



RYEDALE
DISTRICT
COUNCIL



RICHMONDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL



HAMBLETON
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Harrogate
BOROUGH COUNCIL



SELBY
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Moving forward with purpose

County Homelessness Group TERMS OF REFERENCE

NAME

County Homelessness Group

DEFINITION

In the context of this group, homelessness is all aspects of homelessness, including statutory homelessness and homelessness prevention, Youth homelessness (primarily 16 and 17 year olds, but to take into account the needs of those up to 25, especially when they are more vulnerable), single homeless and rough sleepers.

AIM

To contribute to the reduction of homelessness in York and North Yorkshire by addressing homelessness and homelessness related issues on a sector wide basis;

To work in partnership to provide and develop quality services for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness;

To contribute to the development and implementation of the North Yorkshire Housing and Homelessness Strategy as well as the City of York's Homelessness Strategy;

To inform the Chief Housing Officer Group of wider issues, trends relating to homelessness in York and North Yorkshire; regionally and make recommendations;

To deliver sub regional schemes.

OBJECTIVES

To deliver high quality, relevant and consistent services to meet the needs of people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness across North Yorkshire;

To update the Single Homeless Action Plan and North Yorkshire Housing & Homelessness Strategy Action Plan;

To link the work of relevant statutory agencies and improve good practice through communications, improved understanding and joint training;

To work together to deliver relevant strategic requirements (including Children and Young Persons Plan, Housing and Homelessness Strategies, Youth Justice Plan, Business Plan for the York and North Yorkshire Probation Trust), other relevant strategies and Communities and Local Government targets to improve delivery of services;

To monitor specific areas of concern e.g. rough sleeping, youth homelessness, statutory homelessness, accommodation shortage, funding issues etc.

To increase awareness of housing issues, homelessness and shortage of affordable housing;

To take advantage of any available funding streams relevant to homelessness both capital and revenue streams;

To provide peer mentoring and reviews where required.

STRATEGIC LINKS

North Yorkshire Housing & Homelessness Strategy 2010-15;

York Housing Strategy;

North Yorkshire and York Single Homeless Action plan;

And Wider agendas promoted by Government, Health, Criminal Justice and other
e.g. Developing Stronger Families Programme.

TARGETS

The group will annually evaluate priority areas to work on with a view to making recommendations for the improvement of services provided locally;

To regularly review relevant strategies;

To work towards meeting CLG targets to reduce homelessness;

To administer via delegated authority the targets in the sub regional single homeless budget.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership to be made up of officers of statutory organisations who provide housing and support services;

Group members include: Craven DC, Harrogate BC, Selby DC, Richmondshire DC, Hambleton DC, Scarborough BC, Ryedale DC, City of York Council, NY Supporting People, NY Children's Services, NY Probation Trust;

To invite relevant organisations (e.g. Advisory, voluntary sector and providers) to meetings on an ad hoc basis, primarily when commissioned to deliver services by the Group and where input required to inform policy and debate;

Elect a Chair and Vice Chair annually.

MEETINGS

Meetings will be held quarterly. Additional meetings as required.

AGENDA

Agenda items will normally be set at least a week before the next meeting and distributed by the Chair or by Deputy providing administrative support.

DECISION MAKING

The County Homelessness Group will normally arrive at its recommendations unanimously or by majority agreement of members present, providing that the meeting is quorate;

Quorate is 5 member organisations.

REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

The County Homelessness Group is a sub group of the Chief Housing Officers Group, information and decisions will be fed back to the Chief Housing Officers Group by the Chair or delegated member;

Individuals are responsible for reporting back to their own organisations;

Each LA housing representative reports information to their local Homelessness/Housing Forum to share information / report back.

REVIEW

Terms of Reference annually.