

Question: CQ21.01

Cabinet – 1 December 2020

Re: Agenda item 21 - Rough Sleeping Drug and Alcohol treatment grant

Question submitted by: Councillor Clive Stevens

I was pleased to read this and the joined up approach too. The only thing apparently lacking (assuming that they end up in a home of their own) is assistance with retraining and or getting a job.

I appreciate the extra information in the reissued report and I have no doubt that this type of treatment is cost effective.

My line of questioning seeks to add evidence of the cost effectiveness of building more affordable and council housing and so (part) preventing this type of dependency from occurring in the first place

Q1) What proportion of the people needing this type of intervention might have been prevented from becoming homeless in the first place if the city had had enough affordable and council housing?

Q2) I see the value of the bid is to be around £600,000 across four years. How many rough sleepers might this program actually succeed with?

There are a multitude of factors that contribute to people being homeless and the amount of time they are homeless-drug and alcohol treatment being only a part of this.

It is therefore exceptionally difficult to put a number on this. In terms of retraining and gaining employment, if the bid is successful, workers would link in with the work that is already on-going to enable a comprehensive level of support that will help sustain tenancies.

Officers will follow up with you regarding your additional questions.