

Report sponsor: Director of Public Health  
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Registrar in Public Health

## **Single Homeless Adults in Derby: A Health Needs Assessment**

### **Purpose**

- 1.1 To present the findings of the health needs assessment of single homeless adults in Derby, which was conducted in 2021 and 2022, to the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 1.2 To invite the Health and Wellbeing Board to discuss the findings, including suggested next steps for action.

### **Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the Health and Wellbeing Board adopt the findings of this health needs assessment report into Derby City's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
- 2.2 That the Health and Wellbeing Board and partner organisations commit to intersectoral and partnership action to address the needs of single homeless adults in Derby, and to reduce the inequality in access, experience and outcomes for health and social care that exist between this population and the general population of the City.

### **Reasons**

- 3.1 To support the Health and Wellbeing Board in delivering its responsibilities and ambitions to improve the health of the most vulnerable populations in the City and to reduce health inequalities
- 3.2 To promote a more strategic, intersectoral approach to addressing the complex needs of single homeless adults, whose health is far worse than the general population.

### **Supporting information**

- 4.1 The health needs assessment of single homeless adults provides a strategic overview of the health needs of single homeless adults in Derby, the gap that exists in terms of health with the general population and the gaps and opportunities to meet their health needs and reduce inequalities in access, experience and outcomes of health and care services.

- 4.2 The health needs of single homeless adults and the inequalities that exist between this population and the general population are extreme, with a life expectancy gap of over 30 years. Single homeless adults often have complex health and social needs, which are not well served by mainstream health and care services. When they use health services, it is often in emergency situations and with poor outcomes. Furthermore, there is a strong association between homelessness in adulthood and early childhood trauma. Many of those who are homeless now will have been involved with social care and criminal justice agencies in earlier life.
- 4.3 The health needs assessment has identified the health and care needs of this population in great detail and highlighted the need for concerted intersectoral action to address them and the opportunities to do so, which currently exist in Derby. The report highlights the fact that to successfully address the health and care for this population, a personalised approach, involving intersectoral action by partners from housing, social care, health and welfare services is required.
- 4.4 The report highlights some of the challenges that exist in the City in delivering health and social care support to single homeless adults as well as some of the opportunities for action, which exist. While the report highlights health needs and makes certain recommendations to health, social care and housing partners, it also leaves open the decisions on how partners might best collaborate to address the identified needs or service gaps.

## **Public/stakeholder engagement**

- 5.1 The needs assessment has been prepared in consultation with a range of agencies in Derby, including primary and secondary health care providers, housing providers, adult social care and benefits. The voice of single homeless adults had been included with the assistance of Healthwatch Derby. The draft report has already been circulated to health, social care, housing and community and voluntary sector organisations who contributed to its production for correction and clarification
- 5.2 Further engagement will follow with key stakeholders to identify next steps for action, following the adoption of the report into the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

## **Other options**

- 6.1 None

## **Financial and value for money issues**

- 7.1 None

## **Legal implications**

- 8.1 None

## Climate implications

9.1 None

## Other significant implications

10.1 None

This report has been approved by the following people:

Role	Name	Date of sign-off
Legal		
Finance		
Service Director(s)		
Report sponsor	Robyn Dewis, Director of Public Health	11/01/2023
Other(s)	Alison Wynn, Assistant Director of Public Health	10/01/2023
	Clare Mehrbani, Director of Housing Services,	11/01/2023
	Derby Homes Limited	
	Ian Fullager, Head of Strategic Housing	

Background paper:	
List of appendices:	Single Homeless Adults in Derby: A Health Needs Assessment – Executive Summary