

Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub Board

REVIEW SCOPING DOCUMENT/PROJECT PLAN

Scrutiny Topic Title:	Homelessness Spotlight Review
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Key Objectives of this Topic/Anticipated Value of this Work / Outcomes:

Key Objectives:-

- To establish currently what homelessness looks like in Torbay;
- To explore the depth of homelessness in Torbay;
- To recognise the types of homelessness in Torbay and the reasons behind it including:
 - Complexity
 - Numbers – how does Torbay compare nationally?
 - Response to homelessness in Torbay and what mechanisms and support the Council has in place particularly in terms of prevention and relief.
- Understanding Torbay Council's response to meeting its statutory obligations;
- Demand and waiting times on Devon Home Choice;
- The impact homeless can have on individuals and households.

Anticipated Value of Work/Outcome:-

- To better understand:
 - how homelessness can be prevented in Torbay;
 - how people can be helped;
 - how people are assisted into accommodation and the challenges;
 - how people are then supported when in accommodation.
- To identify whether existing pathways and systems in place to prevent homelessness can be improved in Torbay and how;
- To identify and target specific areas for more detailed scrutiny investigation.

Proposed Timescale for the work / Ongoing issue

Review to take place at meeting of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub Board on 12 October 2023. If key issues are identified at that meeting – discreet piece of work may follow.

How Does Review of this Topic link to Council aims and priorities?:**Housing Strategy 2023 – 2030:**

Continue to protect homeless households and those threatened with homelessness, whilst putting an end to street sleeping.

Potential Witnesses (ie Stakeholders, Consultees, Interest Groups, Involvement of any Partners):

- Lianne Hancock (Head of Housing Need, Torbay Council) – general overview from Torbay (what homelessness looks like in Torbay (depth, breadth, types and complexities), reasons behind it, support, prevention and relief (what is our response?), how does Torbay compare nationally? Statutory obligations and demand on Devon Home Choice)
- Dave Parsons (Strategic lead Community Protection) – Response to Rough Sleeping and link between ASB and some types of homelessness;
- Simon Acton (NHS) – drug and alcohol/substance abuse and link with some types of homelessness – how they are supporting people and work that is undertaken.
- Robin Scoville (NHS) – homelessness and impacts on mental health
- Sue Julyan (CAB) - community and voluntary sector overview including affordability/individuals that CAB are assisting in terms of homelessness and cause).

<i>Do legislative requirements apply to the Topic?</i>	Yes/No
<i>If yes, provide details:</i>	
Housing Act 1996	
Homelessness Act 2002	
Homelessness Reduction Act 2017	