

Date: 31 January 2020
Subject: Homelessness Update
Report of: Andy Burnham, Greater Manchester Mayor

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Provide GMCA with an update on homelessness programmes.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The GMCA is requested to:

Note the contents of the report.

CONTACT OFFICERS:

Molly Bishop – Strategic Lead for Homelessness

Equalities Implications: None update on current program

Climate Change Impact Assessment and Mitigation Measures: Not applicable

Risk Management: No relevant risk identified

Legal Considerations: None for information only

Financial Consequences – Revenue: None for information only

Financial Consequences – Capital: None for information only

Number of attachments to the report: 0

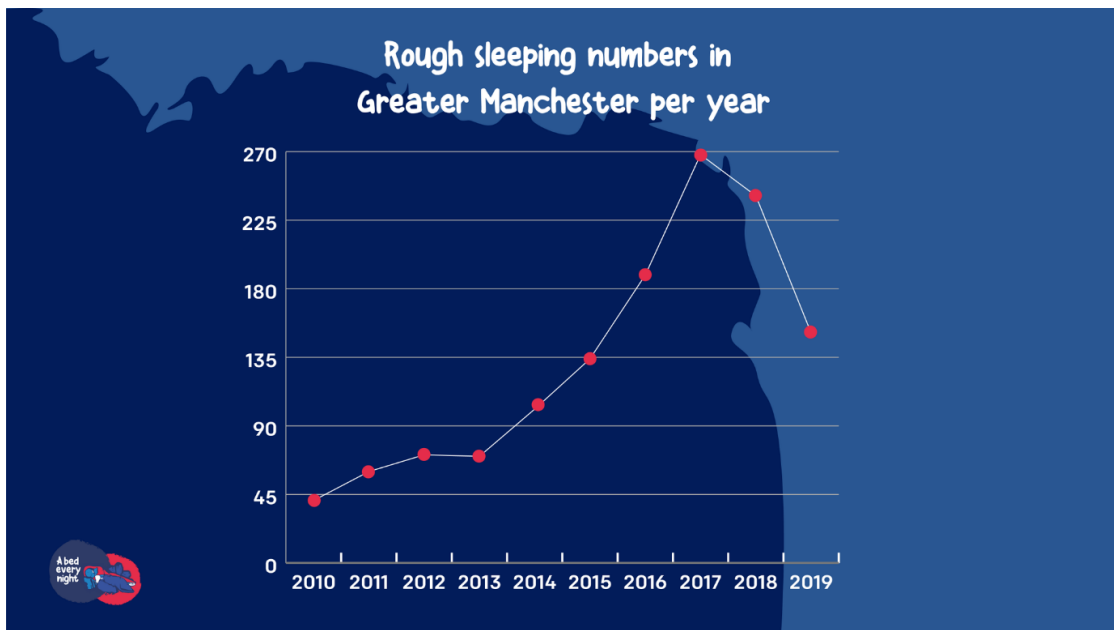
Comments/recommendations from Overview & Scrutiny Committee: Not applicable

BACKGROUND PAPERS: None

TRACKING/PROCESS		
Does this report relate to a major strategic decision, as set out in the GMCA Constitution		No
EXEMPTION FROM CALL IN		
Are there any aspects in this report which means it should be considered to be exempt from call in by the relevant Scrutiny Committee on the grounds of urgency?		No
GM Transport Committee	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	
N/A	N/A	

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. GMCA facilitates a range of targeted interventions for people experiencing or at risk of rough sleeping, as an urgent response to the needs of this cohort. These interventions form part of a growing strategic approach to reducing and preventing rough sleeping with alignment across interventions and effective multi-agency working in a range of settings.
- 1.2. In November 2019, Greater Manchester recorded its second year on year reduction in rough sleeping since 2010. 151 people were known to be rough sleeping on one night across Greater Manchester, a 37% reduction on 2018.
- 1.3. Continuing to deliver a significant reduction in the number of people having to rough sleep is a core priority and is being pursued through the areas of work that make up the contents of this report.



Graph 1: Rough sleeping number in Greater Manchester 2010-2019, GMCA

2.0 A BED EVERY NIGHT

- 2.1. A Bed Every Night (ABEN) is consistently accommodating over 450 people who would be rough sleeping or at imminent risk of rough sleeping every night. One third of all individuals who access this service are moving onto more secure accommodation, such as supported housing, temporary accommodation, or a tenancy.
- 2.2. ABEN is at its core there to provide respite through safe accommodation and support to meet immediate needs. ABEN also aims to support recovery, through wider support relating to health and wellbeing, finance, and re-housing.

- 2.3. ABEN has sought to continuously develop since its inception in November 2018, and the experience of accommodating and supporting over 3000 individuals has contributed to considerable learning.
- 2.4. A full evaluation is being commissioned and will consist of:
- Cost Benefit Analysis
 - Headline data on the utilisation and outcomes
 - Qualitative analysis on the impact to those experiencing rough sleeping
 - Review of best practise in the delivery of short term emergency rough sleeper accommodation-based services
- 2.5. These evaluations will support the development of ABEN into its third phase, from July 2020. GMCA will be provided with the financial detail of phase 3 at its March meeting.

3.0 HOUSING FIRST

- 3.1. The Housing First programme has continued to build momentum supporting people experiencing homelessness with multiple and co-occurring needs, often excluded from key services. By the end of March 2020, we seek to have supported 140 people into their own tenancy.
- 3.2. We have housed just under half of those on the programme (62) at the time of writing, of whom 45 have been in their home for at least a month. The remainder are currently in temporary or 'bridging' accommodation or are being supported but are still sleeping rough.
- 3.3. Interest in Housing First, its expansion and additional funding, is high with central government and has been the topic of multiple calls and visits in the past two months. Meeting our delivery targets is critical to ensure confidence in Greater Manchester's ability to embed Housing First and work differently to help end the need for rough sleeping.
- 3.4. All aspects of the Housing First process are under scrutiny by central government team, including referral and assessment through local 'Task and Target' groups, through to Greater Manchester Housing Providers delivery of pledged properties to meet the choice of the individual.
- 3.5. Wider opportunities such as Finnish style of Housing First communal accommodation are being explored and it is hoped that expansion funding may be released to realise this mixed model.

4.0 ROUGH SLEEPER INITIATIVE

- 4.1. A wide range of activity to strengthen the prevention and relief of rough sleeping through local outreach teams is being carried out across Greater Manchester.

- 4.2. Funding from MHCLG for 2020/21 is expected to be confirmed by the end of January to ensure the continuation and expansion of this work. This will provide for both local and shared resources to continue to tackle rough sleeping.
- 4.3. Co-ordinating personalised and multi-disciplinary responses to individuals who are rough sleeping or entrenched in a cycle of rough sleeping is a core focus of this work. Strategic commitment from across public services to address this has been renewed and a wide range of action is being taken to ensure this is realised operationally, including:
- Review of practise and protocol at Task and Target meetings to ensure effective multi-agency case management of rough sleepers
 - Development of GMThink shared database for rough sleeper outreach services
 - Offending and Rough Sleeping task and finish group
 - Review of Hospital Homeless Discharge Protocol
 - Continuation of Arc pilot to address begging and rough sleeping (Manchester)
- 4.4. These responses, amongst others, seek to ensure that options and support to individuals with complex needs are shared, co-ordinated and persistent.

5.0 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION SOCIAL IMPACT BOND

- 5.1. The Homelessness Prevention Social Impact Bond (SIB) has exceeded its contract targets and has supported 316 people into accommodation in the last three years. With 11 months remaining sustainability is the focus and despite strong outcomes for many individuals (see table below) some people will need ongoing support.

Sustained for at least 3 months	316
Sustained for at least 6 months	289
Sustained for at least 12 months	195
Sustained for at least 18 months	58

- 5.2. An exit strategy and action plan is being developed to ensure ethical and sustainable step down for individuals on the programme, alongside efforts to secure continuation funding from central government if it is made available.

6.0 FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

- 6.1. The development of programme to prevent youth homelessness in Greater Manchester has been in development since summer 2019. The purpose of this work is to prevent homelessness in young adults across Greater Manchester and to contribute to innovation and systems change in our understanding of and response to youth homelessness that can be scaled and mainstreamed.

- 6.2. Drawing on the Reform Investment Fund this project will be managed through a Social Impact Bond contract. It follows a period of analysis and consultation with key national, regional and local stakeholders, which has helped to support the development of the business case.