

Rough Sleeping in Thanet - issues relating to homelessness and Anti Social Behaviour

Community Safety Partnership
Working Party

27 March 2017

Report Author

Charles Hungwe, Senior Democratic Services Officer

Portfolio Holder

Cllr Lin Fairbrass, Deputy Leader

Status

For Information/Recommendations

Classification:

Unrestricted

Key Decision

No

Ward:

All wards

Executive Summary:

The third topic that the Community Safety working party wanted to better understand and scrutinise in their role as an Overview & Scrutiny Panel sub group for 2016-17, was Rough Sleeping in Thanet with particular reference to issues relating to homelessness and antisocial behaviour.

A presentation has been arranged by the relevant officers working within this field for Thanet District Council.

Members have been asked to submit any key questions before the meeting, to further inform the presentation.

A presentation will be given updating the current position, and what the council was currently doing to address those issues.

Members will then make recommendations as they see fit and take a view as to what further scrutiny may be required.

Recommendation(s):

Members are requested to:

1 Note the presentation;

and either

2. Request further information and agree on further lines of enquiry for scrutiny or take no further action;

or

3. Formulate and forward any recommendations to the OSP and consider onward submission to appropriate external decision making body .

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS									
Financial and Value for Money	There are no financial implications currently arising from this information report.								
Legal	There are no legal implications directly arising from this information report.								
Corporate	There are no corporate risks associated with this report.								
Equalities Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty	<p>Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.</p> <p>Protected characteristics: age, gender, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage & civil partnership.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Please indicate which aim is relevant to the report.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act,</td><td>✓</td></tr> <tr> <td>Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it</td><td>✓</td></tr> <tr> <td>Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.</td><td>✓</td></tr> </table> <p>There no equity and equalities issues arising directly from this report but the Council needs to retain a strong focus and understanding on issues of diversity amongst the local community and ensure service delivery matches these. It should also be noted that a review to be conducted by one of the working parties focuses on protecting vulnerable individuals of the local community from violence.</p>	Please indicate which aim is relevant to the report.		Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act,	✓	Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it	✓	Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.	✓
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CORPORATE PRIORITIES (tick those relevant)✓	
A clean and welcoming Environment	✓
Promoting inward investment and job creation	
Supporting neighbourhoods	✓

CORPORATE VALUES (tick those relevant)✓	
Delivering value for money	
Supporting the Workforce	
Promoting open communications	✓

1.0 Background

- 1.1 At the meeting held on the 30th June 2016, Community Safety Working party members agreed a different approach undertaking their role as a scrutiny sub group of OSP for 2016/17 in that they would focus on a smaller number of subjects in greater depth.
- 1.2 One of the topics that were identified by the working party at the beginning of the municipal year was rough sleeping in Thanet. Members wanted to better understand and scrutinise current numbers in relation to homelessness and support services available to to homeless individuals in Thanet. Presentations have been arranged to be led by council officers from across service areas.

- 1.3 It is hoped that the officer presentation will then inform the way forward for the working party.

2.0 Options

Following the presentation and question responses, working party members can:

- 2.1 Note the information and explanations given;

And either

- 2.2 Request further information and agree on further lines of enquiry for scrutiny or take no further action;

Or

- 2.3 Formulate and forward any recommendations to the Overview & Scrutiny Panel for onward submission to an appropriate decision making body.

3.0 Other considerations

- 3.1 Thanet District Council are a partner of Thanet Community Safety Partnership. If after the presentation there is a Member view that there is a need for more inter-agency collaboration to address some of the issues related to homelessness and rough sleeping, then officers will pick these up from the recommendations that may come out of the deliberations by the sub group and OSP.

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Annex List

None	N/A
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Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	N/A

Corporate Consultation

Finance	Matt Sanham, Corporate Finance Manager
Legal	Ciara Feeney, Head of Legal Services