

Subject: Rough Sleeping in London

Report to: Housing Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 12 September 2013

This report will be considered in public

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the scope for the second part of a review of rough sleeping in London, following up the work undertaken in May 2013 which focused on the *No Second Night Out* project. This will be the main topic considered at the Committee's October slot.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 **That the Committee approve the scope and timing of the investigation for its 17 October 2013 slot.**

3 Background

- 3.1 In May the Committee began reviewing Rough Sleeping in London by evaluating the *No Second Night Out* project, designed to ensure that no-one arriving on the streets should spend a second night there. The Committee also considered the success of the 205 project which aims to tackle the problems of the capital's most entrenched rough sleepers who are regularly seen on the streets.
- 3.2 The Committee noted, though, that there was a sizeable group of rough sleepers who fit neither category: they slept on the streets periodically, sometimes over a number of years, alternating between periods of rough sleeping and relying on other arrangements such as hostels, squatting or sleeping on friends' sofas.
- 3.3 The Mayor published a Revised London Housing Strategy in December 2011 in which he describes a vision with a *strong focus on tackling need, in particular overcrowding and rough sleeping*.¹ He is committed to ending rough sleeping in London and in order to realise this he set up the London Delivery Board, a partnership body chaired by the Deputy Mayor for Housing, Land and Property.

¹ [Revised London Housing Strategy, GLA, December 2011](#)

4 Issues for Consideration

Proposed Experts to Invite

- 4.1 The Committee may wish to invite a number of expert guests to discuss these matters, including representatives of:
- the London Delivery Board;
 - London boroughs dealing with the greatest numbers of rough sleepers, for example, Newham or Camden;
 - hostel organisations and any other relevant service providers, such as St Mungo's, Trinity Homeless Projects, or Crisis.

5 Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Committee has the power to do what is recommended in this report.

6 Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications to the Greater London Authority arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report: There are none.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers:

[Review of Rough Sleeping in London, Report to London Assembly Housing Committee, 15 May 2013](#)
[Work Programme, Report to London Assembly Housing Committee, 10 July 2013](#)

Contact Officers: Lorraine Ford, Scrutiny Manager; Teja Żbikowska, Project Officer

Telephone: 020 7983 4394; 020 7983 4510

Email: lorraine.ford@london.gov.uk; teodozja.kuncewicz@london.gov.uk