

The Preventing Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy is a working document and will be monitored, owned and lead on by District partners across individual specialist areas, with the Council taking overall responsibility for any amendments or updates via an agreed forum responsible for monitoring this Action Plan.

The council will continue to consult on the effectiveness of the District-wide homelessness prevention measures through a number of means, including through the various forums in place in the district such as the Early Help Hub, Social Inclusion Group, Tactical Group and Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board.

The council will also ensure the annual service plan for the Housing Options/Private Rented Sector align themselves to the more details actions required.

The Action Plan covers the wider strategic priorities with the expectation that the operational delivery of some of the wider actions will be delivered from within the housing options service.

Priorities:

- **Provide early intervention and support to prevent homelessness**
- **Promoting systems change through partnership arrangements**
- **Ensuring sufficient supply of accommodation**
- **Provide the right support & services so that no person needs to sleep rough in Winchester.**

To provide early intervention and support to prevent homelessness across the district

<b>When will we do it by?</b>	<b>Who will monitor this and who will deliver this?</b>	<b>Resources needed</b>	<b>Tasks/Steps</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
<b>Year 1-5</b>	<b>Housing Options Manager</b>	<b>Existing resources</b>	<b>Develop a holistic, person centred approach to housing options assessments.</b>	<b>Provide training and resources to officers to ensure they are equipped to carry out thorough assessments using this approach. Shared learning across partners.</b>	<b>Best practice approach adopted.</b>
<b>Year 1-5</b>	<b>Housing Options Manager &amp; Strategic Housing Manager</b>	<b>Existing resources</b>	<b>Promote early intervention in schools, family projects, care leaving teams etc.</b>	<b>To ensure individuals can develop the skills and resilience to navigate the risk of homelessness.</b>	<b>Reduction in applications from young people. Or, increase in prevention and relief activity recorded.</b>
<b>Year 1-5</b>	<b>Housing Options</b>		<b>Ensure pathways with</b>	<b>Continue to promote</b>	<b>Increased prevention</b>

	<b>Manager and all partners</b>		<b>registered social landlords are clear and promote early intervention and support.</b>	<b>partnership working-round the table meetings to address issues and consider learning from other areas.</b>	<b>activity.</b>
<b>Year 1-5</b>	<b>Housing Options service &amp; identified partners</b>	<b>Existing resources and potential for grant opportunities</b>	<b>Develop lead officers for specified groups with no housing in place.</b>	<b>A housing expert to be regularly engaged with identified services to ensure housing options are considered for all facing homelessness.</b>	<b>Reduction in crisis approaches &amp; increased relief activity.</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Social Inclusion service</b>	<b>Existing resources</b>	<b>To introduce a tenure blind floating support service to sustain tenancies or secure appropriate alternative accommodation to reduce and prevent homelessness.</b>	<b>To provide a robust support service in light of the reduction of the funding available for Social Inclusion community support services from August 2019.</b>	<b>Increase in prevention activity recorded. Minimise statutory homelessness duty acceptances through preventative work. Reduction in</b>

					<b>rough sleeping.</b>
<b>Year 1-5</b>	<b>Housing Options service and key partner agencies</b>	<b>Existing resources</b>	<b>Work with partners to promote the pathway for referrals under the Duty to Refer</b>	<b>To ensure timely referrals are made in to the Housing Options service to establish statutory duties and prevent homelessness.</b>	<b>Increase in prevention activity. Reduction in rough sleeping. Reduction in homelessness acceptances.</b>

**Promoting systems change through partnership arrangements**

<b>When will we do it by?</b>	<b>Who will monitor this and who will deliver this?</b>	<b>Resources needed</b>	<b>Tasks/Steps</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
<b>Year 1-3</b>	<b>Strategic Housing Manager</b>	<b>Existing resources, officer time. However future funding opportunities may need to be explored.</b>	<b>Become an established MEAM approach area, bringing together partners to approach those with multiple disadvantage in a strengths</b>	<b>Record appropriate data, continue to promote the SIG and Tactical group to all relevant partners.</b>	<b>Reduction in those rough sleeping/vulnerably housed/street attached not accessing appropriate support services.</b>

			<b>based way.</b>		
<b>Year 1-5</b>	<b>Housing Options Manager &amp; key partners</b>		<b>Identify partners not represented at multi agency meetings to address barriers to attendance. Participate in the Hampshire wide Keep Well Collaborative.</b>	<b>Improve access to support services to reduce crisis interventions. Ensure individuals can access the right support at the right time.</b>	<b>Reduced crisis intervention.</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Housing Options service &amp; key partners</b>	<b>Existing resources</b>	<b>Use the Senior Social Inclusion Group to promote the support that services can offer.</b>	<b>Clear understanding of the roles and responsibilities of each agency. Good communication between agencies to discuss new ideas and learning from elsewhere.</b>	<b>Appropriate sign posting to support services. Reduction in customers getting stuck in systems at transitional phases.</b>
<b>Year 1-2</b>	<b>Housing Options service and partners</b>	<b>Existing resources</b>	<b>Complete service mapping to address areas of duplication</b>	<b>Understanding of the different accommodation options available and</b>	<b>Access to the correct services for customers</b>

			and gaps in services.	support services in place to ensure appropriate referrals are made.	
Year 1-5	Housing Options service	Existing resources	Promotion of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 & Duty to Refer to all agencies	Ensuring all agencies have an understanding of and adhere to the provisions of the Act to enable early referrals into the service	Early intervention with potential homeless cases.

**Ensuring a sufficient supply of accommodation**

When will we do it by?	Who will monitor this and who will deliver this?	Resources needed	Tasks/Steps	Target	Outcome
Year 1-5	Housing Options Manager	Existing resources	Work in partnership with the New Homes team and Service Leads to ensure there is a clear understanding	Ensure development sites contain the right size accommodation in relation to need .	Decrease in those waiting for social housing.  Move on from supported/unsup

			of what is affordable for those registered for housing.		ported accommodation more viable.
Year 1-5	Housing Options service & commissioned partners	Existing resources	Apply a rapid re-housing response to rough sleeping through a refreshed assertive outreach provision and Housing First.	Ensuring providers are flexible with their criteria for customers accessing accommodation. Taking a person centred approach to ensure positive engagement.	Reduction in rough sleeping numbers.
Year 1-5	Housing Service	Existing resources	Setting up of a Housing Company.	A scheme to increase the provision of housing in the District to develop mixed tenure accommodation.	Increased provision of accommodation.
Year 1-5	Private Sector Housing Team & Housing Options Team	Existing resources & potential grant opportunities	Expansion of the City Lets scheme. Improving the offer for landlords and mitigating welfare reform difficulties by providing support to both tenant and landlord.	Increase of properties available in the private rented sector.	Reduction in homeless duties accepted.
Year 1-2	Private Sector Housing	Existing resources	Develop a landlords forum.	To engage with more landlords in	More landlords willing to let

				the PRS.	properties via the City Lets scheme.
Year 1-5	Private Sector Housing	Existing resources	Bring empty homes back into use.	By identifying empty properties and engaging with owners, overcoming the reasons for the property being unoccupied and available to those in housing need.	Increase in properties available for those in housing need.
Year 1-5	Housing Allocations team	Existing resources	Ensuring that properties are being let in line with the Tenancy strategy. Allocations team to have a good understanding of those registered in housing need.	Make best use of the available social housing stock working in partnership with accommodation providers.	
Year 1-5	Housing Options Service & relevant partners	Existing resources	Work in collaboration with partners to ensure that there are suitable housing options for those leaving hostels. Ensuring those leaving supported accommodation are supported to become tenancy	Successful move on for those leaving supported housing by ensuring there is a variety of move on options to suit the customer.	Positive outcomes for those moving from supported accommodation.



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**Provide the right support and services so that no person needs to sleep rough in Winchester**

<b>When will we do it by?</b>	<b>Who will monitor this and who will deliver this?</b>	<b>Resources needed</b>	<b>Tasks/Steps</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
<b>Year 1-3</b>	<b>Strategic Housing Manager</b>	<b>Short term Rough Sleeper Initiative funding already awarded by MHCLG</b>	<b>Implement peer mentoring service and a sustainable platform for the voice of those with lived experience. Provide Psychological support to those experiencing multiple disadvantage. Partners to engage with Expert Link.</b>	<b>Record appropriate data for qtrly returns to MHCLG. Identify areas for change through engagement with those with lived experience.</b>	<b>Reduction in those rough sleeping/vulnerably housed/street attached not accessing appropriate housing.</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Strategic Housing Manager and Two Saints</b>	<b>Existing resources</b>	<b>Agree a new co-ordination of the outreach services available in the district. Consideration of 'community</b>	<b>Flexible approach to when outreach is conducted for early identification of those rough sleeping particularly new to rough</b>	<b>Increase in preventative work and reduction in those sleeping rough.</b>

			navigators’.	sleeping. Introduce a No First Night Out Model.	
Year 1-5	Housing Options Manager and Spare Change for Real Change working group	Existing resources	Refresh of the diverted giving scheme to ensure message is clear.	Work in partnership with local charities and partners to promote the diverted giving scheme and ensuring the public are informed as to the services available to those who are homeless across the district.	Reduction in street begging and associated activity.
Year 1-5	Housing Options Service/ SIG	Existing resources	Co-ordinate information which shows early indicators of risk of homelessness and work together to sustain accommodation, build connection and well being.	Be able to identify trends in homelessness to work as a partnership to deliver services to overcome emerging issues.	Increase in services available to tackle homelessness.