Report of the Director of Places   Decision to be taken after:
                                                    24 April 2014

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

**ASSET MANAGEMENT, CULTURE AND HOUSING
CABINET MEMBER**

'NO SECOND NIGHT OUT' INITIATIVE

---

1. **OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT**

    1.1   To provide the Cabinet Member with further information relating to the government's 'No Second Night Out' initiative following a previous report.

---

2. **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

    2.1   'No Second Night Out' (NSNO) is a government led initiative targeted at reducing rough sleeping. It aims to ensure that no **new** rough sleeper spends a second night on the street.

    2.2   The government are preparing a 'heat map' for publication. The map shows those local authorities that have formally adopted the NSNO initiative (green), those authorities considering adopting a NSNO plan (amber) and those authorities that are doing nothing (red). Currently, North Lincolnshire is showing as amber.

    2.3   North East Lincolnshire Council has adopted the NSNO policy. They are working with Harbour Place, a day centre charity providing rough sleepers with a wash, shower and change of clothes etc. They also have the Salvation Army and YMCA hostels who take rough sleepers at short notice and an assertive outreach worker within their area. Both are important aspects of the policy. We are currently trying to develop a similar arrangement here in North Lincolnshire.

    2.4   After North East Lincolnshire Council launched their NSNO policy, the demand for services increased. However, this has reduced over time and the extra costs of the policy are now negligible.

---

3. **OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

    3.1   Option one – Not to adopt a policy

    3.2   Option two – To continue to work on the development of a policy.

4. **ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

4.1 If option one was approved, North Lincolnshire would remain at best amber on the heat map with no chance of becoming green and could become red. It would also put us behind other local authorities, such as North East Lincolnshire Council.

4.2 Adopting a formal policy would make us green on the map. It would also require a formal partnership with the voluntary sector. The partner chosen would need the necessary experience and resources together with an assertive outreach worker. We are still some way off having this formal arrangement in place. Even so, it is likely that there would still be rough sleepers from time to time. Until we formally adopt the NSNO policy, we would remain amber on the national heat map.

5. **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)**

5.1. Financial - There are no resource implications relating to the proposed further analysis of the options and the work with partner(s) to develop the arrangements required by the policy. However, adopting a NSNO policy would have financial consequences. Bed and breakfast and relocation costs are likely to increase by around £6,000 initially. We would also need a similar arrangement with housing benefit as North East Lincolnshire have to minimise the financial cost to the council.

5.2 The continuing development of the policy will take place within the day to day work of the Housing Advice Team particularly given the fact that the team already advise and assist rough sleepers irrespective of whether they are in priority need.

6. **OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

6.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment has been completed.

7. **OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**

7.1 If the Cabinet Member approves option two, we will conduct detailed consultation with external partners and the third sector around the adoption of a formal NSNO policy.

8. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 To approve continuing development of an NSNO initiative with the aim of being able to adopt a policy to meet the government remit.

8.2 A further report to be submitted to the Cabinet Member in three months time to outline the further progress made and to present a proposed draft policy towards this aim.

DIRECTOR OF PLACES

Civic Centre
Ashby Road
SCUNTHORPE
North Lincolnshire DN16 1AB
Author: Dave Ricketts
Date: 24/03/2014

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report: None