

Homelessness Strategy Action Plan 2022 - 2027



Action	Purpose	How	Lead	Target Date
Priority One: Prevent homelessness and sustain tenancies				
1. Secure the long-term funding of the Prevention and Relief Officer post currently funded by Government grants through the Council's Service and Financial Planning mechanism	To secure a robust team to deliver homelessness prevention activities.	Through Council Annual Financial & Service Planning	Head of Housing	2022/23
2. Offer more choice to applicants about how and where homelessness assessment meetings take place including face to face, telephone, on-line meetings, and monitor choices to inform service delivery	To offer customer choice and flexibility on communication options.	Changes to Town Hall interview facilities and offer of a variety of communication channels.	Housing Needs Manager	2022/23
3. Continue funding the Council's Money Advice	To support clients to manage money and	Regular liaison and reports from	Housing Needs Manager	Reviewed annually

Action	Purpose	How	Lead	Target Date
service and monitor outcomes on the prevention of homelessness.	debt so they can afford their current or new accommodation to prevent homelessness.	Intervention Team Leader on homelessness prevention outcomes		
4. Continue to provide interest free loans to eligible households to secure accommodation, subject to the availability of funds	To prevent homelessness by providing funding towards deposits, rent in advance and other costs to enable clients to secure housing.	Offering this opportunity to eligible households facing homelessness who seek advice and assistance.	Housing Register & Prevention Team Leader	Reviewed annually
5. Continue to provide annual financial support, to NextStep to secure access to and prevent the loss of to an average of 90 private tenancies annually	To prevent homelessness by securing private rented homes or supporting households to retain tenancies.	Budget planning and outcome monitoring to support continued financial support to NextStep	Head of Housing	Reviewed annually
6. Explore opportunities to encourage the provision of good quality affordable HMOs in the borough	To prevent single homelessness through the provision of affordable private housing.	Liaison with local private and social landlords to identify opportunities to deliver homes.	Housing Needs Manager	Quarter 4 2022/23
7. Apply for future Government homelessness and rough sleeping funding streams to secure revenue funding	To enable the provision of more support to clients with high support needs to help them manage their housing	Apply to external funding programmes targeted at tackling rough sleeping to	Housing Needs Manager	Reviewed annually

Action	Purpose	How	Lead	Target Date
for tenancy support posts to help high support needs clients avoid homelessness	and avoid homelessness.	support development of schemes.		
Priority Two: Respond to support needs				
8. Fulfil our duties in relation to the Domestic Abuse Act and increasing support and options for all survivors of domestic abuse	To ensure survivors receive safe, effective and timely responses reflecting their needs	Working closely with Surrey County Council and partner organisations	Housing Needs Manager	2022/23
9. Monitor the success and positive outcomes delivered by the Prison Resettlement Worker and identify longer term funding streams and accommodation options to assist this group	To reduce repeat homelessness through the provision of support with resettlement.	Accessing national, statutory agency and local funding programmes.	Housing Needs Manager	2022/23 – 23/24
10. Implement the 16/17year old, Looked After Children and Care Leavers Surrey wide	To have a clear service for young people with housing needs.	Joint working group with Children’s Services to the services, input	Housing Needs Manager at Mole Valley Council,	Quarter 1 2022/23

Action	Purpose	How	Lead	Target Date
Protocol and monitor outcomes		from a consultant commissioned by SCC, MHCLG feedback.	Children's services	
11. Continue to work with the Ministry of Housing HAST team and Surrey County Council to achieve and maintain a consistent service for 16/17year old, Looked After Children and Care Leavers	To ensure compliance with legislation, service quality and consistency for this client group.	Protocol monitoring meetings	Housing Needs Manager at Mole Valley Council, Children's services	Quarter 1 2022/23
12. Work with alcohol support agencies to identify clients unwilling to engage with alcohol reduction programmes and agree alternative support mechanisms to which will provide the foundation for these clients to access accommodation	To develop new ways to engage and work with clients who do not wish to cease drinking but still need support and accommodation.	Joint working with SCC Adult Commissioning Team, local supported accommodation providers to explore options	Housing Needs Manager	Quarter 1 2023/2024
13. Monitor the number and quality of Duty to Refer referrals and the number of cases where this was not completed to inform further training and information sharing with other agencies	To ensure legal compliance for specified agencies and support proactive homelessness prevention activities for clients.	Arrange meetings with relevant agencies to raise awareness and provide training on referrals.	Housing Needs Manager	Quarter 2 2022/23

Action	Purpose	How	Lead	Target Date
Priority Three: Tackle Rough Sleeping				
14. Monitor the number and quality of Duty to Refer referrals and the number of cases where this was not completed to inform further training and information sharing with other agencies	To ensure referrals are relevant and timely so advice and support can be given to prevent crisis, identify gaps in information sharing so targeted training can be given.	Monitor timing, source of referrals, numbers of relevant clients without a referral.	Housing Register & Prevention Team Leader	Q4 2022/23
15. Maximise MHCLG funding opportunities to enable the continued funding of eSOS	To secure interim funding to support the continued operation of eSOS	Monitor existing funding and apply for future MHCL funding streams	Housing Needs Manager with MVDC, TDC	Annually
16. Continue to work with and support Renewed Hope with the annual winter night shelter provision	To provide a safe and effective winter response through which rough sleepers can be engaged.	Funding and partnership work to provide a suitable offer.	Housing Needs Manager	Quarter 3 2023/24
17. Explore options with statutory agencies, charities and specialist providers to make provision for a 'wet' hostel for single people at risk of or currently rough sleeping	To fill the gap in current supported housing provision for this group.	Identify providers with experience of this group; work with SCC to commission and partners to explore development of a scheme	Housing Needs Manager, SCC Commissioning Team	Quarter 4 2022/23

Action	Purpose	How	Lead	Target Date
18. Continue to apply to Government funding initiatives targeted at reducing rough sleeping and work up projects in partnership with support providers and statutory agencies to support local people into settled accommodation	To enable the provision of support and accommodation projects to assist a greater number of clients facing homelessness and to reduce rough sleeping.	Identify funding streams, work with MHCLG and providers to develop bids and projects.	Housing Needs Manager	Annually
19. Work with local social landlords to investigate developing a trial of a Housing First style approach	To provide long-term accommodation for rough sleepers with support needs.	Liaison with local social landlords to secure properties, securing support funding.	Housing Needs Manager	Quarter 4 2022/23
20. Monitor and review the outcomes of clients placed in the Council's Housing First style scheme with a view to delivering additional projects	To understand the operation and outcomes to inform options for future Council led projects for rough sleepers.	Monitor each client pathway, identify lessons learned to inform future schemes	Housing Support Officer, Housing Needs Manager	Q3 2023/24
Priority Four: Improve access to and the range of accommodation options				
21. Investigate ways to assist and / or incentivise social housing tenants under occupying larger family homes to downsize	To free up larger family homes for those in housing need.	Explore options to provide practical help, financial incentives such as grants, interest free loans	Housing Support Officer, Housing Needs Manager, Housing	Quarter 3 2022/23

Action	Purpose	How	Lead	Target Date
			Register Team Leader	
22. To deliver an average of 100 new build affordable homes per year	To provide additional affordable housing in the borough.	Negotiation on relevant planning sites, use of s106 agreements, use of s106 commuted sums	Housing Strategy & Projects Manager	Annual review
23. Deliver 30% affordable housing on council owned sites to meet local identified needs	To provide additional affordable housing in the borough.	Site appraisal, design, use of s106 commuted sums, applications for Homes England grant.	Housing Strategy & Projects Manager	Annual review
24. Assess opportunities to access national funding programmes aimed at delivering additional accommodation for homeless household	To provide additional affordable housing in the borough for the most vulnerable.	Review MHCLG, Homes England capital programmes, making applications as appropriate.	Housing Needs Manager, Housing Strategy & Projects Manager	Annual review
25. Provide grant funding to registered provider partners to enable delivery of local supported housing, social and affordable homes	To provide additional affordable housing in the borough for those in need.	Regular liaison with supported housing providers, local registered providers	Head of Housing, Housing Strategy & Projects Manager	Annual Review

