

OPERATIONAL BOARD
19 OCTOBER 2017

LATE ITEM

DONATION TO DERBY CHURCHES NIGHTSHELTER EXTREME WINTER WEATHER PROVISION 2017/18

Report of the Head of Housing Management & Housing Options

1. SUMMARY

To consider a contribution to support the Derby Churches' Nightshelter extreme Winter weather provision.

2. RECOMMENDATION

Subject to consent from Derby City Council, it is recommended that Derby Homes contributes £10,000 in 2017/18 to support this project.

3. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Derby Homes' contribution will help to ensure the project is run again this Winter assisting homeless people in urgent need.

4. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

- 4.1 In April 2013 Derby City Council began a cut of 85% to homeless beds funding over the next two years. Several hostels closed as a result of this cut.
- 4.2 Derby Churches responded to this reduction by setting up a nightshelter provision in 2013 to meet the urgent need for overnight accommodation for Derby's street homeless during the colder months.
- 4.3 In October 2013, Derby Homes contributed £5,000 towards this provision, which was extremely successful, providing 240 guests with overnight accommodation, totalling 2,163 overnight stays during the 121 days that the provision was open.
- 4.4 Due to the success of the provision, Derby Homes increased their contribution In October 2014 to £10,000 for winter provision during 2014/15 and £10,000 again for provision during 2015/16 and 2016/17.
- 4.5 The provision in 2016/17 was again extremely successful, helping 265 guests. Guests were helped to access advice, support and accommodation through partnerships with No Second Night Out, YMCA, Padley Centre, Milestone House, Centenary, Derventio Housing, Action Housing, PACE Housing, Derbyshire Housing Aid, Derby Homes and Citizens advice.

- 4.6 During the period, only 11 guests stayed at the provision for more than 50% of the time. Most guests stayed for 5 nights or less (133), evidencing the successful partnerships in place to move people onto longer term solutions.
- 4.7 Between 1 December 2017 and 31 March 2018, 7 church venues across the centre of Derby will again be opening one night a week, providing a meal, sleeping bag and shelter. A mixture of volunteer and paid workers will supervise and provide support. The project intends to engage, support and signpost to longer terms housing solutions for those that use the nightshelter. Doors will open at 8 pm. People using the provision will be expected to leave by 7.30am the following day. A takeaway breakfast or food vouchers will be provided.
- 4.8 Both the Police and Derby Homes Homelessness Services are aware of this provision and will be able to signpost people in need of shelter.
- 4.9 Derby Churches' Nightshelter need to raise £107,499 to run this Winter nightshelter. All church venues are being provided at no cost.

5. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

There are no other options other than to not agree to contribute to this initiative.

6 FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS PLAN IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Funding of £10,000 in 2017/18 is available from the Community Initiatives budget.

7. LEGAL AND CONFIDENTIALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Derby Homes Memorandum states:

“(18) Subject to the prior written consent of the City Council to make donations, grants or loans or provide services or assistance to such persons and organisations and on such terms as the Board shall think fit to further the objects of the Organisation.”

8. COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Consent will sought from the City Council.

The areas listed below have no implications directly arising from this report:

Consultation
Personnel
Environmental
Equalities Impact Assessment
Health & Safety
Risk
Policy Review

If Board Members or others would like to discuss this report ahead of the meeting please contact:

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Background Information: None

Supporting Information: None