draft strategy for a period of 9 weeks, before incorporating the responses into the finalised strategy;
3. note that following the consultation period the revised strategy will be presented to Cabinet for formal adoption.

**Background:** The Homelessness Act 2002 places a duty upon local authorities to carry out a review of homelessness in their area and formulate and publish a strategy for the future based on the results of that review. The Homelessness Strategy provides direction, a framework and an action plan so that any agency or individual can clearly understand what the Council and our partners are doing to support people in housing need.

The Strategy details how the council and partners would work to prevent homelessness and ensure accommodation and support is available for those who were homeless or at risk of homelessness.

The review has highlighted the increase in the number of homelessness prevention cases, which have been successful and have increased year on year.

This new legislation directs that the Council must help more people and for longer periods of time which will place significant new burdens upon the Housing Options Team and partners to ensure more

accommodation is available in the right place at the right time to meet those responsibilities. Additionally all public authorities will have a duty to refer people who they feel are at risk of homelessness to the Housing Options Team.

The strategy sets out four clear aims which are to:

- Help people who are homeless to secure accommodation
- Enable more people to remain in their home and prevent them from becoming homeless
- Provide interventions so no-one has to sleep rough in Cheshire East
- Ensure adequate support is in place to help people maintain and sustain accommodation

**Background Documents:** The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer

**Approved:**

Signed .....  
Councillor Ainsley Arnold (Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning)

**Date:** 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017

**Advising Officer:**

Signed .....  
Karen Carsberg - Strategic Housing Manager