



APPENDIX C

CONSULTATION REPORT

Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy – Consultation Report

Background

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) require that new Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategies undergo a consultation with partners and stakeholders. IBC consulted 200 stakeholders and partners via a Survey Monkey survey. The consultation ran from 10th December 2018 to 21st December 2018. A total of 15 responses were received, 12 via the Survey Monkey survey and 3 were written responses.

The Responses

Survey Monkey Results:

The majority of the survey monkey results were in support of the draft Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy:

- 1. Does the Strategy, as a whole, reflect the challenges faced within Ipswich in reducing homelessness and rough sleeping?**

ANSWER	RESPONSES %	RESPONSES
Strongly agree	16.67	2
Agree	50	6
Neither agree nor disagree	25	3
Disagree	0	0
Strongly disagree	8.33	1

- 2. Does the Strategy, as a whole, explain the current work being undertaken across Ipswich to reduce homelessness and rough sleeping?**

ANSWER	RESPONSES %	RESPONSES
Strongly agree	8.33	1
Agree	41.67	5
Neither agree nor disagree	8.33	1
Disagree	33.33	4
Strongly disagree	8.33	1

- 3. Does the Strategy, as a whole, convey the vision and explain the future planned work to be undertaken across the Borough?**

ANSWER	RESPONSES %	RESPONSES
Strongly agree	16.67	2
Agree	41.67	5
Neither agree nor disagree	16.67	2
Disagree	16.67	2
Strongly disagree	8.33	1

4. Do the Strategy appendices add value to the Strategy?

ANSWER	RESPONSES %	RESPONSES
Strongly agree	8.33	1
Agree	66.67	8
Neither agree nor disagree	25	3
Disagree	0	0
Strongly disagree	0	0

5. Does the Action Plan explain the current work focus?

ANSWER	RESPONSES %	RESPONSES
Strongly agree	16.67	2
Agree	33.33	4
Neither agree nor disagree	33.33	4
Disagree	8.33	1
Strongly disagree	8.33	1

Comments (from all 15 responses):

The written comments received focused upon three areas: that partnership working needed greater emphasis, that the Action Plan needed clarity and the length of the consultation period was highlighted.

Partnership Working

Some voluntary sector organisations within Ipswich commented that the work of the voluntary sector was not celebrated throughout the Strategy. This Strategy is an IBC Strategy (as opposed to a Partnership Strategy) and as such is focused upon the work that IBC has already completed and plans to complete in the future. Partnership working is a key theme of the Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy that runs throughout the four priorities.

In response to the consultation comments a new section entitled 'Partnership Working' has been included within the Strategy which reinforces that continued partnership working is necessary in order to continue and develop work within Ipswich to address homelessness and rough sleeping. The Action Plan layout has been altered to include a 'Partnership Working' section.

Action Plan

Comments relating to the Action Plan have been considered. The Action Plan is a high level plan for IBC operational areas. The Action Plan will be backed up by individual plans for each area as the actions are implemented. The Action Plan will be constantly monitored by the IBC Steering Group and is designed to evolve over time as work progresses.

Consultation Period

Some comments were received that a ten day consultation period was insufficient time. The timeframe allocated to the Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy consultation was dictated by two factors. Firstly, that the MHCLG require that this new Strategy be submitted to them by March 2019 in order that future funding is unaffected. Secondly, by the IBC corporate timetable so that the new Strategy can be approved through the corporate process and submitted to MHCLG within their deadline. These two timelines meant that the maximum time that could be allocated to this consultation was 10 days and there was a limited time frame during which the consultation could be held. It was decided that partners would have more opportunity to respond if the consultation started and finished before the Christmas period when many people are not working. The core content for the Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy was taken from the Housing Strategy 2017-2022. The Housing Strategy was only 12 months old when the content of the homelessness priority was removed and the Housing Strategy had been extensively consulted upon throughout its development.