



Subject:	Northern Ireland Housing Executive Consultation on Draft Homelessness Strategy 2022-2027 – Council Response
Date:	21st January, 2022
Reporting Officer:	John Tully, Director of City and Organisational Strategy
Contact Officer:	Claire Sullivan, Strategic Planning and Policy Officer

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to make the Committee aware of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive's (NIHE) consultation on Draft Homelessness Strategy 2022-2027 and to seek its approval of the Council's draft response.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to consider the draft response and approve its submission to the NIHE subject to any comments or amendment provided, with the proviso that the response is subject to Council ratification on 1st February.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	Members are advised that, on 27th October 2021, the NIHE launched a 12-week consultation on Draft Homelessness Strategy 2022-2027.

3.2	The closing date for responses is 25 th January 2022. A copy of the draft response to the consultation is attached, with a summary of the key issues being provided below. As the closing date for responses is prior to the February Council meeting, it is proposed that the response, subject to any comments or amendments from Members, be submitted with the caveat that it is still subject to ratification by the Council on 1st February.
3.3	The Northern Ireland Housing Executive's draft Homelessness Strategy 2022-27, outlines its approach to addressing homelessness, with a focus on supporting some of the most vulnerable people and households across Northern Ireland. The strategy seeks to ensure the realisation of a fundamental human right and in the context their role as the strategic housing authority, it is an organisational priority.
3.4	The draft consultation response indicates that the Council agrees with the vision of 'Ending Homelessness Together' and the aim of 'Wherever possible homelessness should be prevented, if homelessness cannot be prevented it should be rare, brief and non-recurring'. Throughout the draft consultation response, the importance of collaborative working is highlighted and reference is made to the Complex Lives approach that the Council is currently taking forward with other partners.
3.5	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no implications associated with this report.</p>
3.6	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no implications associated with this report.</p>
4.0	Document Attached
	Draft consultation response