

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**MEETING WITH CABINET MEMBER, HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES****11 April 2019****Report of the Director of Public Health****DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTYWIDE ROUGH SLEEPER SERVICE
FOR DERBYSHIRE****1. Purpose of the report:**

To seek approval for the award of a grant of £0.060m to develop a Countywide Rough Sleeper Service across Derbyshire, which will be met within the Public Health Ring-fenced budget for 2018-19.

2. Information and analysis:

Supporting vulnerable populations to live in well-planned and healthy homes, is priority area in the newly refreshed Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2018- 2023)

Rough sleepers are one of the most vulnerable population groups in society, many with high levels of complex and interrelated needs. The number of rough sleepers in England is increasing. In autumn 2017, there were an estimated 4,751 people sleeping rough - an increase of 169%, since 2010.

Table 1: Rough sleeping counts and estimates for England, 2010 to 2017

	England	% change on previous year
2010	1,768	
2011	2,181	23%
2012	2,309	6%
2013	2,414	5%
2014	2,744	14%
2015	3,569	30%
2016	4,134	16%
2017	4,751	15%

Source: MHCLG, Rough Sleeper Statistics Autumn 2017

Statistics show that rough sleeper numbers have significantly increased in Derbyshire since 2010. The table below shows Derbyshire statistics compared with Derby City.

Street counts and estimates of rough sleeping by local authority district and region England, Autumn 2010 - 2017								
Local authority	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Derbyshire Dales	0	3	2	3	3	3	2	2
Amber Valley	2	3	2	6	6	4	4	4
Erewash	1	3	4	4	5	1	4	3
High Peak	1	1	2	2	2	3	1	3
South Derbyshire	1	1	1	0	2	1	1	2
Chesterfield	6	4	3	9	8	0	10	12
Bolsover	2	1	2	4	2	4	7	5
North East	0	1	5	0	2	3	2	3
Totals	13	17	21	28	30	19	32	34
Derby City	4	21	24	47	26	10	21	37

Source: MHCLG, Rough Sleeper Statistics Autumn 2017 (England Revised)

Many rough sleepers have high levels of complex needs, including mental health problems and drug and alcohol dependencies. The longer someone sleeps rough, the greater the risk that physical and mental health problems will worsen. Rough sleepers face particular health issues associated with homelessness and challenges in accessing health services. It has been estimated that homeless people consume around four times more acute hospital services than the general population.

One of the difficulties faced with identifying a rough sleeper in Derbyshire is the large geographical and often rural area.

Between February 2017 and March 2018, P3 (People Potential Possibilities) provided a Derbyshire Outreach Service (DOT) for rough sleepers at a cost of £0.085m/ year for 2 FTW workers. The team went out in the early hours of the morning responding to new referrals, as well as visiting known rough sleeping hotspots, in order to make contact with people who were sleeping on the streets of Derbyshire. DOT worked in partnership with multiple organisations, enabling people to access support services. The service was provided independently of local authorities. However, this service ended in March 2018, due to lack of funding.

Rough sleeping is on the increase at both the local and national level and although actual numbers within Derbyshire remain relatively low (with the exception of Chesterfield) any individual having to spend a night rough sleeping is one too many. Whilst Chesterfield has an established winter night shelter, other areas do not have the same level of co-ordinated support. Derbyshire Dales, High Peak, Amber Valley, South Derbyshire and Erewash, have ad-hoc support arrangements in place usually provided by charities or faith groups, but not supported by core funding. Chesterfield, Bolsover and North East Derbyshire have continued to move pathways, but they are unable to provide a county-wide service due to geography and staffing issues.

New proposal

It is proposed to develop a new sustainable countywide model of support, provided by the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS). Funding will enable volunteers to be recruited, trained and supported across the County. These volunteers would provide a basic outreach service to rough sleepers including liaison with local authorities and multiagency panels of specialists to assist with the multiple and complex needs of this cohort (mental health, alcohol, drugs & physical health etc)

It is anticipated that the service will take 2 years to become established. The programme will start in the localities of highest need, and roll out to other areas over the first 2 years to achieve countywide coverage by the end of year 2.

Funding is required to pump prime development of this work. It is anticipated that by embedding the service into the Voluntary and Community Sector, the project will become sustainable by year 3, by working with partners to recruit and train a sustainable volunteer workforce across Derbyshire. This will be achieved by extending the reach of volunteers by linking to existing projects that already support vulnerable clients to become more proactive around the outreach homelessness agenda. Each local authority will also set up a Pathway Panel that the volunteer outreach team can refer into. This will allow the local authorities to monitor and play an active role in providing ongoing housing provision and solutions through their existing Homelessness services.

District/Boroughs will work collaboratively and be responsible for contracting the service to a Voluntary Organisation. Public Health will support District/Borough Homelessness Officers to develop the Service Specification and identify key outputs and outcomes to be included in Service Level Agreements.

This project requires a one-off investment of £0.060m to pump prime support costs in the first 2 years of delivery and development. Funding will be allocated to Derbyshire Dales District Council, who will host the money on behalf of the Derbyshire Homelessness Officers Group. This group will also provide governance for the project. From year 3, it is anticipated that the VCS will lead on rough sleeper outreach provision in Derbyshire, supported by a pathway into statutory support services.

All Derbyshire District/Borough Councils support this proposal.

3. Financial Considerations:

The total amount for the project is £0.060m which will be met within the Public Health Ring-fenced budget for 2018-19. This will be grant funded to Derbyshire Dales District Council.

4 Social Value considerations:

Community Investment Values from the Social Value Bank (HACT and Daniel Fujiwara) state that moving someone from rough sleeping to temporary

accommodation has a social impact value of £16,448 per person. As such, this intervention offers a significant social value opportunity.

5. Other considerations:

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: financial, legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

6. Background papers:

Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Board, 4th October 2018 – Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018 onwards.

7. Key Decision:

No

8. Call-in:

Is it required that call-in be waived for any decision on this report?

No

9. Officer's Recommendation:

That approval is given to award a Rough Sleeper Grant of £0.060m (as detailed in the above report) to develop a countywide rough sleeper service for a period of 2 years.

Dean Wallace
Director of Public Health