

Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2022/27

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Vision and Aims

Vision:

‘To prevent and end homelessness in all forms in Gateshead’

Aim 1 - Make homelessness a rare occurrence

Aim 2 – Where homelessness occurs there will be positive outcomes for people

Aim 3 – No-one sleeping rough or in unsuitable accommodation

Aim 4 – Homelessness is a one off occurrence

'Make homelessness a rare occurrence'

Aim 1 22/23 Actions Update

- Homelessness Forum established
- Homelessness Charter – launched in March 2022
- Promoted the 'Duty to Refer' to enable early prevention
- Domestic Abuse – Outreach Workers and Sanctuary Scheme
- Private Sector Homelessness Prevention Worker
- Young People – Joint Protocols drafted and YP Homelessness Prevention Worker
- Deep dive into the reasons for people needing TA and B&B's
- Offender pathway development - in partnership with Probation and 'Accommodation for Ex Offenders Programme'

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people

- Building on Pathways established - ensuring person-centred approach & providing tailored support
- Recommissioning Homelessness Accommodation:
 - Created 3 workstreams – Domestic Abuse, Young People and Multiple and Complex Needs
 - Deep dive analysis of need and demand completed for all three
 - Cabinet approval of domestic abuse commissioning and procurement plan in October 23
 - Young People and Multiple and Complex Needs commissioning and procurement plans drafted
 - Service Specifications now drafted for all 3 workstreams
- Successful bid for Rough Sleeper Initiative Funding
- Successful bid for Supported Housing Improvement Programme
- Allocation of Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Funding to extend current offer to victims of domestic abuse
- Allocations Policy and Tenancy Strategy Review
- Pre-Eviction protocols drafted

Aim 2 Update

No one sleeping rough or in unsuitable accommodation

- Changing Futures Programme - Delivery Underway
- Part of Regional Steering Group – best practice/sharing intelligence/regional trends and issues
- Rough Sleeper Action Group – building on services developed in response to Everyone In policy
- Group established to ensure support for those in insecure accommodation i.e. sofa surfing
- Wrap around support established for entrenched rough sleepers
- Working in partnership with Health – Covid testing/vaccination/health clinic
- Severe Weather Emergency Protocol actioned and promoted/winter pressures funding
- Completed regular Rough Sleeping Count's
- Deep dive analysis of Temporary Accommodation & B&B undertaken
- Council wide protocol drafted for those with no recourse to public funds
- Development of partnership responses for Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Aim 3 Update

Homelessness is a one off occurrence

- Data analysis of repeat homelessness cases carried out
- Successful 'Accommodation for Ex Offenders' Bid and Offenders Housing Support Pathway
- Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator Post, Established Partnership Board and Working Group.
- Delivered in partnership 'Future You' Community Renewal Fund - Employability Programme
- ASB Review, People at the Heart and Changing Futures

Aim 4 Update

Next 12 months - Priorities

- Further develop the Homelessness Forum and Charter
- Commission supported accommodation – Domestic Abuse, Multiple/Complex Needs and Young People
- Undertake Temporary Accommodation Review
- Undertake Floating Support Review
- Design and Implement a Homelessness ‘Gateway’ to accommodation and support
- Implement the new Supported Accommodation Improvement Team
- Bid for funding from Supported Housing Accommodation Programme
- Progress joint working protocols – YP/Health/Probation and a Regional Reconnections Protocol
- Changing Futures, ASB Review, Mental Health Transformation and People at the Heart

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