

Committee: Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Sub-Committee Community and Children's Services Committee	Dated: 01/07/2019 12/07/2019
Subject: Responses to Resolutions from Wardnotes: Homelessness and Rough Sleeping	Public
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
Report author: Will Norman, Head of Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeping, Department of Community and Children's Services	

Summary

This report addresses the four Wardnote Resolutions concerning rough sleeping arising from March 2019.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report.

Main Report

1. What action will be taken to ensure that we stop the worrying trend of increasing numbers of rough sleepers on the streets in the City of London?
 - We have commissioned a specialist rough sleeping and homelessness charity to carry out research into potential options that the City could adopt to reduce the numbers of rough sleepers. These options could include, additional Assessment Hub capacity; increased availability in move-on accommodation; increased Outreach capacity. The final report is due to be presented to the Rough Sleeping Sub Committee in October 2019.
2. How is the City Corporation working together with other local authorities across London to address this crisis?
 - The City of London works closely alongside other neighbouring local authorities. For example, we are part of a bi-borough partnership with Tower Hamlets to deliver a homelessness prevention service called No First Night Out. This initiative has been running since 2016 and has supported 343 people in avoiding homelessness. We have also procured specialist beds from other local authorities as part of our 'pathway off the streets' offer. At a strategic level we are a core member of the Mayor's

Rough Sleeping, No Nights Sleeping Rough Task Force, alongside other local authorities with high numbers of rough sleepers.

3. When will consideration be given to creating a day centre or other measures to address rough sleeping?
 - Please see above response to Resolution no. 1 – this will be considered within the options appraisal.
4. Is the City of London Corporation intending to join charities such as St Mungo's to ask the government to repeal the 1824 Vagrancy Act which criminalises rough sleeping?
 - This matter was initially discussed at the Rough Sleeping Sub-Committee in May 2019. It is not the current intention to join charities in asking the government to repeal the 1824 Vagrancy Act, however, this matter will be subject to further discussion and consideration.

Appendices

- None

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