

HOMELESSNESS

The progress we're making in addressing homelessness

EVERYONE NEEDS a home – a safe, warm place to live, feel secure and have a sense of belonging. Home is part of physical and emotional health and wellbeing but, for some in Scotland, homelessness is their current reality. We are determined to eradicate homelessness in our country. Here's what we've been doing recently to address homelessness.

Annual report on the High Level Action Plan

The first annual report into the Ending Homelessness Together: High Level Action Plan was published in January 2020. It shows 39 out of 49 measures have been progressed in the first year.

The report also shows plans to start the remaining ten will be put in place in 2020. A further progress report will be published in February 2021 which will take account of January 2021 homelessness statistics.

Winter 2019/20 funding

Extra funding was set aside to help people experiencing homelessness this winter. A range of programmes across Scotland have benefited from £354,000 from the Scottish Government. The fund is designed to especially help people during winter who are rough sleeping (or at risk of rough sleeping) and often have backgrounds of significant trauma.

39 OUT OF 49

MEASURES IN THE ENDING HOMELESSNESS TOGETHER ACTION PLAN HAVE BEEN PROGRESSED IN ITS FIRST YEAR.

Ending Homelessness Together Action Plan
Annual Report to Parliament

COSLA Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba gov.scot

The funding is in addition to the money which local authorities receive from us to support people experiencing homelessness.

Supporting asylum seekers

Nearly 150 asylum seekers facing imminent homelessness in Glasgow were given urgent, intensive advocacy support from local organisations. We provided a £252,000 funding package to organisations to help ensure asylum seekers have access to legal professionals and other services.

Homelessness statistics

A bi-annual update on Homelessness Statistics covering 1 April to 30 September 2019 was released by Scotland's Chief Statistician.

Housing First

The Housing First Pathfinder programme has seen over 180 people with multiple, complex needs, such as mental health issues or drug and alcohol addiction, given settled accommodation with the additional support they require. The programme started in April 2019 and we will support more this year, recognising that a safe and secure home is the best base for people to receive support.

Third Sector Homelessness Fund launched

The £4.5 million Third Sector Homelessness Fund, which is designed to help Scottish charities innovate and transform their homelessness services opened for applications. The fund will

run over three years.

Greater protection for care leavers

A working group produced eight recommendations to make support for care leavers simpler and more consistent across Scotland. The coalition brings together organisations and professionals from across Scotland working in the fields of housing, homelessness, education, youth work, families, health and justice to create and implement plans to address youth homelessness in their localities.

Rapid rehousing

Local authorities are implementing their Rapid Rehousing Transition Plans with £8 million allocated for 2019/20. We held a rapid rehousing co-ordinators' event in February to enable sharing learning on progress to date.

Paws for Thought

Pet owners facing homelessness are set to benefit from better support finding a home which allows them to keep their animals. The guidance recommends that landlords and local authorities introduce more pet friendly policies and facilities.

Read more: www.gov.scot/policies/homelessness/

