

Ending Homelessness Together Action Plan

Quarterly update on progress – December 2019

The Action Plan outlines the actions we will take as:

1. We will end homelessness by embedding a person-centred approach across our public services.
2. We will end homelessness by preventing it from happening to people in the first place.
3. We will end homelessness by prioritising settled housing for all.
4. We will end homelessness by responding quickly and effectively whenever it happens.
5. We will end homelessness by joining up planning and resources

Work stream	Policy update <i>Please limit to three bullet points max</i>	Planned next steps <i>Please limit to three bullet points max</i>	Members update <i>Please include member organisation name and limit to three bullet points max</i>
Prevention Pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A working group was convened and a paper setting out recommendations around what needs to change to prevent homelessness for care leavers was published on 12 November. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are continuing with the development and implementation of a pathway to prevent homelessness for women experiencing domestic abuse. • Supporting the work of the 'A Way Home Scotland Coalition' on a pathway to prevent homelessness for young people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Participation Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeless Network Scotland completed recruitment of the Change Team for the Participation Programme. • Official launch and Change Team Away Day is taking place on 10 December. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A high-profile 'roadshow', designed in tandem with each housing options hub, tapping into existing local structures. • Create an accessible digital tool 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

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Temporary Accommodation Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published advisory standards within refreshed Code of Guidance • Announced that shared tenancies would be allowed as 'suitable' accommodation when UAO extended to all homeless households 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Group to be set up in the new year to begin work to develop legally enforceable standards framework • UAO legislation to be laid before May 2020 to come into force by May 2021. 	
Code of Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An updated version of the Code was published on 7 November • This interim version presents accurate information on relevant legislative and policy changes since the Code was last published in 2005 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Group to be set up in the new year to overhaul the Code and ensure it can be updated regularly as needed, as well as consider options for a Code of Practice 	
Local connection and intentionality work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 4 of the Homelessness etc. (Scotland) Act 2003 commenced on 7 November • Local authorities no longer have a duty to assess applicants for intentionality • We now have the power to modify the rules around local connection referrals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish Ministerial Statement by November 2020 setting out the criteria we will use to modify local connection rules (following engagement and consultation with local authorities and others) • Monitor and report on intentionality changes using homelessness statistics, formal review in 2021 • The review will feed into decisions about recommendation to change intentionality definition 	

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Prevention Duty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crisis are supporting a Review Group chaired by Suzanne Fitzpatrick to consider options for a prevention duty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Review Group will make recommendations to Scottish Government in summer 2020 	
Personal Housing Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter have developed a PHP proposal 		
Homelessness Prevention Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SFHA are working with stakeholders to develop a proposal for targeting the distribution of funding. 		
3rd Sector Bid Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisations to tender to run the application process for the homelessness 3rd sector bid fund • Applicants need to demonstrate alignment with Action Plan outcomes and actions or with RRTPs at local level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020/21 applications to go live at end of January 2020 • Funding decisions announced in March 2020 	
RRTP and Housing First	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided 30 local authorities with feedback on their second iteration of RRTP. Further discussions or written responses from 19 local authorities. • £8m RRTP funding cleared by COSLA Leaders to support implementation in 2020/21. Based on 3 year average of homelessness assessments. (Subject to Scottish Budget being cleared in early 2020). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are developing a 'Basket of Ideas' which captures innovative projects from RRTPs and from Housing Options Hubs for sharing with local authorities. • Develop reporting for capturing how local authorities are spending their allocation of transformational funding. • Continue discussions with COSLA in looking to develop an agreed plan based 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We organised an RRTP Sharing Ideas event on 3 December in partnership with the RRTP Sub-Group, 150 attendees from local authorities and partners.	approach to RRTP funding for 2021/22.	
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