

Report to	-	Cabinet
Date	-	1 October 2018
Report of the	-	Executive Director
Subject	-	Housing and Homelessness Strategy – Consultation

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The Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 10 September 2018, considered a report on the Housing and Homelessness Strategy – Consultation. The recommendation and minute arising is reproduced below.

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**Recommendation:** It be **RESOLVED:** That the draft Consultation Plan and Consultation Document in respect of a Housing and Homelessness Strategy be approved to allow a six week consultation on the priorities for the development of a final Housing and Homelessness Strategy.

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OSC18/22. **HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY – CONSULTATION**  
(6.3)

The Programme Office and Policy Manager outlined the report which detailed the draft Consultation Plan and Consultation Document for the Rother Housing and Homelessness Strategy. Councillor Mrs Hughes, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Housing, Welfare and Equalities was also present.

The consultation plan and next steps were explained to Members. It was noted that the majority of the consultation would take place via an online questionnaire, however, telephone and written consultation responses would be accepted. Press releases, Social Media and My Alerts would also be used.

The consultation questionnaire set out three proposed priorities based on the outcomes of the Homelessness Review (available to view online), the Strategic Housing Research report and recommendations from the Housing Task & Finish Group. The consultation exercise was due to start on 15 October and last for six weeks, the deadline for completion being 26 November.

The outcomes of the consultation exercise would formulate a final Housing and Homelessness Strategy, which would be used to steer the direction of Housing Services, including the homelessness and housing options services, over the next five years (2019-24) and be in place for April 2019.

After some discussion it was agreed that Members would talk to their Parish Councils and the Bexhill Town Forum about the consultation document and use their own networks to further cascade the questionnaire. Details of any additional organisations to be included could be forwarded to the Head of Service for Housing and

Community. The questionnaire would be piloted before general circulation.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee were supportive of the proposed questionnaire and approach and agreed to recommend to Cabinet.

(Overview and Scrutiny Committee Agenda Item 6.3).

Dr Anthony Leonard  
Executive Director