Brighton & Hove Rough Sleeping Strategy 2016

Consultation Report 1:Position Paper

To make sure no-one has the need to sleep rough in Brighton & Hove by 2020



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1. Introduction

This document reports the findings from our consultation and engagement carried out in December 2015 to help to develop the draft Rough Sleeping Strategy.

A Position Paper was produced that summarised the city's current approach to rough sleeping and existing plans as well as highlighting the challenges we face. This included the draft vision and priorities for the new strategy and was the basis of the initial scoping consultation. This paper was emailed to all councillors, MPs and all those stakeholders who were invited to the summit.

The consultation was promoted through the council's website, social media and press engagement. During the consultation we held a stakeholder summit attended by 78 professionals and carried out online consultation through the council's consultation portal which received a further 36 detailed submissions covering all aspects of our proposals. Comments were invited on the vision, priorities and partnerships and also our approach and suggested actions for each priority.

Please note that the views and opinions expressed in this report are those of the stakeholders responding to our consultation and do not necessarily represent the views and policies of the council. The finding have helped stimulate debate inform the development of the draft strategy. Where possible, responses to the consultation have been report verbatim. Some responses have been edited or removed where they were deemed to be inappropriate for publication such as by targeting an individual or organisation with unsubstantiated allegations or they may have provided personal or otherwise confidential information.

A second consultation report will be produced on the consultation for the draft strategy.

2. Stakeholder Summit

The event was held on the 4 December 2015 at the Brighthelm Centre with keynote presentations from:

- Nick Webb, Client, Brighton Housing Trust: "Rough Sleeping in Brighton & Hove"
- Minister Dave Steell, One Church Brighton: "Community Outreach"
- Andy Winter, Brighton Housing Trust: "Pathways to Independence"
- David Walton, St Mungo's Broadway: "Best Practice in Eliminating Rough Sleeping"

Interactive workshops were held covering the draft strategic priorities with an additional table for discussing issues that sat outside the priorities:

- 1. Preventing Homelessness (Lead: BHCC Housing)
- 2. Street Triage (Lead: BHCC Adult Services)
- **3.** Managing the Street Communities (Lead: BHCC Community Safety)
- **4.** Improving Health (Lead: BHCC Public Health)
- **5.** Safe Reconnection (Lead: St. Mungo's Broadway)
- **6.** Pathways to Independence (Lead: BHCC Adult Services)
- **7.** Working with the City (Lead: BHCC Public Health)
- 8. Anything else? (Lead: BHCC Housing)

Delegates had the opportunity to attend 3 workshops and provide feedback on the other priorities via the council's consultation portal.

78 people attended the conference from partner agencies, community groups, and internal staff. Delegates attending represented a wide variety of organisations and sectors including:

- Adur & Worthing District Councils
- Brighton & Hove Business Crime Reduction Partnership
- BHCC Councillors
- BHCC Housing
- BHCC Adult Services
- BHCC Children's Services
- BHCC Public Health
- BHCC Community Safety
- BHCC Cityclean
- BHCC Seafront Office

- Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals
- Brighton Housing Trust
- Brighton YMCA
- Business Crime Reduction Partnership
- Clinical Commissioning Group
- The Clocktower Sanctuary
- Eastbourne Council
- Economic Partnership
- Equinox

4

- Fairness Commission
- Homeless Link
- Justlife
- Lead GP
- Local Action Teams
- Love Activists
- NHS
- Off the Fence
- OneChurch Brighton
- Pavilions Substance Misuse
- Riverside (St Patricks Hostel)

- SHORE
- Southdown Housing Association
- St Johns Ambulance
- St Mungo's Broadway St Peters Church
- Sussex Community NHS Trust
- Sussex Nightstop
- Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- Sussex Police
- YMCA Downslink

Workshop hosts were asked to seek feedback on the successes and challenges in each area:

Workshop	Feedback
1. Preventing Homelessness	Partnership with Children's Services not in the Position Statement
	Affordability
	Big issues
	Ending of Private Rented Accommodation
	Landlord licensing
	Where is the Business Sector?
	Spend to save
	Reasons to tackle up stream
	End of AST
	Parental eviction
	Relationship breakdown
	Working with private sector landlords
	 Landlords don't want under 25's
	Work with other local authorities to see what they are
	doing
	Cant end it here it is a national problem
	What can we do to enhance the supply of private rented
	sector accommodation
	Too many demands on people who are struggling with
	issues other than homelessness
	Safe guarding in TA
	Clear pathway giving correct advice with clear message
	Investment vehicle for private rented sector
	accommodation

Workshop	Feedback
	 All want to help but cuts are reducing services More in control at the beginning More choice Expand housing first model top low medium and high cases Management of eviction at Temporary Accommodation How do you have no 1st night out with verification which is 3 nights out One stop shop State of accommodation in TA – staff not trained – different rates Local development plan Managing expectations to access social housing Issues about drug use in hostels - not safe places
2. Street Triage	 What does Triage mean? No consensus Very clinical term – is this a health assessment? Degrees of urgency / prioritising First assessment By an expert Street Triage – does this mean on the street? Need to take service to them/in place of comfort for assessment vs seeing people in their own environment E.g. Colchester – people have somewhere to go to, are directed there. Services can focus on that place to meet people SOS to do the initial triage Street triage taking place by lots of agencies currently for RS Role: Prioritising where people go Start of assessment / info gathering Keep people alive is the 1st priority 1 assessment would be preferable, then shared with
	 services, but would need to be a good assessment. So who would carry it out? Issues such as mental health get missed if people not trained. Person needs shelter initially

Workshop	Feedback
	 Way forward: How to include soup kitchens, other community based services and the public in assessing people. Training offer? Need integration to improve communications and agree priorities. Collate information Get clients to building based services. Step 2 after 1st street assessment Need better intelligence to find people on the streets Use community people to help assess someone e.g. shop keepers who know the RS
	 Concerns: EAC – better approach than street assessments but no primary care/MH there and are every few weeks Triage can be great, but no accommodation to refer people to People failing in emergency accommodation and at risk of rough sleeping and people not wanting to go out of area, preferring to RS. What to do with them? Clients fed up with telling the same story to lots of agencies
	 Actions for strategy: Need to expand LGBT section to include other groups and ensure appropriate accommodation for needs NSNO is an approach not a service Acknowledge that lots of frontline services carryout out triage/assessments Person centred response – need good communication services, systems to support this. How do services link up? Needs developing - how to ensure they are happy to work together Need uniform way of passing on information about clients Need shared system for information and joint aims Shared responsibility from services plus a navigator through the services or buddy to get people off the street sustainably People with multiple and complex needs need more options, rather than just being kept alive

Workshop	Feedback
	 Agencies need to agree so no mixed messages from other agencies Need a good flow of information – can saves lives IT systems Co-ordinating pathways needed Need services to carry on working with people when placed in a hostel/accommodation to smooth the transition between services/settings MDT meetings crucial to focus on most needy people Define what is meant by street triage.
3. Managing the	4.1 Do you agree with the approach to this priority?
Street Communities	 Overwhelming NO to this question These should be elements of the approach but not stand alone
	The term "managing" is unhelpful and sets the wrong tone
	A multi disciplinary team to tackle is the answer
	There is not a "one size fits all" approach as street community is NOT one group with the same needs or wants
	4.2 What do you think the city does well in its approach to this priority?
	We are compassionate
	We do work well as different agencies and organisationsWe have a balanced approach
	 4.3 How successful do you think this approach will be? 0/10 This is qualified by saying that the elements of engagement and enforcement of proposed strategy is good and we do need robust enforcement as we are seen/perceived as an "easy touch " destination. Other cities are cracking down on street community and we risk being overwhelmed if we don't step up our robust response to anti social behaviour (asb) issues. Contrary views were expressed in all sessions on balance of support/enforcement – common theme was that street community issue is wider than homelessness.

Workshop	Feedback
	Needs a separate strategy and policy for street community.
	 4.4 What do you think the city could do better to achieve this priority? Have clear and defined pathways for street community to access services Create dialogue with community groups affected by the problems
	 4.5 What changes would you like to see? A must is a clearly defined protocol to deal with hotspots A separate strategy Diverted giving campaign and awareness of promoted locally and to visitors
4. Improving	Session 1
Health	Seamless integration required. Co-location of services important for this. Reference to impact of tendering / competition / bidding for contracts
	Outcomes are key: preventable death and ill health
	 Positives Partnership and integration between health and homeless services. Hostel outreach by hostel health team. Access to Occupational Therapy. Fortnightly multidisciplinary team meetings – health and homeless services
	 Biggest gaps / issues Step up / step down beds that can be used for homeless people (Royal Sussex and mental health acute) to minimise length of stay Core funding for homeless GP practice is low compared to other areas with comparable service/need (business case being developed by CCG) Quality of emergency and temporary accommodation -

Workshop	Feedback
	 impact on health. Also what are the changes to the BHCC Housing Support Service? – need more information. Move on accommodation options – need to be healthy / health aware Pace of progress can seem slow Dentistry Need to recognise importance of mental health and substance misuse Ensure attention on how improving health is part of individuals' plans to support move on and independence Importance of "Psychologically Informed Environments" in homeless services Could the "I Statements" used in Proactive Care be adapted for homeless health? are health needs considered in homelessness information and advice functions (Care Act implications) Shared records Need to build in peer support models (Groundswell model mentioned)
5. Safe Reconnection	Problems to reconnection not being tackled include: Young people in squats Those reconnected who keep returning in summer Those who have exhausted family and friends A community of rough sleepers has developed Need to have time to plan effectively and develop real solutions, sometimes local connection policy not working for that client so should not be applied Reconnection Challenge of: Those in relationships Some partners hard to engage Friendships amongst street community Returners Balance of enforcement and support Local connection policy hindering sometimes Need to make sure we are reconnecting into positive relationships which will help move-on

Workshop	Feedback
	Need to be assertive to prevent death. People can be persuaded and enforcement needed with penalties (difficult choice). Proper reconnection – needs to be planned from assessment and get it right first time with organisations sharing information to ensure same message is given. However, we also need to take time to do the correct groundwork and listen to the individual
6. Pathways to Independence	 Engagement Does Housing First work – oppose, is this best us of resources? Work and learning – very low literacy levels Should this be cut Trust 3rd sector Use volunteers and local charities Creative Faith community Can bring positive relationships / sound networks / more informal support – how do we link this? Prescribed pathway does not work for all Peer support, 121 support starts Engage people out day centres More flexible life skills How do people get into accommodation pathway Jump to Band 3 too big All clients now high needs Increase in shared housing – must be for under 35 Affordability Loss of accommodation – can they city council do anything re: new housing/affordable accommodation Lack of move on accommodation – affordability Blockage and waiting list for hostels Lack of ability to move to PRS Accommodation for working people – has to link with DWP

Workshop	Feedback
	 Moving out of city putting huge issues outside city – Eastbourne and Hastings struggling (unsustainable). Look at Sussex-wide / great Brighton strategy. Isolation and MH issues from moving out ISP criterial – not realistic Personalisation and client choice – were possible Digital inclusion – in services and peer support Self reliant – everything now online Appropriate pathways based on needs Older cohort of RS/health issues Housing options in terms of council accommodation How commissioning process works with local community and allows community input
	 Partnership & Community City groups / business community - links Life skills – done outside pathway – bring different experience, different community groups for homeless people to access Pathway – first base to Brighton unemployed centre (they need to be at the table) How can we help wider services to join with us? Wider community having understanding/resident forums Local action teams want to get involved Volunteers to help people become independent Reduce isolation Link outside street community Encourage people not to give to people on the street Help in another way / get involved Become lonely after leaving services and they come back – move back to street community Mutual support / sport / creative Need to give guidance to the public – pathway separate from society (false) Do this through services, faith groups Social capital Re-establishing contacts Need to develop soft skills / interpersonal skills.

Workshop	Feedback
7. Working with	Focussing on the Winter Campaign:
the City	 1. Help People wanted to help those less fortunate and are moved to compassion encountering homeless people on the street
	 People don't know how to help There is often an immediacy in the desire to help It was recognised that giving money isn't always the best thing but due to lack of alternatives people do this. We need to be more joined up in connecting services and outcomes and in linking people who want to help with
	 We need to give a clearer message about the potential impact of cash giving in causing harm, but also need to offer greater opportunities for positive contribution. The Priority area currently reads negatively as it focuses on the risks of giving badly and not enough about the ways of giving well, but the only way that people are going to stop giving directly is if suitable alternatives are created and promoted and are seen as credible ways of offering direct help.
	 2. The App Enables people to report rough sleepers and for rough sleepers to seek support Helpful as a tool to gather info, and a way for people to help and to act on their concerns but issues raised included: Need good quality feedback for reporters Just makes reporting easier – doesn't change the poor level of serves available Concern that there will be a time lapse between report and action Concern that events will be reported on the app that should properly go to emergency services Need to know what will happen with the information – may be a reluctance report people if it is thought that reporting will lead to sanction or punitive measures.

Workshop Feedback Enables opportunities to donate money See overall as a very positive feature, responding to this need and providing a helpful avenue for support. Issues
raised included: Needs to have credibility – if the app was seen as primarily a fundraising tool, integrity would be damaged Needs to link directly to addressing the issues of homelessness in Brighton & Hove Needs bespoke Brighton & Hove page As money raised is ringfenced for Brighton & Hove, needs to say how it will be/has been spent – possible fundraising targets? Public involvement in selecting projects to be funded? Was noted that the web version has a donate button but not the app version Could there be potential for direct giving to an individual homeless person rather than to an organisation? Seems a lot of potential for business sponsorship – this should be explored Gives background information on rough sleeping Has the potential to add to intelligence around rough sleeping and enable services to be better targeted. Comments included: Most likely to record visible city centre population which may be more street drinkers and beggars and drug users rather than homeless people who are more likely to be in less prominent places Homelessness is a national problem Can the stats be used nationally to get a fuller picture of homelessness. Highlights opportunities to do more – volunteering etc Needs to have bespoke & comprehensive Brighton & Hove info on volunteering, helping and giving taking in all helpful avenues and not just St Mungos Needs to be driven by the vision of eliminating street

Workshop	Feedback
	The app was supported by all three groups as a helpful way of addressing this priority, but is only a part of the solution, with more work needed on other ways to help and a clearer and stronger articulation of the concerns around direct cash giving and why this may be a bad thing.
8. Anything	Housing Shortage
Else?	Where do the draft priorities address the shortage of
	affordable housing for single people in the city?
	 Vulnerable people have no desire to leave for less expensive areas, they would rather be homeless in Brighton & Hove.
	 Council needs to focus on social value of land for local affordable housing use rather than maximise capital receipt.
	Spending Review has made Private Sector Leasing non- viable
	Off-site manufacture can reduce build costs
	Need people focussed young people's services
	Rough sleeping amongst under 25's is increasing.
	It is felt that these are falling through the gaps where
	services are viewed as process driven rather than focussing on the needs of the service user which is
	causing young people to disengage.
	 Other third sector groups are picking up the pieces. Young People's service at Ovest House seen as putting
	off young people at risk.
	 Need to link to other groups to act as advocates, such as The Clocktower Sanctuary.
	Live in Care
	 Potential for an apprenticeship programme to train single homeless people to be live in carers.
	 Need to partner training organisation with long term care provider
	Provides company and care for an older person.
	Solves housing need of single homeless.
	Build on our successes
	Brighton & Hove services have developed a lot of good

Workshop	Feedback
	practice over the years. Need to make sure that this is not lost as changes are implemented.
	Emergency & Temporary Accommodation The poor quality of emergency accommodation received repeated mention, in round table discussions, via a question from the floor an in specific feedback from Justlife (see chapter 4)
	Women Need to make sure women at risk of, and suffering, domestic violence are supported.
	Sussex Need to improve links across Sussex to achieve critical mass to make some services viable.
	JustLife Specific feedback on Emergency Accommodation was provided by Justlife at the Summit: Enforce landlords to provide decent standards Give all staff/caretakers safeguarding training DBS checks for staff More inspections Training in understanding people with multiple complex needs Provide: confidential client complaint line Notice boards Welcome packs with information about services, receipt book for cooking on a single hob etc If emergency placement let JustLife know when someone moves into EA and we will go and meet them and try and engage in services/activities Run a peer to peer service to welcome new people to EA Council host a regular round table with EA landlords, agencies working with people in EA and service User representatives Have a room in each EA that agencies can use to deliver services

3. Consultation Portal Responses

In total 36 responses were completed on the Brighton & Hove City consultation portal (2 others were duplicate submissions):

Residency:

- 35 (97%) were resident in Brighton & Hove
 - 1 (3%) was replying as a carer
 - 21 (58%) were replying as residents
 - 1 (3%) was replying as a service commissioner
 - 2 (6%) were replying as service providers
 - 1 (3%) was replying as a service user
 - 1 (3%) was replying as a business representative
 - 5 (14%) were replying as Community & Voluntary Sector Organisations
 - 2 (6%) were replying as Community champions
 - 1 (3%) was replying as an ex rough sleeper
- 1 (3%) was not a resident of Brighton & Hove and was responding as a representative of a business based in the city

Respondents with a history of rough sleeping:

- 11 (31%) of those responding identified as being people who were sleeping rough or had previously slept rough.
 - 1 Living in a motor vehicle
 - 1 Living in a tent
 - 3 Sleeping rough
 - 1 Sleeping rough; Sofa surfing; Living in a tent
 - 1 Sleeping rough; Squatting; Sofa surfing; Living in a vehicle; Living in a tent
 - 1 Sofa surfing
 - 1 Sofa surfing; Living in a motor vehicle
 - 1 Squatting
 - 1 Squatting; Sofa surfing

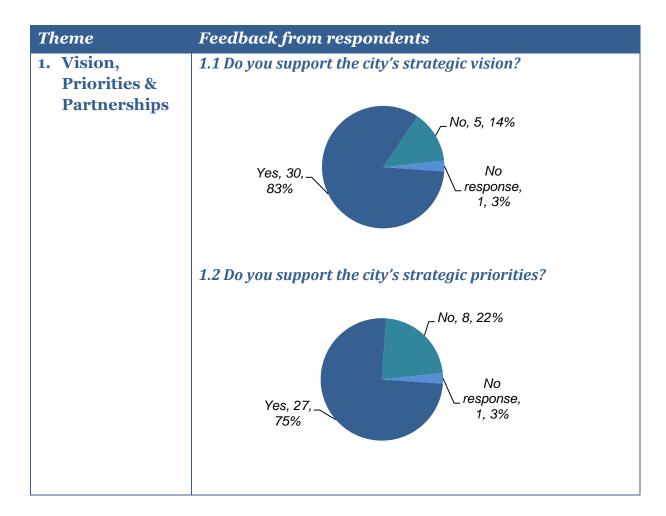
Equalities Protected Characteristics of respondents:

- Age: Consultees who provided this information aged from 29 to 80. 4 (11%) were aged 29 to 40, 7 (19%) were aged 41 to 50, 12 (33%) were aged 51 to 60, 5 (14%) were aged 61 to 70, 1 (3%) aged 70+, 7 (19%) preferred not to disclose their age. The average Age of respondents was: 53
- **Gender:** Male 18 (50%), Female 14 (39%), Preferred Not To Say 2 (6%), No response 2 (6%)
- Ethnicity: 26 (72%) consultees identified as White UK/British and 5 (14%) as BME and 5 (14%) preferred not to disclose their ethnic origin or did not respond
- **Sexual Orientation:** 22 (61%) of consultees identified as being Heterosexual / Straight, 3 (8%) Gay man, 1 (3%) as Bisexual, 10 (28%) preferred not to say

- Disability: 6 (17%) of consultees identified as having some kind of disability
 where their day-today activities were limited because of a health problem or
 disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months. Of those 3
 responded that their impairment was due to a long-standing Illness, 1 that their
 impairment was due to a physical condition and 1 that their impairment was due
 to a mental health condition
- Religion or Belief: 3 (8%) of consultees identified as being Atheist, 3 (8%) as being Buddhist, 8 (22%) as being Christian, 1 (3%) as being Pagan, 1 (3%) as being Universalist & Liberal Christian, 16 (44%) was being of no particular religion and 4 (11%) preferred not to say or did not respond

Important Note

Where possible, responses to the consultation have been report verbatim. Opinions given are those of the respondents and they may not represent the views of the authority. The finding have helped stimulate debate inform the development of the draft strategy. Some responses have been edited or removed where they were deemed to be inappropriate for publication such as by targeting an individual or organisation with unsubstantiated allegations or they may have provided personal or otherwise confidential information.



Theme	Feedback from respondents
	1.3 Please tell us about anything you would like to change in the city's vision or priorities
	22 consultees responded: Where will you house rough sleepers, even from hostels they congregate outside and annoy other residents in the area? "A robust approach" sounds good but I expect it needs resources you haven't got! They all sound good if they are done in a genuinely caring way. My fear is that they will not be. We have already seen a crack down on 'moving rough sleepers along' and taking all they're possessions: this is totally uncaring and is motivated by 'reputation' not caring for these people as individuals. Priority 3 to
	me sounds like what I have just described. People do not choose to be rough sleeping so they should be treated with respect and care, not discrimination and disrespect for their value as human beings. To ensure housing first to enable homeless people to have a base from which to recover and grow. To make sure Adult Social care
	services are not reduced, A national issue, but criminalising squatting was a step in wrong direction. Civil recourse was adequate; on top off all the other issues faced by rough sleepers do we really want to add a criminal record. With so many empty properties it is immoral not to put them to use. So what legislation do we have to seize non-utilised buildings at least for the short term and put them to use. As the Support Worker for Emmaus Brighton & Hove we were
	most upset that we were not invited to Brighton Council's Rough Sleeping Summit on December 4th. As a 48 bed working Community we have a Social Return on Investment to the value of every one pound spent by the Government we give back £11. All our Companions come off all state benefits, are working volunteers for 40 hours a week, and there is no move on it can be a place for life. I support this plan but we are all upset that we were not asked to attend this event. 80% of our Companions were street homeless and the other 20 % come from prison. Very typical of Brighton Council not to include many third sector
	agencies who work with the homeless in the city. [we have now spoken to Emmaus and rectified this mistake] The cities strategic vision and strategic priorities are not yet clear from what I have read. Severe Weather shelters should be open November through to March. It shouldn't need to drop below a certain temperature for them to open, as a young woman sleeping rough on West Street told me two weeks ago. Have you seen the Love Activists' 7 basic proposals? They seem very effective and easily doable: 1. Every homeless person is vulnerable and should therefore be considered in priority need, including those in temporary accommodation. 2. The Housing First model should be expanded to offer housing to all of the city's homeless people, offering

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) should be activated immediately, in any weather which threatens rough sleepers' health, particularly the wet. 4. The council should activate the Extended Winter Provision of the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol immediately. The emergency shelters should be opened every night, over the winter and beyond. 5. Affordable social rents should be imposed on private landlords and property investors, prioritising the provision of permanent homes until everyone is securely housed. 6. Reform the LASPO act, to make squatting empty properties safe and equitable for property owners and otherwise homeless people. 7. Because of the so-called 'first mover loses' phenomenon, it will be necessary for local authorities around the country to work together, in order to implement these measures nationally.
	I am very concerned about the reduction in housing provision for rough sleepers. The way beds are allocated favours those in social care need, however, new rough sleepers and individuals who are yet to develop severe health problems are not given a pathway out of homelessness and rough sleeping. This leaves them stranded in a cycle of homelessness with no clear way out. Hostel beds provide residents with a support service from highly skilled professional staff which allows people to move quickly off the street and address their support needs.
	The council routinely pays private landlords vast sums of money for extended periods of time to provide very substandard temporary• accommodation without any contracts, no minimum standards for the quality of accommodation/decoration/modern facilities. It is a phenomenal waste of money and no-one benefits but the greedy private landlords. Look at [locations deleted but passed to relevant officers for investigation] BHCC pays ridiculous amounts of money to. It is terrible that anyone is allowed to be houses in these places. It seems the attitude is that no-one else will house these otherwise homeless people so they are lucky to have anything at all and that poor standards are acceptable. Take it or leave it. It is a disgrace. The council should run temporary accommodation shelters themselves and not line the pockets of private landlords. Oh but then that means the council being responsible for housing people. Now we can't have that, can we? Street sleepers should be sent back to the towns from where came from or B&H send a bill to the towns for cost involved with that person. Residents are fed up with having to step over sleepers and going different routes so that one does not get
	That no one has to sleep rough any night, not by 2020 Make it illegal for letting agents and private landlords to exclude prospective tenants who are in receipt of housing benefits by default. The council should provide written evidence of the benefit award and the agent should not automatically disqualify a prospective tenant on the grounds of being on benefits - this unfortunately seems to be quite common with agencies and private landlords. Just because somebody is on housing benefits

doesn't make them a bad tenant. Improve availability of council

Theme Feedback from respondents

housing. Improve tenants' rights in the private rented sector - make private tenancies more secure in that the private landlord can't just ask the tenant to move out UNLESS mutually agreed OR the tenant has been misbehaving repeatedly. NOT because they landlord didn't like the tenant's hairstyle or life choices. Build more housing that low income earners can afford.

Support in principal but it seems very resource heavy therefore expense and there is little to understand in terms of outputs and could be seen as the usual, although enhanced 'softly softly' approach

We seem to encourage so called rough sleepers to come to the city because we provide more than other areas and in particular neighbouring areas. We should be actively discouraging rough sleepers but provide support for those with a bona fide link with the city.

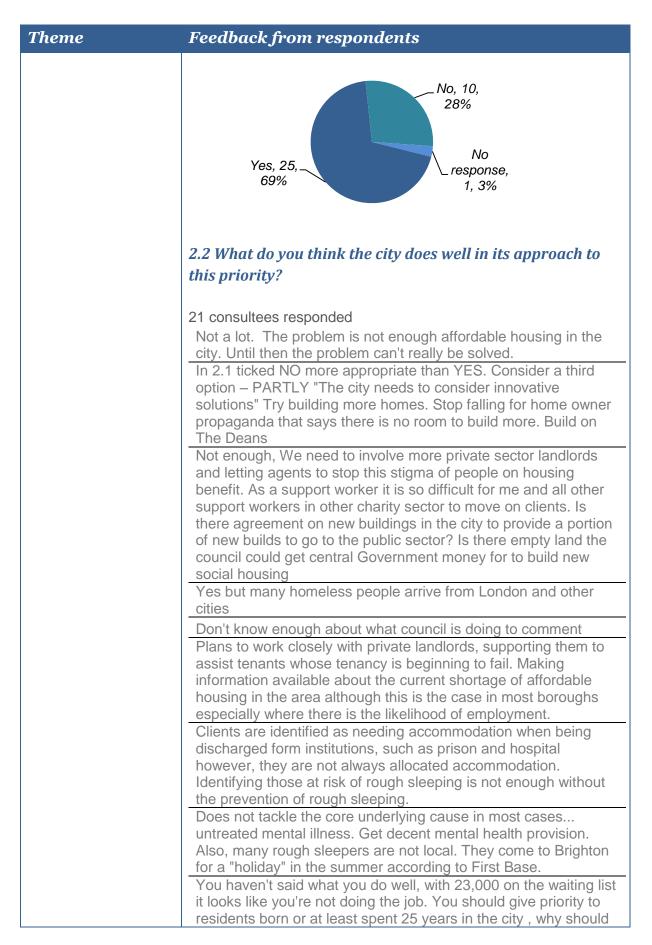
Eradicate van dwelling which is a form of rough sleeping. It is unhygienic, unsafe, and unhealthy and causes valuable parking spaces to be removed from local residents. It is also becoming a popular and apparently acceptable way of living in our city. Our roads are not a caravan park.

A strategic vision is fine, as long as it is well informed and executed with the right tactics. The strategy described by BHC is naive in conception and not appropriately directed. Almost ALL homelessness in the western world can be linked to mental health disorders (diagnosed or not diagnosed). Failure to address the root causes of homelessness will yield little success. Studies in other cities and countries show this. Learn from the evidence, and do not be guided by empirical judgement. There is no place for it. Identify people who are NOT local and have them repatriated to their own locale. The priority for people with local connection should be that every person with a mental health disorder (including substance use disorders) is identified, diagnosed by professionals, provided with a treatment plan and supported though treatment. Putting a roof over their head the meantime is a good idea. The need is a medical one. Housing is just dealing with one symptom.

Appears to be little input from people who have actually slept rough or are sleeping rough. As somebody has had the misfortune to sleep on the streets of Brighton I realise there are many issues that need addressing because many of the individuals have different and complex issues. However there appears to be a lot of organisations not co operating or with there own agendas and for the council appears not to have any function in the delivery or prevention of homelessness. I found where most of the objectives of the strategy very worthy they appear no different to what is already happening and that a closer working of different services would be an improvement.

The priority must be provision of suitable accommodation - social housing that people can afford. A need for less rhetoric and PR and a greater emphasis on practical work There is an abundance of research and "visions" for activity but little implementation

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	Those with mental health or special needs have to be removed from the streets. 2. Begging, sleeping in doorways and congregating in drunken groups are first.
	No 1 (prevention) has to be the absolute priority.
	Actively encourage the retention and increase in shared accommodation, particularly for men and women under 35
	The fancy words above are so vague they can be taken to mean almost anything that anyone speaking them wants a listener to believe - so although I'd like to agree with 'Motherhood and Apple Pie' I'm unable to do so, given the serious implications, in various directions, of the above vague aspirations and assertions. For example: "No-one has the need to sleep rough by 2020". So the taxpayers of Brighton & Hove will provide safe and salubrious accommodation to anyone arriving at the City's boundary without the means/ability to provide it for themselves, regardless of higher policy or law? Please get real with your words!!
	1.4 Please tell us any strategic partners we may have missed
	10 consultees responded
	Justlife Charity - supporting people in emergency and temporary
	accommodation
	Local homeless action groups
	I assume you count rough sleepers as 'strategic partners'. They may have a mix of issues, unable to find affordable homes, alcohol, MH, relationship problems, but are still people. Don't process them like peas.
	Emmaus Brighton & Hove
	Is there as any provision for rough sleepers animals, mainly dogs who are sometimes with them? Is there a service providing hot food and drinks for rough sleepers?
	Residents who pay rates and your wages
	Business - in terms of loss of income and mess to clear. City clean - for clearing mess left behind
	Too many partners. Let's focus the effort in a single place.
	Psychiatric services. Other councils to repatriate people who are not from the area. Other councils who house people here in "temporary" "B&B" accommodation, who are often subsequently evicted and live on Brighton streets and do not return to their place of origin.
	All those residents who feel intimated or just reluctant to go into the city centre because of this problem. And all the potential tourists who feel the same and stay away from Brighton.
2. Preventing	2.1 Do you agree with the approach to this priority?
Homelessness	



Theme	Feedback from respondents
	the council give housing to persons who arrive in the city for free
	housing! Fact-gathering - its unclear to me from the statement above who
	"we of the City are"?
	Good floating support service - Community Connections
	Writes fine words, we have yet to see what results
	Yes, but Brighton will always continue to draw the problem unless sleeping in the street and begging is made illegal. The rough sleeping also draws drug dealing and other illicit activities Looking at directing people to affordable accommodation outside
	of the city. Many people are attracted to living in Brighton without realising how expensive it is. Early intervention is required so that visitors can return to their original neighbourhoods before they lose their community connections. Emphasis on that it will not be possible to just come to Brighton without sufficient funds
	to live here. Prevention is a priority but all strategies and tactics must be based on evidence and sound practice.
	Not at all. Policy is often good but implementation not the reality
	Address the point of why so many are attracted to beg on Brighton streets. Stop that happening and the attraction is removed.
	Well something isn't working otherwise we would not have such a problem.
	Is it important to look at this fundamental area
	Plenty resources, just lack of co-ordination.
	Sometimes in mediating with PRS landlords to avoid the threatened eviction of troublesome tenants, such as by the funding of rent arrears and/or the provision of HB top-ups to meet rents increased beyond an existing tenant's reasonable ability to pay.
	2.3 How successful do you think this approach will be? (On a scale of 1-10, 10 is best)
	Number of responses 12 10 8 6 4 2 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Not successful Successful
	2.4 What do you think the city could do better to achieve this priority?

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	28 consultees responded
	Something needs to be done about the fees for letting agents, sometimes asking for 6 months rent in advance, charging administration fees every time the rent goes up etc. I really feel young vulnerable people don't get the help they need.
	Build more affordable housing. Stop letting all the brown field sites getting built on for luxury homes
	Take back empty homes that have been empty for several years
	Build more affordable homes
	Stop the stigma around tenants on Housing Benefit, a guaranteed agreement for landlords to help accept social tenants. A bigger push from Brighton Council and its local MPs to ask for more local funding for social housing. A big ask, but something needs to happen soon.
	A big problem is with youth hostels, I know you people who have chosen to camp in parks rather then use them because the environment is chaotic. Placing people with problems in a unit is not ideal.
	Joined up action with other local authorities and organisations
	I am very pleased that the council are happy to involve local residents in helping rough sleepers. It is often the case that although local people in all areas want to help, that it is not clear how to go about this and often councils are not happy for people to give money to people who are apparently homeless. Giving local residents as much information as possible and also giving rough sleepers as much information as possible and in a timely way about how to change their circumstances. More importance needs to be given to the skills and benefits of having hostel based accommodation for those with a history of rough sleeping. Their complex needs are unlikely to be addressed
	through any other provision. Face the facts. Mental health provision and people from outside
	the area choosing to sleep rough here. BHCC is an ostrich. Give all the out of town sleepers single tickets back to where they came from saying if they are picked up again an ASBO will be given to them for coming back to the city and sleeping on the street.
	Provide better guidance to residents and visitors as to how to help the homeless without encouraging begging.
	More resources to avoid people losing accommodation and entering the homeless system. More support for people at risk of losing their accommodation rather than this area being cut i.e. Housing Related Support, floating support, Housing Support Services. This includes people in council tenancies who should get the support they need and not be evicted. Recognise that people will have support needs in all tenancies and the system should be flexible to support this, rather than people losing their 'general' needs accommodation and then referred to supported
	accommodation. This is a very expensive model. Fewer Managers more people on the ground

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	"A new service called Community Connections, provided by Southdown, will help people to stay in their accommodation by working with landlords and agencies to prevent eviction" Unfortunately the possibility of staying in private accommodation often isn't because of misbehaviour but due to a range of different factors, which the service doesn't seem to address: -landlord "dislikes" the tenant due to skin colour, hair style, eating habits, sexual orientation etc., even though none of these would affect somebody's ability to be a good tenant. Landlord makes up an excuse to get the tenant to leave simply because they don't "like" the tenantlandlord wants their nephew to take the room so the tenant needs to move outlandlord is sexually harassing the tenant so the tenant chooses to leave - the service shouldn't encourage the tenant to stay in such circumstances accommodation is in such a poor state of repair that the landlord asks the tenant to "go away" 2 months to access the flat for repair but this is effectively like asking them to move out as they would need to find somewhere to store their furniture. Hard and firm no sleeping and/or begging n the street byelaw. It is not just about local homelessness - people actually travel to Brighton to do this – it's a party town and perhaps a bit warmer on the south coast!
	If you want Landlord to rent you property you need to ensure rents are paid to the LL and they you provide a cash deposit as opposed to a guarantee.
	Sadly a tough love approach is probably best. Helping people before they are habitualised to either rough sleeping, van dwelling or sofa surfing to gain affordable accommodation outside the city. Either helping them to return to their original communities or finding affordable accommodation outside of the city. The Churches provide food etc. on a regular basis and I have heard it said that the homeless don't go hungry in Brighton but they are unable to provide much in the way of short or long term accommodation. All this does is make it possible to live in the streets as homeless people are fed and clothed regularly.
	We need to manage people's expectations about the fact that Brighton and Hove is one of the most desirable places to live in Europe. As individuals we can only afford to live where we can afford to live. I can't afford to live in a family house in Kensington, so I live here. There are many places along the coast that are very accessible to Brighton but are much, much cheaper to live in (rent, house prices, living expenses etc.). Stop being "antilandlord". The private landlords in this city are mainly decent people who offer good accommodation at reasonable cost, given the market. Yet the Private Sector Housing (PSH) group in BHCC is so anti-landlord it is appalling. [the rest of this comment has been deleted]
	As you pointed out as a single male I can only expect advice and assistance, I received this advice and ended sleeping rough for nine months and my present situation will probably lead to returning to the streets. So I can not see how you are going to stop people sleeping on the streets without using draconian

Theme Feedback from respondents

measures as when you get to the stage that you accept sleeping as your only option getting out of it is almost impossible with out assistance. I feel your approach can only fail as most of the people on the streets are single people and although shipping them off to somewhere else in the country where rents are cheaper is a option for some, Brighton is my home town and I refuse to be driven out so expect to see me back on the streets

Implement policy

Have its own temporary accommodation? Use churches?

This is, unfortunately, severely limited by the financial resources available to B&H. Any hold up in obtaining legitimate Universal Credit is likely to increase homelessness.

Teach people to be more aware, by commissioning more Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT) 8 week courses,

A change in culture: housing as shelter rather than a commodity Co-ordinate better, I move 3 ton of food round the city every week to foodbanks, hostels and onto streets. So understand some of the issues

Actively encourage the retention and increase in shared accommodation, particularly for men and women under 35

Not necessarily ".. this policy ..", but overall BHCC needs to have central Gov't declare a form of 'Housing Action Zone (HAZ)' for the City (for about 25 years), on the broad principle of an HAZ Authority having 'First Refusal' (at open market prices) to buy all land and buildings capable of being made suitable for residential use (through new-build and/or conversion or renovation where needed) to achieve a final stock of 'Social Rented Housing' in B&H of about 48,000 dwellings (with a greater total of bedrooms to be calculated according to the demographic situation and trends in the City). Self-evidently the work of the HAZ would also act to find ways to 'discourage' incomers to the City (of any income level) except under exceptional and clearly-defined provisions and exemptions (basically a policy of 'One out - One in' until the population and housing stock of the City has been brought into such equilibrium that all with an acquired 'right' to live here can do so in a 'Decent Home', and at a cost not exceeding 25% of their nett income (for owner-occupiers adjusted so that the capital element of mortgage repayments is EXCLUDED from the '25% of nett income' calculation)).

2.5 What changes would you like to make?

25 consultees responded

In an ideal world, go back to the days when there were rent tribunals to stop landlords increasing the rent every 6 months. I don't think the high rent in Brighton is a huge factor in the number of rough sleepers in Brighton though. I think lots of the rough sleepers have drug/alcohol/mental health issues and would find it difficult to keep a tenancy, even with support. Plus many are not from Brighton and don't have connections here.

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	Build more affordable housing. Cap rents
	I would like to see an end to the right to buy council homes, for the council to circumvent this as seems to be the plan. For the council not to work with housing associations that are only building buy/part buy properties which are clearly out of the reach of ordinary income/housing benefit. Extend work with co-ops. To let new council and HA builds at a social (not "affordable") rent. Build more affordable homes. Task BOE [Bank of England] with keeping property inflation down below 1% pa Better relationship with local landlords, better working with the third sector (that's us by the way). A greater understanding of the reasons for homelessness in our city. For our local MPs to have more say in Government on behalf of the homeless population in
	our city.
	There is no easy fix and no one size fits all but young people in crisis should be offered nurturing environments, where possible placing them with families rather than in hostels.
	I am very pleased that the council are happy to involve local residents in helping rough sleepers. It is often the case that although local people in all areas want to help, that it is not clear how to go about this and often councils are not happy for people to give money to people who are apparently homeless. Giving local residents as much information as possible and also giving rough sleepers as much information as possible and in a timely
	way about how to change there circumstances. More hostel based accommodation to provide beds for rough
	sleepers so they can access the support they may need and have a quick pathway off the streets where otherwise their needs may become entrenched.
	The council routinely pays private landlords vast sums of money for extended periods of time to provide very substandard temporary accommodation without any contracts, no minimum standards for the quality of accommodation/decoration/modern facilities. It is a phenomenal waste of money and no-one benefits but the greedy private landlords. Look at [address details deleted but passed to relevant service for investigation]. BHCC pays ridiculous amounts of money to. It is terrible that anyone is allowed to be houses in these places. It seems the attitude is that no-one else will house these otherwise homeless people so they are lucky to have anything at all and that poor standards are acceptable. Take it or leave it. It is a disgrace. The council should run temporary accommodation shelters themselves and not line the pockets of private landlords. Oh but then that means the council being responsible for housing people. Now we can't have that can we?
	Well the housing dept. should all resign with 23,000 on the waiting list. It must be touching on taking money on false pretences. Stop selling housing stock, as this comes from central government you could make it so difficult that no one would find a way though the paper work needed, that would then slow down the buy to let gang. Make all the University's house all students in purpose built

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	halls of residents that would then free up houses in the town which are let to students. Till the time that the universities have housed all its students, a local tax should paid by the University for each student in private housing, this would then be used for local housing. This would in turn lower or at least slow down the cost of housing in the town, as the 'buy to let gang' would sell up and move on. Universities could then rent the rooms out in the summer as holidays lets I'm missing what the tangible goals are - 15% less than current - the statement says no one will sleep rough. Is that a statement of thousands or hundreds are to be supported - realism is best weighed up with deeper stats No more cuts to HRS or other tenancy sustainment services. Recognise that flexible services are needed to help people remain
	in their homes. Weed out those who simply drive desks
	Build more council housing.
	No sleeping in the street and/or begging and people made to move on by dedicated unit OR transport provided to collect for overnight at dedicated hostel incurring a fee!
	If you want Landlord to rent you property you need to ensure rents are paid to the LL and that you provide a cash deposit as opposed to a guarantee.
	Earlier intervention. My husband helps at a homeless soup kitchen and no one questions or challenges the homeless guests. It has become acceptable to live like this and this needs to stop. The soup kitchens should be a temporary last resort. In practice many of the homeless have been attending these establishments for many years and more and more are joining. Particularly migrants often with a poor command of English.
	People who do not have the means to live in Brighton should be supported to live in other towns where they do have the means to live. Overhaul PSH, [comment deleted] and stop being "antilandlord"
	Homeless centres must be on the outskirts of the city - not the centre. It is too attractive there.
	Teach people to be more aware, by commissioning more Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT) 8 week courses,
	Rent capping, more social housing, curbing council right-to-buy Organise and regulate but also encourage support for current help while taking immediate action to create accommodation. Actively encourage the retention and increase in shared
	accommodation, particularly for men and women under 35 Not necessarily " this policy", but overall BHCC needs to have central Gov't declare a form of 'Housing Action Zone (HAZ)' for the City (for about 25 years), on the broad principle of an HAZ Authority having 'First Refusal' (at open market prices) to buy all land and buildings capable of being made suitable for residential
	use (through new-build and/or conversion or renovation where needed) to achieve a final stock of 'Social Rented Housing' in B&H of about 48,000 dwellings (with a greater total of bedrooms

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	to be calculated according to the demographic situation and trends in the City). Self-evidently the work of the HAZ would also act to find ways to 'discourage' incomers to the City (of any income level) except under exceptional and clearly-defined provisions and exemptions (basically a policy of 'One out - One in' until the population and housing stock of the City has been brought into such equilibrium that all with an acquired 'right' to live here can do so in a 'Decent Home', and at a cost not exceeding 25% of their nett income (for owner-occupiers adjusted so that the capital element of mortgage repayments is EXCLUDED from the '25% of nett income' calculation).
3. Street Triage	3.1 Do you agree with the approach to this priority?
	Yes, 25, No, 9, 25% No response, 2, 6% 3.2 What do you think the city does well in its approach to this priority?
	15 consultees responded
	Rapid
	I agree services should link up. However with social care budgets being cut can this be possible?
	Firstly at Emmaus Brighton and Hove we do not require a local connection, neither does many of the other Communities across the country, maybe you could look at the ethos of Emmaus as a working Community, no local connection or move on. Health wise, the mental health sector is massively underfunded, what we have is very good from my experience but could do with better training for the police in mental health. More beds in Millview or another mental health hospital wing.
	The city recognises that rough sleepers can often live independently once the resources become available and no longer need supported accommodation. The city is addressing the possibility of moving people back to their original locality who
	do not have a local connection. No second night out providing support alongside good quality
	housing.
	Early intervention is always the best way - but involve mental health and send people who are not from the area back to where they come from.
	Why is always 3.1 Yes or NO , could be that some is good but a

Theme Feedback from respondents lot is bad, seems that a lot of time is spent on no more than 150 people who like sleeping on the street The contract has only recently been awarded. What PR activities have been undertaken to make it known in the circles of those sleeping rough? SOS does a great job. I am not sure. There were established care providers in the City, why do we appoint an organisation that "needs to get to understand the nature of the city's rough sleeping"? Yes, but...the problems are not at all new, there is nothing new to understand - it is simply there is just more of the same problem. Unless there is a completely different and firmer line then the problem will just continue to grow! Good but van dwellers need to be classed as rough sleepers too and included in the "no second night" initiative. Not much... identification is only one part of the equation. Many of these people will be known to mental health services; they are patients who have fallen out of the system. Mental health involvement should be integral at every step. The current wide provision of self-contained and shared housing for homeless men and women, and for people with mental health problems and addictions. Almost nothing - the lack of basic humanity in this approach by BHCC is not only unacceptable - treating human beings like objects - but is ultimately unproductive and thus a misapplication of scarce funding! 3.3 How successful do you think this approach will be? (On a *scale of 1-10, 10 is best)* 10 ■ Number of 8 responses 6 4 2 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Not successful Successful 3.4 What do you think the city could do better to achieve this priority? 23 consultees responded Massive injection of funds to get more support workers! Seriously, I commend your efforts but with all the cuts to services

how are you going to arrange access to mental health care, for example? This is difficult enough for the settled community!

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	More places to put people once they have been seen initially I am not sure what is meant by a local connection - is this a
	certain time a person has lived in the city? Be less heavy handed Better training and engaging better with Mind and MindOut and
	better liaising with the police. When Dr Barnardo set-up the first children's home he turned away a boy who later died, after that he said he would never turn away a child in need. If he could achieve that in 1876 then we should be matching that ambition for all homeless people in 2015.
	Rapid response simply is not rapid enough. There needs to be workers available to respond immediately to alerts that vulnerable people are sleeping rough and severe weather shelters need to be accessible throughout winter. When I called the emergency council number one very cold night to tell them about a young vulnerable couple on the street I was told someone would be out over the next few days to check if they were still there. That is of no help to someone on the streets, who needs help now.
	Make as much accommodation available as possible bearing in mind that some people will prefer to live in shared houses rather than live alone. The housing used for No Second Night Out needs to be of good
	quality and of a high standard. This allows people to move out of homelessness and aids motivation to change.
	Mental health nurses on the streets. If you sleep on the streets of Brighton and you don't come from here, then an ASBO is given to them
	Benchmarking with other cities Premises to assess people. Multi disciplinary teams to assess people and clear service pathways after assessment, which includes accommodation
	Work with those who have experience of helping street sleepers Good but van dwellers need to be classed as rough sleepers too and included in the "no second night" initiative. Yes, butthe problems are not at all new, there is nothing new to understand - it is simply there is just more of the same problem. Unless there is a completely different and firmer line then the problem will just continue to grow!
	Immediately check with mental health services if someone is a patient the moment they are identified. Get access to Sussex Partnership database.
	Remove the reasons why Brighton attracts homelessness. Don't make the hostels appear to be like hotels. They aren't!
	Access local expertise. Most rough sleepers are drug addicts and substance misusers. This has to be addressed for any long term solution to be achieved. I have been running MBCT courses for these people for the last 5 years, with some spectacular results

Theme Feedback from respondents

Organisation and co-ordination. When out I see rough sleepers with too much and others with nothing, Legal High drugs are causing so much grief, sometimes I cannot wake people up to help them, some agencies are to protective over their groups to the extent they do not want you feeding or helping rough sleepers they are giving a cup of soup to. An understanding of who is helping and for what reason, many people who help me have issues that helping others helps them with. This is very common.

Actively encourage the retention and increase in shared accommodation (as opposed to the lukewarm reference in the current mental health accommodation tender)

Not necessarily ".. this policy ..", but overall BHCC needs to have central Gov't declare a form of 'Housing Action Zone (HAZ)' for the City (for about 25 years), on the broad principle of an HAZ Authority having 'First Refusal' (at open market prices) to buy all land and buildings capable of being made suitable for residential use (through new-build and/or conversion or renovation where needed) to achieve a final stock of 'Social Rented Housing' in B&H of about 48,000 dwellings (with a greater total of bedrooms to be calculated according to the demographic situation and trends in the City). Self-evidently the work of the HAZ would also act to find ways to 'discourage' incomers to the City (of any income level) except under exceptional and clearly-defined provisions and exemptions (basically a policy of 'One out - One in' until the population and housing stock of the City has been brought into such equilibrium that all with an acquired 'right' to live here can do so in a 'Decent Home', and at a cost not exceeding 25% of their nett income (for owner-occupiers adjusted so that the capital element of mortgage repayments is EXCLUDED from the '25% of nett income' calculation)). Basically sufficient decent affordable social rented housing, with adequately-trained and paid professionally-qualified (medical and social-work etc.) staff to provide well-tailored support to those in need. Possibly also small (15 to 30-person) fully-staffed and serviced 'Residential Communities' for those unwilling and/or unable to operate a dwelling for themselves, even with moderate support.

3.5 What changes would you like to make?

19 consultees responded

Sorry to be a pessimist, but I don't think you can do this!

More places to house people in the city that are better regulated and affordable

The root cause of not being able to house homeless is the lack of social housing and the lack of "ethical" landlords. The council needs to set up more ethical landlord schemes.

Identify the problem further down the chain. Home life environment in early teens.

Theme	Feedback from respondents
Theme	<u> </u>
	More training and advice for understanding of mental health needs of the homeless population in our city.
	A promise to house everyone in crisis immediately
	Rapid response simply is not rapid enough. There needs to be workers available to respond immediately to alerts that vulnerable people are sleeping rough and severe weather shelters need to be accessible throughout winter. When I called the emergency council number one very cold night to tell them about a young vulnerable couple on the street I was told someone would be out over the next few days to check if they were still there. That is of no help to someone on the streets, who needs help now.
	Better quality housing provision for No Second Night Out.
	Mental health nurses on the streets.
	If you sleep on the streets of Brighton and you don't come from here, them an ASBO is given to them
	Cannot comment due to lack of knowledge- would it not make sense to offer an online link to the contracted organisation St. Mungos Broadway for information??
	Continue to work with existing agencies First base, the churches, etc.
	Yes, butthe problems are not at all new, there is nothing new to understand - it is simply there is just more of the same problem.
	Unless there is a completely different and firmer line then the problem will just continue to grow!
	Good but van dwellers need to be classed as rough sleepers too and included in the "no second night" initiative.
	Acknowledge that no matter what a minority will prefer to live this way. There are some people who refuse to be helped
	Teach people to be more aware, by commissioning more Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT) 8 week courses
	A meeting of all agencies, a project wall created and signed by everyone involved. A list of assets created so we can all see what we have and then a priority list made to acquire what is
	missing, simple things like carpet tiles to sit on, we have loads of warm clothes that cannot be put out until we hit a cold spell or they get dumped as heavy. Possible portable showers secure so rough sleepers can keep all their belongings safe while
	showering. Brighton needs to think out the box, we could even consider use of licensed camp sites and caravans, these could be used for families and relieve part of the pressure in the
	bedsitter city groups. Actively encourage the retention and increase in shared
	accommodation, particularly for men and women under 35 Not necessarily " this policy", but overall BHCC needs to have central Gov't declare a form of 'Housing Action Zone (HAZ)' for the City (for about 25 years), on the broad principle of an HAZ
	Authority having 'First Refusal' (at open market prices) to buy all land and buildings capable of being made suitable for residential use (through new-build and/or conversion or renovation where
	needed) to achieve a final stock of 'Social Rented Housing' in

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	B&H of about 48,000 dwellings (with a greater total of bedrooms to be calculated according to the demographic situation and trends in the City). Self-evidently the work of the HAZ would also act to find ways to 'discourage' incomers to the City (of any income level) except under exceptional and clearly-defined provisions and exemptions (basically a policy of 'One out - One in' until the population and housing stock of the City has been brought into such equilibrium that all with an acquired 'right' to live here can do so in a 'Decent Home', and at a cost not exceeding 25% of their nett income (for owner-occupiers adjusted so that the capital element of mortgage repayments is EXCLUDED from the '25% of nett income' calculation)). Basically sufficient decent affordable social rented housing, with adequately-trained and paid professionally-qualified (medical and social-work etc.) staff to provide well-tailored support to those in need. Possibly also small (15 to 30-person) fully-staffed and serviced 'Residential Communities' for those unwilling and/or unable to operate a dwelling for themselves, even with moderate support.
4. Managing th Street	
Communitie	Yes, 22, 61% No, 10, 28% No response, 4, 11%
	4.2 What do you think the city does well in its approach to
	this priority?
	15 consultees responded The services who work on the ground with people, like equinox, are very good. Those services need more resources to really be effective.
	I don't know enough about the effects of moving people on Not very well, why are they sleeping in tents? We have several
	Companions who were previously street homeless who have had their tents stolen, damaged or even burnt. This stigmatises the homeless again, perhaps having more night shelters open to the homeless community? Work more with Project Antifreeze who have a real understanding of the street homeless community. Very little, if they have no money what choice do they have but to beg? Imposing this law is cruel and will ultimately raise the level of crime.

Addressing the multiple and complex needs of people for whom

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	homelessness is an entrenched problem. Acknowledging that resolving these issues will be very difficult. Tackling antisocial behaviour.
	Anti-social behaviour forums where professionals can share information and work holistically to meet the client's needs.
	How much does all this cost, you don't say
	Great Community safety SOS and Police partnership
	Not sure
	None of the objectives are really that new are they and what have they achieved to date?! What's the point of 'outreach' when the service itself waits to be contacted? The approach needed is dedicated and active actions actually patrolling and strong discouragement also from proper policing
	In practice I don't think the police have the time to monitor "anti social street behaviour" unless it becomes very visible and very unacceptable. The softly softy approach has made Brighton very attractive to rough sleepers and those who like to live on the
	streets. The impression is that Brighton tolerates this sort of lifestyle and this unfortunately appears to encourage more people to do it.
	Not a lot.
	The contact and coordination between the different support
	groups and agencies is excellent.
	The Day and Street Services Working Group
	Hardly anything - too much money spent for barely any positive outcome.
	4.3 How successful do you think this approach will be? (On a scale of 1-10, 10 is best)
	Number of responses
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
	Not successful Successful
	4.4 What do you think the city could do better to achieve this
	priority?
	20 consultees responded The number of people sleeping in shop doorways is appalling! I'd
	like to see sleep "pods" which would give a bit of safety for the rough sleeper. I worry how people manage to sleep on a busy

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	street night after night. Some system would need to be introduced so that rough sleepers did not make the pod a permanent home, maybe hand a key out in the evening from a hostel and give a reward the next day for the return of the key. Doesn't need to be a financial reward, could be a voucher for a
	meal or something. More funding for outreach services and more places to accommodate people after early intervention.
	Not use phrases like " the law-abiding majority" Not all homeless are drinkers, drug takers or involved with anti social behaviour. Brighton used to have a safe space for drinkers in the city by the Pavilion where it was a staffed and controlled environment with support staff at hand. You cannot just move these people on and hope they will go away. You need to understand why they are street homeless.
	Specifically around mental health - often as people begin suffering - they have support from friends and family - as the cycle continues, they tend to lose this support. Eventually, as their mental health leads to difficulties sustaining tenancies, they find that the only support they can find is amongst the street community. This leads to escalating drug use, exacerbating MH issues. If someone being discharged from psychiatric hospital is placed in a hostel - the chances of them maintaining a routine involving healthy eating, regular sleep patterns, exercise, abstention from substances that affect MH, are pretty minimal, as they are fighting their environment as well as their MH.
	Regular prescriptions for drug users, rehabilitation programs for all forms of addiction with immediate access for those on the street, access to emergency cash and the ability to claim income support despite not having a permanent address.
	Working with the organisations it already proposes to do. Better provision to allow people to move off the streets and into accommodation where support is provided by highly skilled professionals at any hour of the day.
	Rigid, iron fisted enforcement. Laws are pointless without enforcement.
	Make a by-law stating that its an offence to sleep on the pavement and parks Provide spaces where people can congregate without feeling they are unwelcome.
	Without sufficient people - helpers and Police on the street it will not succeed
	It comes back to early intervention. People coming to the city need to understand straight away that rough sleeping, van dwelling etc. is not tolerated and is not an acceptable way of living in Brighton.
	Stop paying private landlords extortionate amounts of money to house people in grim, substandard accommodation. Stop other councils sending their homeless to be housed in the same grim "B&B" accommodation. This is part of the problem, not part of the solution and costs a ridiculous amount of money along the

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	way.
	Must put the settled community ahead of the street sleepers/beggars/campers. Phrases like "proportionate and reasonable" have ZERO meaning as they are totally subjective to the person deciding what to do. There needs to be very clear and distinct written rules to follow.
	Where are the appropriate places within the city for rough sleepers to go during the day especially if it is raining or cold? Rough sleepers come under our church portico, but they block the church entrance, create noise and disturbance and sometimes leave their needles or defecate. Recent gatherings of groups of rough sleepers under our portico are causing increasing concern. At times it is becoming impossible to work quietly and safely at the church, particularly on your own. It is stressful to operate in a noisy distracting environment and not possible to provide pastoral care services at the church when there are rough sleepers congregating outside. A small group of 1 or 2 may act reasonably at first, but when it becomes a larger group (it has been 18 people, alcohol and 2 muscle dogs) it can be intimidating even if there is no personal aggression. Hirers are having to face these concerns too. There is particular concern for the safety of children e.g. in the nursery school and [name deleted]. It is also affecting the hirability of our premises
	and the state of repair of our historic pillars and steps. Most rough sleepers are drug addicts and substance misusers. This has to be addressed for any long term solution to be achieved. I have been running MBCT courses for these people
	for the last 5 years, with some spectacular results Not all groups are invited to meetings and these meetings are not advertised well, real time needs to be spent in contacting every individual or group, regulate to some degree and coordinate, allow access to council support and facilities, I am convinced all we need is co-ordination.
	Actively promote the most effective intervention (abstinence-based residential rehabilitation) for members of the street community with addictions Ensure that abstinence-based residential services are clearly signposted on Council's, Pavilions and other websites, rather than as an afterthought Ensure that current services offering an enabling role for outreach services and that are evidenced to be effective, to be supported to be financially viable
	Not necessarily " this policy", but overall BHCC needs to have central Gov't declare a form of 'Housing Action Zone (HAZ)' for the City (for about 25 years), on the broad principle of an HAZ Authority having 'First Refusal' (at open market prices) to buy all land and buildings capable of being made suitable for residential use (through new-build and/or conversion or renovation where needed) to achieve a final stock of 'Social Rented Housing' in B&H of about 48,000 dwellings (with a greater total of bedrooms to be calculated according to the demographic situation and trends in the City). Self-evidently the work of the HAZ would also act to find ways to 'discourage' incomers to the City (of any

Theme Feedback from respondents income level) except under exceptional and clearly-defined provisions and exemptions (basically a policy of 'One out - One in' until the population and housing stock of the City has been brought into such equilibrium that all with an acquired 'right' to live here can do so in a 'Decent Home', and at a cost not exceeding 25% of their nett income (for owner-occupiers adjusted so that the capital element of mortgage repayments is EXCLUDED from the '25% of nett income' calculation)). Basically sufficient decent affordable social rented housing, with adequately-trained and paid professionally-qualified (medical and social-work etc.) staff to provide well-tailored support to those in need. Possibly also small (15 to 30-person) fully-staffed and serviced 'Residential Communities' for those unwilling and/or unable to operate a dwelling for themselves, even with moderate support. 4.5 What changes would you like to make? 21 consultees responded Strengthen powers to curb aggressive begging! More funding for outreach services and more places to accommodate people after early intervention. More nuanced approach. Those rough sleepers who do so purely due to inability to find affordable housing (a growing number) should be helped by prioritising house building. Those with MH / family breakdown need help much earlier in their lives. Driver of family breakdown often economic factors (unemployment). Alcohol issues? Is it really worse amongst rough sleepers compared to the non rough sleeping community? A better working between the police and the street homeless charities which work in the city. A plan to open more night shelters and support stations and day centres so they know where to access support. Specialist emergency/temp accommodation for those discharged from psychiatric hosp. Common sense, if a person doesn't have money in todays society they have two choices crime or begging. Create a third choice for them, that's your role. Happy to see how the current plans progress. Better pathways off the street for people with medium to low support needs. Not to see beggars and sleepers Take this out of the strategy. Create a separate strategy for street communities if one does not already exist. Focus on rough More helpers, volunteers if need be Proper and enforced by laws! Stop the drinking. It comes back to early intervention. People coming to the city

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	need to understand straight away that rough sleeping, van dwelling etc. is not tolerated and is not an acceptable way of living in Brighton.
	Mandate 24 hour supervision for all "Temporary" "B&B"
	accommodation where three or more people are housed (by BHCC or other councils).
	Better support for alcohol and drugs misuse, and far better support for mental health. At the present most services and support for mental health issues are not available for homeless people.
	How would it work if rough sleepers had places they could go during the day? Out of the rain?
	Teach people to be more aware, by commissioning more Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT) 8 week courses,
	More transparency in groups and meetings to discuss what we all do.
	More transparency in groups and meetings to discuss what we all do. Actively promote the most effective intervention (abstinence-based residential rehabilitation) for members of the street community with addictions Ensure that abstinence-based residential services are clearly signposted on Council's, Pavilions and other websites, rather than as an afterthought Ensure that current services offering an enabling role for outreach services and that are evidenced to be effective, to be supported to be financially viable 1 - Not necessarily " this policy", but overall BHCC needs to have central Gov't declare a form of 'Housing Action Zone' for the City (for about 25 years), on the broad principle of an HAZ Authority having 'First Refusal' (at open market prices) to buy all land and buildings capable of being made suitable for residential use (through new-build and/or conversion or renovation where needed) to achieve a final stock of 'Social Rented Housing' in B&H of about 48,000 dwellings (with a greater total of bedrooms to be calculated according to the demographic situation and trends in the City). Self-evidently the work of the HAZ would also act to find ways to 'discourage' incomers to the City (of any income level) except under exceptional and clearly-defined provisions and exemptions (basically a policy of 'One out - One in' until the population and housing stock of the City has been brought into such equilibrium that all with an acquired 'right' to live here can do so in a 'Decent Home', and at a cost not exceeding 25% of their nett income (for owner-occupiers adjusted so that the capital element of mortgage repayments is EXCLUDED from the '25% of nett income' calculation)). Basically sufficient decent affordable social rented housing, with adequately-trained and paid
	professionally-qualified (medical and social-work etc.) staff to provide well-tailored. Especially given that I disagree with the propositions in this section 4, and:: 2 - Much, much, stronger police and criminal justice application of the raft of legislation about 'Vagrancy and Public Nuisance' going back over the centuries. Expensive to be jailing people for 'bad public behaviour'? yes, in the beginning, BUT; what a wonderful opportunity to conduct a meaningful rehabilitation, and a

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	maximum resolution of peoples 'issues' whilst incarcerated (which will require a much greater effort from the Prison and Probation services, who appear to be very short of funding, and largely lacking the ability and culture, to rehabilitate the 'Lame Ducks' who will always be with us until adequate help and rehabilitation, and/or appropriate residential institutions are provided in England. BHCC cannot solve all of these issues on its own - central Government input is also needed!
5. Improving	5.1 Do you agree with the approach to this priority?
Health	
	Yes, 29, 81% No response, 5, 14%
	5.2 What do you think the city does well in its approach to this priority?
	Projects like the Pathway Plus scheme have been shown to work well, but the amount of help they can offer is limited by the poor quality, condition and regulation of emergency accommodation in the city. The condition of emergency accommodation in Brighton is impacting on people's physical and mental health in very negative ways. Morley Street do a great job for GP and dentist access. It would be nice to have mobile dental and GP stations around the city for the street homeless. Better training for the police service in mental health and apply for more funding for the mental health teams, more CPNs to go around with the police to help support and advice with people with a mental health diagnosis.
	Not enough currently
	Health and social care services working together.
	Good investment in health and joined-up working with NHS.
	Integrated Health & Care Board again. No resident. The more you do the more sleepers will come to the town. We should also ask the question what would happen to all the Multi-disciplinary agents o if the problem was sorted out. No profit in clearing the streets The Morley Street GP practice, the MDT hub being developed. The amazing hostels nursing team. First Base is good
	Yesbut, it seems from this survey there are more support
	services available to the street community than other poor low

Гћете	Feedback from respondents
	paid workers living in substandard housing who are just overlooked! Perhaps the real problem is there is so much support and advice available for living on the streets in Brighton that's it's perhaps the best city to be homeless in! And it is a party town!!
	First base is excellent and does far more than the limited description given above. The Homeless Healthcare is also excellent and if I had such support from my previous GP I may not have had ended up on the streets in the first place. Mental health support is a issue from my own experience and I am quite shocked how people with mental health issues are allowed to stay on the street many turning to drugs and alcohol to handle there situation.
	Plenty support
	The range of support services available, especially those that direct their interventions to moving people off the streets
	5.3 How successful do you think this approach will be? (On a scale of 1-10, 10 is best) Number of responses
	Not successful Successful
	 5.4 What do you think the city could do better to achieve this priority? 13 consultees responded Better regulate emergency accommodation. Improve the conditions with them and the individuals will have better outcomes. There is also still not enough emergency accommodation and affordable housing.
	Increase what the council defines as "severe " Mobile health centres and better mental health access and
	training. More investment in joined up working with mental health services. A provision for duel-diagnosis clients who have both mental ill
	health and substance misuse problems.
	Stop sleepers coming to town Improve mental health services for rough sleepers and improve

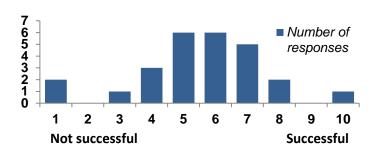
Theme	Feedback from respondents
	is based on a client meeting appointment etc. so not flexible.
	More volunteers with appropriate training House them in decent, modern, well equipped accommodation of a quality that any of us would live in ourselves and put a focus on ensuring neighbours and communities do not suffer. The impact of housing the homeless on the community is never addressed. It is as important as considering the impact of NOT housing people. Find out how they came to be on the streets and try to prevent. Their mental health issues must have been known before they became a street person. Get more healthcare workers out on the streets. Solve the crisis in primary care, as stated in papers mentioned above. There is an empty building behind Boundary Rd, which could be converted to a hostel for up to 4 residents. Organise and co-ordinate Recognise that abstinence-based residential alcohol and drug
	treatment is the intervention that is most likely to result in a sustained move from the streets for men and women with addictions, and consequentially promote such services and create an expectation that such interventions are to be actively promoted by staff in all services Ensure that there is no loss in the number of units in shared accommodation, not least for those under 35 years of age 5.5 What changes would you like to make? 11 consultees responded
	Better regulate emergency accommodation. Improve the
	conditions with them and the individuals will have better outcomes. There is also still not enough emergency accommodation and affordable housing.
	To work closely with a housing first idea.
	Mobile health centres and better mental health access and training.
	More programmes, more money to support these programmes A duel diagnosis service which allows people with mental health problems to access substance misuse services. More policing in London Road and New road with arrest for begging and drinking.
	Create greater awareness of the problem amongst the general public and look for help through voluntary action
	Stop using the outrageously priced temporary "B&B" accommodation to dump people in.
	Get more healthcare workers out on the streets. Teach people to be more aware, by commissioning more Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT_) 8 week courses,. Solve the crisis in primary care, as stated in papers mentioned above. There is an empty building behind Boundary Rd which could be converted to a hostel for up to 4 residents.

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	License and list all helpers, make sure DBS certificates are explained so at least someone in each group is checked and is responsible, First aid courses should be available through council for free. Recognise that abstinence-based residential alcohol and drug treatment is the intervention that is most likely to result in a sustained move from the streets for men and women with addictions, and consequentially promote such services and create an expectation that such interventions are to be actively promoted by staff in all services Ensure that there is no loss in the number of units in shared accommodation, not least for those under 35 years of age
6. Safe Reconnection	6.1 Do you agree with the approach to this priority? Yes, 25, 69% No response, 5, 14% 6.2 What do you think the city does well in its approach to this priority?
	8 consultees responded I am not sure that having a local connection is really the fairest way of prioritising need. It seems to me that people fleeing their families or abusive situations may just get sent back to those situations. Perhaps it would be better to looks at someone's situation more holistically to determine their need, local connection could be one of those areas looked at, but so could health, are they victims of crime etc. Recognising the dilemma between spending time and resources challenging a rough sleeper's bid to stay on the basis of a local connection or instead using the time and resources helping them access health and social care services. As the numbers of sleepers seem to growing, the answer is not much Generally good reconnections First Base Reconnection arrangements have worked well in recent years. Street outreach services have not only recently started, as stated above, but have been delivered by CRI for many years until the contract was won by St Mungo's Broadway. Such a fundamental change comes with risk, [comment deleted but passed to commissioner for review]. Such destabilisation of the market

Theme Feedback from respondents

erodes confidence of other providers and, inevitably, sets back working relationships. [comment deleted but passed to commissioner for review]

6.3 How successful do you think this approach will be? (On a scale of 1-10, 10 is best)



1.4 What do you think the city could do better to achieve this priority?

13 consultees responded

People from outside the area should get less help, except in cases where they are fleeing abuse, for example.

I am not sure that having a local connection is really the fairest way of prioritising need. It seems to me that people fleeing their families or abusive situations may just get sent back to those situations. Perhaps it would be better to looks at someone's situation more holistically to determine their need, local connection could be one of those areas looked at, but so could health, are they victims of crime etc.

Letting third sector agencies know about what is happening, why haven't Emmaus Brighton & Hove been given any knowledge of these services.

If rough sleepers have access to the services they need in Brighton they may also feel better able to search for accommodation and possible employment in an area better known to them.

A respect for the knowledge and expertise of the current service providers. This local knowledge is invaluable to providing needsled services in the city.

Send people who are not local back to where they come from.

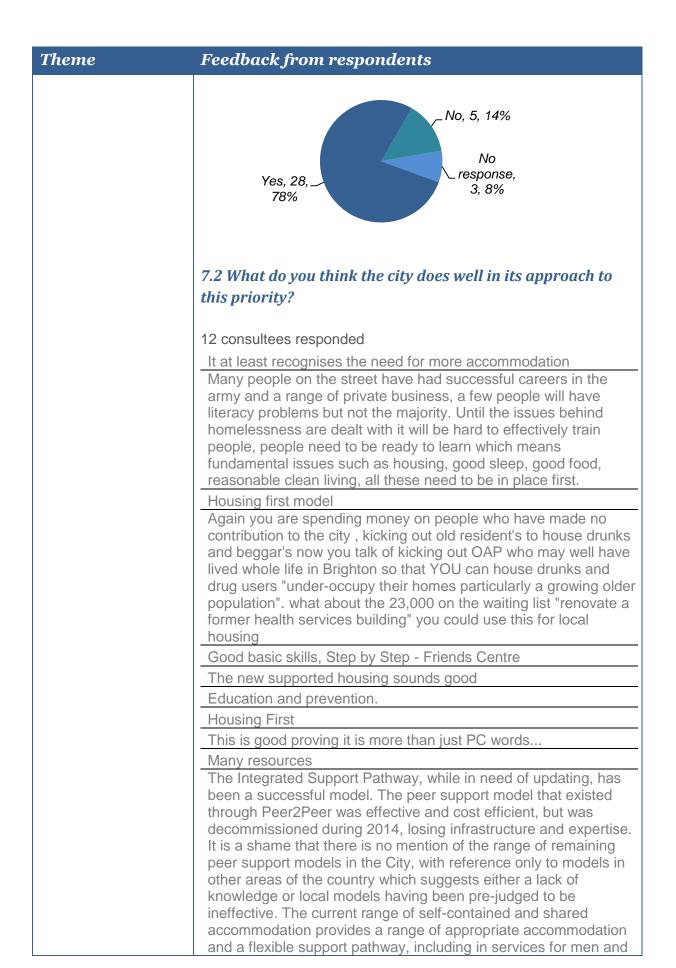
Brighton is the UK holiday camp for rough sleepers... just ask First Base.

As the numbers of sleepers seem to growing , the answer is not much

Sign up across all agencies, plan reconnections well.

Lobby for continued funding for SHORE

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	Most have a reason to have left a safe 'world' - so why should
	they go back Family breakdown is the cause of most homelessness. MBCT
	courses help this.
	Suggesting we move these people back to their "routes" will not
	work, most are running from their past any suggestion to return them will not work, this is a massive task that has been brought
	about by many social reasons B&H must step up and it is worth
	noting many of the rough sleepers go on to become workers and
	assets to the city, we cannot claim comparison unless we show it
	to all. [comment deleted but passed to commissioner for review]
	Fortunately, the staff who were TUPE'd to the new provider have
	good working relationships on the front line. Other services,
	particularly First Base Day Centre, need to be supported to retain
	the confidence of the parent organisations regarding their role in delivery, and to remain financially viable.
	delivery, and to remain infariously viable.
	6.5 What changes would you like to make?
	8 consultees responded
	I am not sure that having a local connection is really the fairest
	way of prioritising need. It seems to me that people fleeing their
	families or abusive situations may just get sent back to those situations. Perhaps it would be better to looks at someone's
	situation more holistically to determine their need, local
	connection could be one of those areas looked at, but so could
	health, are they victims of crime etc.
	Better communication from Brighton Council would be a good start.
	Decisions to be made by experts in the field who know the needs of the city.
	Move them on to home towns and if returned sent to prison, then
	the prison service can hopefully sort out heath issues
	More Money:)
	Teach people to be more aware, by commissioning more Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT_) 8 week courses,
	Think out the box, get some meetings going with people who have
	lived rough and got out of it, as well as have worked with rough
	sleepers.
	[comment deleted but passed to commissioner for review] Fortunately, the staff who were TUPE'd to the new provider have
	good working relationships on the front line. Other services,
	particularly First Base Day Centre, need to be supported to retain
	the confidence of the parent organisations regarding their role in delivery, and to remain financially viable.
	delivery, and to remain interiorally videote.
7. Pathways to	7.1 Do you agree with the approach to this priority?
Independence	

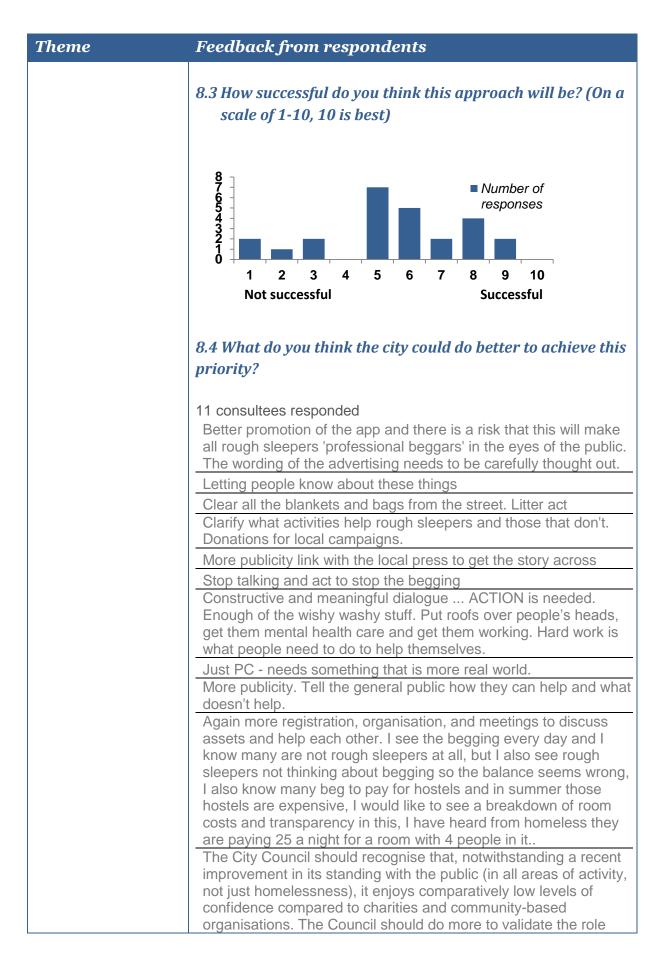


Feedback from respondents Theme women with mental health problems and with addictions. Very little - lots of money going into seemingly well-meant activities, instead of into buying City-owned bricks-and-mortar! 7.3 How successful do you think this approach will be? (On a *scale of 1-10, 10 is best)* 10 Number of 8 responses 6 4 2 0 2 5 6 7 8 10 Not successful Successful 7.4 What do you think the city could do better to achieve this priority? 15 consultees responded More accommodation I feel that we need more innovation to tackle this issue. The Big Issue was so successful because it enabled the public to support people in need directly. We need more initiatives that give the public opportunities to provide direct support, rather than simply donating to a charity. The council could provide seed funding for a local initiative that crowd sources donations in a similar fashion to Handup.org in San Francisco. It could also provide seed funding for an initiative to provide smart cards to homeless charities to give to their service users - enabling local people and businesses to donate money for food directly to people in need. More partnerships with local employers to provide jobs to homeless people. Work so important. Provides more than just a wage packet Deal with the fundamental issues first. See this as the final Looking at various types of accommodation that can be made available to former rough sleepers who no longer need hostel accommodation to move into. More homes to be built for older people who wish to downsize, making larger houses available. Better allocation of housing through using the expertise of hostel managers to decide on best placements for clients. Listening to the needs of the city from people managing services. Is there a need for women only accommodation- this model has been tested within current service provision and there has been no demand for this

More work in hostels to develop skills, develop activities, links to

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	community resources
	Seek out more under utilised buildings If problems are multiple and so entrenched then perhaps better they are housed outside the city
	Stop using grim temporary B&B accommodation and paying private landlords ridiculous amounts of money for accommodation that none of us would live in.
	Since having a floating support worker assigned to me I feel I have very little support and can not see how I will progress from my present accommodation. So while this approach may look good on paper the actual effect on the client base is patchy. To improve the service I think some monitoring is needed with feed back from us on the receiving end. A lot of my issues with all the proposals. Appears more how you want to control a problem and not about helping individuals deal with the issues in their life.
	What about paying them a bit for some basic community work? Or even a free bed for the night and an evening meal if they go and do a days work helping one of the council outdoor depts.
	Homeless people need employment. My company [name deleted] have been providing this for the last 3 years. We have asked for the support of the council and CCG, but in vain to date. Think out the box with regards to temp housing, mobile homes, caravans and even tents on approved sites or spaces. I have given 300 rucksacks, 200 sleeping bags, 30 tents and even a caravan in the past 3 years. Stabilise the supplier market, recognise the effectiveness of current provision, and validate existing models of working in the City. Ensure that there is no loss in the number of units in shared accommodation, not least for those under 35 years of age. Fully
	appraise the implications of the Autumn Statement on the rent cap in social housing, especially specialist support services, before any further changes are made to current provision (including contracts that are currently out to tender) 7.5 What changes would you like to make?
	10 consultees responded
	More accommodation Small grants (£500 to £5,000) to support new initiatives that
	provide decentralised solutions - linking people in need with people and businesses who want to make a positive difference. A needs based approach to commissioning services which is
	informed by those who know the city best. DO NOT involve private landlords who provide overpriced grotty temporary "B&B" accommodation.
	[comment deleted] Flexible personalised services, recognising some people need
	support longer term Stop using grim temporary B&B accommodation and paying private landlords ridiculous amounts of money for accommodation

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	hat none of us would live in.
	Cooperate with the third sector. Teach people to be more aware, by commissioning more Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT) 8 week courses, Meetings to discuss all this Stabilise the supplier market, recognise the effectiveness of current provision, and validate existing models of working in the City. Ensure that there is no loss in the number of units in shared accommodation, not least for those under 35 years of age. Fully appraise the implications of the Autumn Statement on the rent cap in social housing, especially specialist support services, before any further changes are made to current provision (including contracts that are currently out to tender)
8. Working with	8.1 Do you agree with the approach to this priority?
the City	0.1 Do you agree with the approach to this priority.
	Yes, 25, 70% No response, 8, 22% 8.2 What do you think the city does well in its approach to this priority?
	10 consultees responded
	The app is great
	Street link sounds like a good idea.
	Involving residents who wish to help rough sleepers in planning and implementation.
	[comment deleted]
	Not done this well until the winter campaign
	StreetLink sounds good
	Yes education is vital if the council is to get the support of the local population. People think that giving beggars money is doing a good deed. More needs to be done to stop people giving money to steer beggars
	Developing an on-going strategy. Contact phone number(s) for support. Coordinated approach between the different agencies and groups within the City.
	Loads of assets and kind people.
	The public are generous in its support for local homelessness organisations. [rest of comment is incorrect and inflammatory so has been deleted]

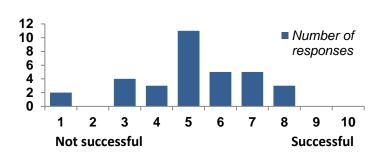


Theme	Feedback from respondents
	played by charities and other community groups. It should ensure that locally-based organisations are supported, not least because of the added value they bring by their local infrastructures, local knowledge, long-term commitment to the area, and established relationships
	8.5 What changes would you like to make?
	10 consultees responded
	Better promotion of the app and there is a risk that this will make all rough sleepers 'professional beggars' in the eyes of the public. The wording of the advertising needs to be carefully thought out.
	Better communication from Brighton Council about these services. Street Link is not effective - the money spent on developing the app needs to be redirected into emergency response. What's the point of "reporting" a rough sleeper if there is no-one to help to help them and no shelter for them to spend the night?
	All sleepers moved on Make begging illegal - enforce the bye laws and make it apply to the public - like buying alcohol or cigarettes to minors
	Include an element of mandatory work. I support a more active drive against begging as there is no need for it. Apart for weekends food is available and you do not need to go hungry. A awareness campaign discouraging people giving
	money to beggars should be carried out and perhaps a phone app could be set up where donations could be made to somewhere like First-base for food vouchers and clothing. This would make more people interact with services and I know for a fact some of the street beggars are in accommodation and beg to feed there drug habit.
	Teach people to be more aware, by commissioning more Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT) 8 week courses, Transparency and organisation, Brighton people are caring and considerate, they should be allowed to help with this issue we all
	face and they will. I have heard of people with spare rooms wanting to offer them to rough sleepers but have no way of knowing how to do this safely.
	The City Council should recognise that, notwithstanding a recent improvement in its standing with the public (in all areas of activity, not just homelessness), it enjoys comparatively low levels of confidence compared to charities and community-based organisations. The Council should do more to validate the role played by charities and other community groups. It should ensure that locally-based organisations are supported, not least because of the added value they bring by their local infrastructures, local knowledge, long-term commitment to the area, and established
9. Final	relationships 9.1 Now you have read the proposals, how successful overall
Thoughts	

Theme

Feedback from respondents

do you think the city's strategy, priorities and approach will be? (On a scale of 1-10, 10 is best)



9.2 Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the city's approach to make sure no-one has the need to sleep rough in Brighton & Hove by 2020?

25 consultees responded

I think each time this questionnaire said what do we do well, I couldn't answer! I have lived here over 10 years and there are more people sleeping rough than ever! Clearly there is a need for change, but when services everywhere are being cut I don't see how you will be able to deal with this crisis!

Build more affordable accommodation!!!!!

A focus on helping people in need manage their money. For instance someone wishing to spend less money on alcohol and budget £5 a day for food could have a smart card that has a daily limit of £5 - that can only be spent on food.

More awareness raising campaigns. So often people get used to seeing homeless people sleeping in doorways. The council can help raise awareness and involve the people of Brighton and campaign groups, residents associations.

Hope it is successful. Also hope that if not it is not 'spun' as a success as often happens

We at Emmaus Brighton & Hove are one of 26 Communities in the Country with an ethos of self funding, no state benefits and giving the homeless a place to work and a home. Why were we not included in your Summit in December. Bad communication from Brighton Council, if you want your plan to succeed, perhaps more open and inclusive communication between the people who work with the homeless would work better (that's Emmaus) as we work with Project Antifreeze, Probation, Prisons, and many other agencies in the city. I am deeply disappointed we have been ignored.

I think get the public and the homeless really involved at the early stages so you can tackle the problem coming from a place of real understanding. I admire the ambition but it needs to be implemented with compassion otherwise it is destined to fail. All

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	you will do is move the misery on.
	1. Every homeless person is vulnerable and should therefore be considered in priority need, including those in temporary accommodation. 2. The Housing First model should be expanded to offer housing to all of the city's homeless people, offering adequate support to suit each individual's needs. 3. The Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) should be activated immediately, in any weather which threatens rough sleepers' health, particularly the wet. 4. The council should activate the Extended Winter Provision of the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol immediately. The emergency shelters should be opened every night, over the winter and beyond. 5. Affordable social rents should be imposed on private landlords and property investors, prioritising the provision of permanent homes until everyone is securely housed. 6. Reform the LASPO act, to make squatting empty properties safe and equitable for property owners and otherwise homeless people. 7. Because of the so-called 'first mover loses' phenomenon, it will be necessary for local authorities around the country to work together, in order to implement these measures nationally.
	Plans seem comprehensive.
	There needs to be a provision of suitable supported accommodation to ensure adults with complex and multiple needs have access to support services and a chance to make positive changes. Cutting hostel provision will increase rough sleeping. Deal with people who are not from the area and chose to come here because it is one of the best places in the country for rough sleepers some come here for holidays in the Summer. Provide good quality, supervised, modern, decent temporary accommodation to be the stop gap until permanent accommodations can be found. No more using the dreadful "B&B"s that cost the city so much money and are almost dehumanising they are so awful.
	Some people like sleeping on the street
	I believe nowadays that best practice sharing between cities, experts and specialists is the best way to bring knowledge. Is anyone doing a PHd in this field as research to look at what other cities undertake?
	Without accommodation and resources, which include no more cuts to existing resources, this approach won't work for the entrenched long term complex rough sleepers, who will always need a longer time to engage and a personalised support plan. Also without joint working with all services, including Housing, ASC, SOS, this group will keep getting passed between services unless there is proper sign up, that everyone plays a part to get people off the street. See MEAM as a good approach, and Lankelly Chase research on system change. I wish the initiative well but I fear that success might just make the
	town a more attractive place If you can't build more houses, you need to limit the size of the populationPrevent teens from becoming parents, especially

Theme Feedback from respondents unintentionally. People who become parents early in life tend to end up having larger families. People who have their first child in their 30s tend to have smaller families and this means that A) the parents are likely to have a more stable situation compared to 16year-olds who get pregnant unintentionally, and B) the smaller family has a smaller housing requirement. Encourage families to restrict their family to 2 kids or less. 5 kids means 5 kids who will grow up and require housing of their own. -Make adoption a viable and ethical choice for infertile people, gay or straight. Get rid of the taboo of choosing adoption over hormonal fertility intervention or artificial insemination. -Talk openly about contraceptives, adoption and sterilisation options in schools, GP surgeries, on TV etc. Offer FREE vasectomies to any male over the age of 18 who doesn't want kids. It's a relatively safe and minor procedure and society will benefit in the form of fewer unwanted children. For the council, this means less demand on the housing stock among other things. If the objective to prevent the problem then stop trying to empathise and take a firmer approach - and also sort the drug Too much washy washy talk and not enough concrete actions. PSH is a hindrance, not a help. Private landlords who provide grim, temporary "B&B" accommodation are part of the problem, not part of the solution. Good Luck, no money to spend on the issue you are going to need it Enforcement and hostels away from city centre Well done so far and keep at it! [name deleted but passed to commissioners] will aim to work/coordinate with you and the other agencies to 1. ensure the safety of the people using our church appropriately 2. help those in the street community 3. prevent reputational damage to businesses and the church Hold a public meeting for providers of services to rough sleepers Think out the box, I slept on the beach, then into a hostel and onto better things, I do not think I could do it as easy today as I did it 35 years ago. I run the [name deleted but passed to commissioners] look on Facebook, I also work in Portslade Foodbank and kitchen and move tons of food round Brighton every week from a number of sources to a number of projects. Over the past ten years we have had a very stable range of services, incredible co-operation between partners, notwithstanding competitive tendering, and we have managed to contain the number of rough sleepers. Without this partnership we would have 300 or 400 people sleeping rough today. Earlier this year BHT published a 'call to arms', to ensure that by 2020 no one would have to sleep rough in Brighton and Hove. The ambition in the Council's strategy echoes that, and it is something I warmly

welcome. A year ago I really believed that the 2020 ambition could be achieved. If I was responding to the consultation a year ago it would have been a very different response, focusing as I would have on innovation and good practice, ideas that would

Theme Feedback from respondents inspire, and opportunities that we had. But over the last year various decisions have been made, locally and nationally, which will impact on pathways to independence, and I question now whether the 2020 ambition is realistic. The decision over the summer to change provider for the street outreach service, welcoming St Mungos Broadway into the City, was a brave one, not least following on an earlier decision to change providers in substance misuse services by bringing in another organisation also without a base, or established relationships, or knowledge of the situation locally. I have long been an admirer of St Mungos Broadway but I am still waiting to hear from them about their plans for Brighton and Hove, how they will achieve the 20% reduction in rough sleeping year on year, and what progress has been made to date. I appreciate it takes time to settle into a new contract in a new town, but time is not a luxury we have when faced with the crisis in rough sleeping that we have. But it is not just down to St Mungos. I think it is important that we all ask how we can support St Mungos to achieve the great challenge they have committed themselves to. It is in everyone's interest that they succeed, not least the men and women who are sleeping rough on the streets of our City. We need to challenge politicians to do their bit in what is very challenging times. I feel there is a danger that this strategy is being developed in a vacuum. Lots is going on around us that will impact on our collective ability to deliver the ambition. Decisions being made at a national level make our task harder. For example, the announcement in the Autumn Statement to cap from April 2018 all rents in social housing at Local Housing Allowance levels will make unaffordable much accommodation in the City, including the new homelessness project being proposed by the City Council together with many hostels, rehabilitation services, and mental health projects, particularly for those under the age of 35. From April 2018, the exemptions that are currently applied to much supported accommodation will no longer apply to anyone moving into those services after April 2016 unless the government changes its stated policy. This will apply to the very

services that are central to moving people off the streets and which provide pathways to independence. BHT's own review found that from April 2018 there will be affordability issues for those under 35 in 70% of our 404 bed spaces in Brighton and Hove. For those over 35, there will be affordability issues in 47% of our accommodation - and we offer amongst the most affordable accommodation in the City. I hope the City Council will consider how to use its commissioning function address this affordability issue in the very services that provide pathways to independence.

There is some uncertainty over the future of some of the accommodation that is affordable, not least shared

accommodation. If, for example, the City Council does not

Wrap around services such as those provided in shared

commission a substantial quantity of shared housing in the mental health tender that is currently out, we might as well give up any pretence of wishing to tackle rough sleeping for those under 35.

accommodation can and do offer an appropriate environment for

Theme	Feedback from respondents
	some, and for those under 35, from 2018, there will be nothing else that they will be able to access. The contribution of the third sector should not be underestimated. Rather than the £1 million quoted in the Position Statement document, BHT alones levers in over £4.5 million into the city, and that does not include the value of volunteering, peer support and client involvement. My hope is that the City Council, at all levels, particularly those preparing tender specifications, is to return to the partnership approach that until a year ago characterised the relationship between us. Without us, the providers, particularly colleagues who know and understand the client groups and who have a successful record in delivering change, any hope of retaining pathways to independence will be lost, and once lost we won't be able to get them back. There are some excellent examples of commissioning but it feels as though commissioning is, at times, being done in a vacuum without appreciating the consequences on the ambitions of politicians. If politicians don't get their way, if commissioners get it wrong, and if St Mungos does not manage to deliver the 20% year on year reduction it is being funded to achieve, this Rough Sleeping Strategy will be little more that of academic interest. In practical terms, our time would be much better spent discussing how we will support 300 or 400 men and women on the streets, how their health needs can be met, how they will be fed, what happens in extreme weather. I don't want that future. It is the opposite of what I have worked and campaigned for 30 years. I hope we will return to the local spirit of partnership that we have had. We can still achieve the 2020 ambition and those rough sleeping can move off the streets and into housing, training, work experience and employment. Let's not lose our ambition. I think the fine detail and implications of my responses above, when considered by BHCC with an open mind, and then adequately implemented, constitute a sufficient approach to this (alb

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