

CABINET MEMBER DECISION



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL

Decision:

That approval is granted for South Kesteven District Council to be the lead Authority for the awarded Rough Sleeper Initiative year 3 funding, both in terms of financial administration and recruitment of staff to the project, when working in partnership with South Holland District Council, West Lindsey District Council and North Kesteven District Council.

(1) **Details of Decision**

To seek approval for South Kesteven District Council to be the Lead Authority when working in partnership with South Holland District Council, West Lindsey District Council and North Kesteven District Council to receive and manage the awarded Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) funding through the Rough Sleeping Initiative programme.

(2) **Considerations/Evidence**

MHCLG advertised an opportunity to bid for the Rough Sleeper Initiative (RSI) funding. A bid was submitted, in December 2019, as a result of the rise in the number of rough sleepers in the South Kesteven area. The number has the potential to rise even more, as experienced across the rest of the county and the UK. The funding is to prevent rough sleeping and not just to assist those persons currently sleeping rough. Details of how the funding will be utilised is detailed in the attached appendix. The bid was submitted in partnership with three other Lincolnshire Local Authorities. The partnership consists of South Kesteven District Council; North Kesteven District Council; South Holland District Council and West Lindsey District Council.

The number of rough sleepers is anticipated to increase to 36 people across the 4 areas over the next year which could be avoided with the RSI funding. An added pressure is that the housing support service is being decommissioned by Lincolnshire County Council in July 2020 and the outreach service in April 2021. These services provide supported accommodation and outreach workers to liaise directly with street homeless individuals. The decommissioning of these services will, highly likely, lead to a further increase of people sleeping rough, especially without proactive intervention.

The four Local Authorities will have bi-monthly meetings with a MHCLG

representative. MHCLG also requires that South Kesteven District Council submits bi-monthly statistical returns, on a count/estimate, of rough sleepers, taking into account all rough sleepers across the four local authority areas.

The four Councils will have regular discussions regarding the budget, what works and doesn't work well, and how best to distribute resources and funding.

(3) Reasons for Decision:

To reduce the risk of the rise of the amount of people sleeping rough across the four districts.

Conflicts of Interest

(Any conflict of interest declared by any other Cabinet Member consulted in relation to the decision to be recorded).

None

Dispensations

(Any dispensation granted by the Monitoring Officer in respect of any declared conflict of interest to be noted).

None

Decision taken by:

Name: Councillor Robert Reid
Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning

Date of Decision: 03 September 2020

Date of Publication of Record of Decision: 04 September 2020

Date decision effective (i.e. 5 days after the date of publication of record of decision unless subject to call-in by the Chairman of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or any 5 members of the Council from any political groups):

14 September 2020