

Appendix 3

Mr Richard Tanswell
Homeless Strategy Manager
The Housing Centre
2 Adelaide Street
Belfast BT2 8PB

Dear Mr Tanswell

**Re: Ending Homelessness Together – Homelessness Strategy for Northern Ireland
2017-2022**

Belfast City Council officers welcome the opportunity to comment on the Housing Executive's Homelessness Strategy for Northern Ireland 2017-2022.

The Council's response supports the continued drive to prevent homelessness by addressing significant challenges which aim to provide sustainable housing first solutions for everyone in need. Additionally, and just as significantly, the need for Departmental multiagency work has been highlighted by our Members and at the Lord Mayors Homelessness stakeholder Forum meetings, both at a strategic and community level for adequate, timely, resourced support services for addressing Mental health, drug and alcohol addiction. This is vital and is required at every opportunity and solutions are urgently needed on how to better integrate resources where practicable to ensure effective and collaborative delivery across Belfast, this can only be done by both the NIHE and DfC working closer with the health sector in understanding the issues and working on upstream preventative solutions. Our Council is keen to support collaborative working on this agenda and will continue to offer leadership and support.

I would confirm this response has been discussed and agreed formally via the Council structures. I look forward to your response in relation to Belfast City Council's comments.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Matt Garrett
Chair of People and Communities