

QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Notice of the following questions has been received in accordance with the Council's Constitution

**1. Question to the Leader of the Council from Laura Hyde, Resolve.**

"My name is Laura Hyde and I am the CEO of Resolve, a local charity that manages the Restart programme aimed at combatting homelessness and rough sleeping.

Currently Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council has a Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy for 2019 – 2024. As part of this strategy the Council works with charities and stakeholders to combat homelessness and rough sleeping. This has included working with Resolve to help fund Restart's outreach work and ongoing support.

The Restart outreach team work 365 days a year with people who are rough sleeping on the streets in Welwyn Garden City and Hatfield. This work helps some of the most vulnerable in society turn their lives around, become productive members of our community and stops the cycle of homelessness. Something the Council has promoted and celebrated.

Recent communication with Officers has indicated uncertainty whether the Council is committed to combatting rough sleeping and requests for a meeting to discuss the strategy and options which are unclear.

With growing numbers of rough sleepers and those at risk of homelessness, can the Leader of the Council explain it's strategy for tackling homelessness and rough sleeping? Can the Leader of the Council also specifically provide assurances as to the Council's commitment to combatting rough sleeping, working with stakeholders and assisting with the funding of the outreach teams?"