

Homelessness Policy

Housing Support and
Homelessness Unit



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

Ending Homelessness Together

High Level Action Plan

Ending
Homelessness
Together:
High Level Action Plan



Homelessness vision:

Everyone has a home that meets their needs
Homelessness is ended



National Performance Framework: Our Values

'We are a society which treats all our people with kindness, dignity and compassion..'

To end homelessness we will:

Embed a person-centred approach

MY SUPPORT IS FLEXIBLE AND BUILDS ON MY STRENGTHS AND SUCCESSSES

I ALWAYS HAVE CHOICE AND CONTROL

I AM LISTENED TO, VALUED AND TREATED WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT

Prevent homelessness from happening in the first place

I CAN FIND SUPPORT QUICKLY IF I NEED IT, BEFORE REACHING CRISIS POINT

I AM HELPED TO KEEP MY HOME, WHICH HELPS ME FOCUS ON OTHER GOALS

MY HOUSING OPTIONS ARE CONSIDERED WHEN MY OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE

Join up planning and resources to tackle homelessness

I KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

I EXPECT SERVICES TO WORK TOGETHER, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ME

I TRUST THAT THE RIGHT PEOPLE ARE INFORMED ABOUT MY NEEDS AND EXPERIENCES

Respond quickly and effectively whenever homelessness happens

I EXPECT MY HOUSING CRISIS TO BE RESPONDED TO WITH URGENCY

THE HELP I GET IS RIGHT FOR ME, AND REDUCES THE RISK OF HOMELESSNESS HAPPENING AGAIN

Prioritise settled homes for all

I CAN EXERCISE MY RIGHT TO ACCESS AND MAINTAIN A SAFE AND SECURE HOME

I BUILD AND MAINTAIN POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS AND AM PART OF THE COMMUNITY



National Performance Framework: Our Values

'We are a society which treats all our people with kindness, dignity and compassion...'



We respect, protect and fulfil human rights and live free from discrimination

We tackle poverty by sharing opportunities, wealth and power more equally

We live in communities that are inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe

We grow up loved, safe and respected so we can realise our full potential

We are well educated, skilled and able to contribute to society

Housing & Regeneration Outcomes Vision:

All people in Scotland live in high quality sustainable homes that they can afford and that meet their needs

Well- functioning housing system:

- Availability and choice
- Homes people can afford
- Growth of supply

High quality sustainable homes:

- Safe and warm
- Resource efficient
- Promote well-being

Homes that meet people's needs:

- Accessing a home
- Keeping a home
- Supporting independent living

Sustainable communities:

- Economically sustainable
- Physically sustainable
- Socially sustainable

Homelessness vision:

Everyone has a home that meets their needs

Homelessness is ended

- Homelessness is only ever rare, brief, and non-recurrent due to effective prevention and rapid response when people have become homeless or are at risk of homelessness
 - Homelessness is not caused by policies that impact on the people of Scotland
- Where temporary accommodation is required it is for emergency or very specific reasons only; it is of a high standard and it is fit for the specific purpose required
 - Nobody sleeps rough

Embed a person-centred approach

Prevent homelessness from happening in the first place

Join up planning and resources to tackle homelessness

Respond quickly and effectively whenever homelessness happens

Prioritise settled homes for all



Homelessness Prevention and Strategy Group (HPSG)

- Co-chaired by political leadership from both the Scottish Government and COSLA
- Oversee the delivery of the High Level Action Plan
- Ensure we deliver the actions it sets out
- HPSG last met on 12 September, next meeting 10 December
- Discussed priorities, new PfG announcements on funding, UAO and temporary accommodation, the new participation programme, RRTP implementation and prevention pathways
- Sub Groups
 - RRTP, Winter planning, Lived experience



Ending Homelessness Together Fund

- £50 million over 5 years that will support the delivery of the Action Plan.
- We have allocated £32.5 million (and from the health portfolio) for rapid rehousing and Housing First
- Up to £6.5 million of this allocation is supporting our partnership with Social Bite to deliver Housing First pathfinders to support over 800 homeless people
- £4.5m fund for third sector organisations from 2020/21
- £1.5m Homelessness Prevention Fund for Registered Social Landlords from 2020/21



Legislation

- Commencing 2003 Act provisions on intentionality and local connection on 7 November
- Ministerial Statement on local connection by November 2020, following consultation
- New homelessness prevention duty
- Update Code of Guidance + Code of Practice addendum
- Narrow definition of ‘intentionality’



Temporary Accommodation

- Consultation on improving standards in temporary accommodation now closed
- Full analysis has been commissioned and will report by the end of October
- Announcement in PfG that we will extend Unsuitable Accommodation Order by May 2021
- Effectively bringing to an end the use of B&B, other than in emergency situations
- We will publish advisory standards in refreshed Code of Guidance this year
- We will announce next steps on legally enforceable standards following the publication of the consultation analysis



Rapid Rehousing and Housing First

- All local authorities received feedback on their Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan by 31 March; most have also received feedback on the 2 iteration in September
- Rapid rehousing sub-group meeting – what does good look like; developing monitoring framework for progress and spend
- £24m (up from £15m) announced July – first year allocated; discussions on allocations for years 2 and 3
- Housing First Pathfinder – 118 people in tenancies at end August
- Housing First in most local authorities' Rapid Rehousing Transition Plans – different approaches including for ex-offenders, young people, rural



Prevention Pathways

- HARSAG recommended that pathways to prevent homelessness should be developed for groups particularly at risk of homelessness.
- Initial work was begun on:
 - Care Leavers, with publication planned shortly
 - People at risk as a result of domestic abuse
 - Veterans
 - People at risk on discharge from hospital
- Work is also in train on preventing homelessness for prisoners (reviewing implementation of SHORE standards); developing a youth homelessness (inc LGBT youth) prevention pathway; and considering how to prevent homelessness for people with NRPF



Winter Actions

- Safeguard people sleeping rough during winter and at other times of year – part of HARSAG recommendations
- New funding (£164,000) for winter initiatives 2019 were announced on 10 October including:
 - Bethany Night Shelter
 - Translations of information about rights
 - Flexible emergency funding
 - Edinburgh link worker
- Frontline Winter Planning Group

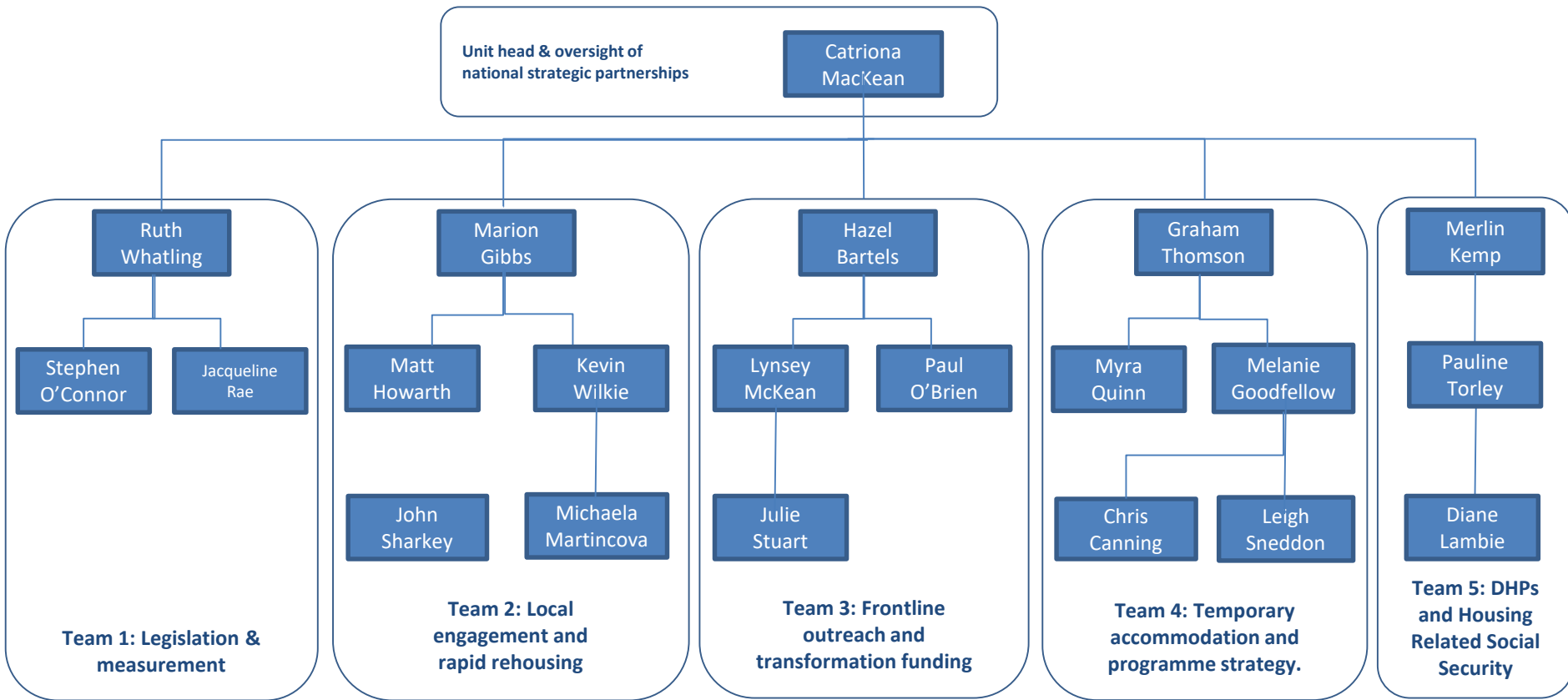


Evidence

- New rough sleeping data collection – Options Appraisal
- Evidence strategy:
 - Equality evidence
 - Evidencing impact
 - Lived experience programme
 - Prevention pathways
 - Report to Parliament



Homelessness & Housing Related Social Security Organogram as at September 2019



Feedback

To help us review the Homelessness Statistics User Event and to make improvements to future events, we would be most grateful if could you complete a short survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/9FB9MN3>



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