

Response ID ANON-52PE-EFJW-8

Submitted to **Rough Sleeping: Homelessness Strategy Consultation**

Submitted on **2020-08-29 21:39:37**

Rough Sleeping: Homelessness Prevention Strategy Consultation

1 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

2 What is your email address?

Email:

[REDACTED]

3 What best describes your interest in this consultation?

A member of public interested in this subject

Please state:

4 Do you agree the our overall approach of the strategy?

Yes

If you selected no or not sure to this question please tell us why?:

5 Do you agree with our universal level approach and actions for preventing rough sleeping?

Not Sure

If you selected no or not sure to this question please tell us why? :

I think it could be clearer how the public could help.

Collaborative working is often good but it musn't become a game of pass the parcell where people must explain their story several times searching for a 'best fit' service. Services should offer assistance to the level that they can and also inform about other services which may be able to support individuals. With individual consent they can then share information to allow services to offer quicker, more targeted support.

6 Do you agree with our targeted actions and approach to preventing rough sleeping?

Not Sure

If you selected no or not sure to this question, please tell us why?:

Not sure what "supporting good practice opportunities" means?

7 Do you agree with our rough sleeping crisis response approach and actions?

Yes

If you selected no or not sure, please tell us why?:

Additionally, please be aware that "entrenched rough sleepers" may be very guarded and might not have a phone to receive contact and support.

An on call 24hr service is needed to prevent homelessness and provide emergency accommodation. In order for this place to be safe it needs to have security searches to prevent drug trafficking/distr bution and immediate intervention for outbreaks of violence.

8 Do you agree with the approach to rough sleeping recovery and additional actions?

Yes

If you selected no or not sure, please tell us why?:

9 Do you agree with the approach and priority actions for helping people to move-on from rough sleeping?

Not Sure

If you selected no or not sure, please tell us why?:

At the move-on stage I think the council should be making sure it has appropriate accommodation available for people to move into.

One way this could be done is in reviewing council tenants each year. Those who have the capacity to move into private renting or housing association places, could be encouraged and supported to do so, allowing the council to keep available emergency accommodation for those whose circumstances have deteriorated.

10 Any further comments?

Please use box below if you would like to make any further comments:

Poor grammar throughout this document makes it difficult to read. Minor editing would allow you to minimise these errors and create a more readable document.

I am very passionate about supporting our homeless in coming off the streets of Birmingham and I am glad that the council is trying to take a proactive approach.

Birmingham city centre had become a very sad place to visit, where the misery of homelessness was apparent on every street.

I am also glad that the council has recognised that many of our homeless have very complex needs that require a multi-agency approach. These are good things.

I feel it is also valuable to point out that homeless people can be very difficult to engage with as they may well have lost trust in the goodwill of mankind. This makes them unwilling to trust, confide and engage with others sometimes becoming aggressive, agitated or even violent. People who are able to engage with those who behave in this manner are essential to the success of any attempt to help. I hope the council will continue to invest in the liaison and outreach teams who help homeless people access the right support. Obviously mental health services can also make a huge difference to people sleeping rough.

11 About You: Please state your age group.

Age group:

35 to 59

12 About you: What is your gender?

Gender:

Female

13 About You: What best describes your ethnicity?

Ethnicity:

Prefer not to say

14 About you: What is your sexual orientation?

Sexual Orientation:

Prefer not to say

15 About you: What best describes your religion or belief?

Religious Belief:

Prefer not to say