

Homelessness Strategy Consultation Document – Draft Delivery Proposals

This document has been produced to sit alongside the draft Homelessness Strategy in order to provide more specific details on our proposal for commissioning homelessness services in the future. Please note these delivery proposals are dependent on the feedback on the Homelessness Strategy and are subject to the Strategy and budget being agreed by the Council. These draft proposals have been based on the findings of the Homelessness Review and the draft Homelessness Strategy taking into consideration the new financial envelope. Your views on these proposals are sought as part of the wider consultation on the Homelessness Strategy.

The proposals aim to support people into independent living. We want to focus resources away from addressing homeless after it happens, to preventing it from happening at all. Therefore we propose to build on preventative services that are already in place and significantly reduce hostel provision. We also aim to develop the supply of private rented accommodation so that some people will not have to go into a hostel at all.

The Housing Department has a 2012/13 Homelessness Services Budget of £6.611m, against which savings are now required of £1.52m during 2013/14, rising to £2.2m in 2014/15. These Delivery Proposals reflect this budget reduction; our estimates are based on current average costs.

The Delivery Proposals cover all homeless services and indicate where we propose to retain or develop in-house and where we will seek external contracts or mixed provision. Final tendering decisions will be made after the strategy has been agreed by the Council.

Draft Proposals	Current provision	Provider Proposals	Rationale
Young People (16 to 24 year olds)			
<p>65 units</p> <p>We propose these should be cluster flats with shared facilities or self – contained flats.</p> <p>Accommodation based support should focus on improving positive move on outcomes.</p>	<p>139 units provided by Voluntary and Community Sector providers and the Council.</p>	<p>We propose to commission services for young people from external providers.</p>	<p>We have estimated the number of people who will be eligible for a bed space under our new criteria. We have discussed with Children’s Services and the Youth Offending Service and made an allowance based on the proportion of young people who came to Housing Options last year.</p> <p>There were 20 to 25 care leavers and looked after children in temporary accommodation at any one time in 2011/12.</p> <p>We have taken into account the potential impact of welfare reforms and people who may have previously gone directly into a voluntary sector hostel.</p>
Families			
<p>60 units, including 10 specifically for teenage parents.</p> <p>We propose accommodation should be appropriate for</p>	<p>129 units provided by Voluntary and Community Sector providers and the Council.</p>	<p>We propose to retain Border House, but without specialist Family Support Services, including the Corner Club.</p>	<p>We have estimated the number of people who will be eligible for temporary accommodation under our new criteria.</p> <p>To meet our statutory homeless duties we estimate the need for 60 units. (during investigation and after decision issued)</p>

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<p>different family sizes and culturally appropriate.</p> <p>Accommodation based support should enable people to move on onto independent accommodation.</p>		<p>We propose teenage pregnancy provision is commissioned from external providers.</p>	<p>It is proposed that services are reconfigured to focus on prevention, reduce the length of stay in temporary accommodation, the provision of floating support and increasing options for people to access accommodation in the Private Rented Sector.</p> <p>We have taken into account the potential impact of welfare reforms and people who may have previously gone directly into a voluntary sector hostel.</p>
Ex- offenders			
<p>30 units</p> <p>We propose single rooms with shared facilities or self – contained accommodation.</p> <p>Specialist support is needed to help with the rehabilitation of ex-offenders.</p>	<p>46 units in the Voluntary and Community Sector providers.</p>	<p>We propose to commission all provision from external providers.</p>	<p>We have estimated the number of people who will be eligible for temporary accommodation under our new criteria.</p> <p>149 referrals were made to specialist ex-offender accommodation in 2011/12.</p> <p>Proposals are based on information provided by the Probation Service. To meet our statutory duty to cooperate with probation we estimate the need for 30 units.</p> <p>There is an 80% probability of reoffending if people do not have accommodation.</p>
Single People			
<p>45 units</p> <p>We propose single</p>	<p>129 units provided by Voluntary and Community Sector</p>	<p>We propose to retain the Dawn Centre and use it as an assessment</p>	<p>We have estimated the number of units for people who will be eligible for temporary accommodation under our new criteria.</p>

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<p>rooms with shared facilities and catering.</p> <p>The focus of the service will be to provide support and to refer people to 'move on' accommodation and independent tenancies, as appropriate.</p>	<p>providers and the Council.</p>	<p>centre, with 6 long term units and 10 emergency beds.</p>	<p>We have taken into account the potential impact of welfare reforms and people who may have previously gone directly into a voluntary sector hostel.</p>
Move On Accommodation			
<p>155 units of move on accommodation</p> <p>The focus will be on medium to high level support to enable people to build on skills to live independently.</p> <p>In the first year we propose an extra 42 units as a transitional</p>	<p>133 units of Shared and Supported Accommodation in the Voluntary and Community Sector and In-house.</p>	<p>We propose to retain services in-house and commission some services from external providers.</p>	<p>We define 'move-on' as short to medium stay (2 weeks to six months) usually in a shared house, flat or cluster flat where there is medium to high level support provided, at the level each individual needs, usually provided by visiting staff.</p> <p>We have estimated the number of units for people who will be eligible for move on accommodation under our new criteria.</p> <p>There is a need to increase move on accommodation that assists people into independent tenancies and prevents repeat homelessness.</p>

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measure to support people leaving accommodation based support services.			
Floating Support			
395 units of floating support with a focus on providing more specialist support.	316 units are currently funded through the General Fund for in-house services and services from the Voluntary and Community Sector.	We propose to retain services in-house and commission some services from external providers. We propose to increase support to private sector tenancies potentially including lease schemes run by housing association, voluntary sector and HomeCome (a private lettings company)	<p>There is a need to increase provision of floating support to support people in their own tenancies, as accommodation based services are reduced.</p> <p>We have taken into account the potential impact of welfare reforms and the effects this will have on people sustaining their tenancies.</p> <p>Floating Support is required to enable people to retain their tenancies and to prevent homelessness. This in turn will also prevent people from having to rely on high cost crisis services.</p> <p>We hope to incentivise private landlords to offer tenancies to homeless people by offering support to tenants.</p>
Rough Sleepers			
Maintain current Outreach Team to Implement the No Second Night Out initiative.	There are currently 3 staff working in this In-house team.	We propose to retain the team In-house. (Dawn Centre)	The team works with entrenched rough sleepers and new rough sleepers. There was 198 rough sleepers in 2011/12. We envisage this figure will remain constant however through the No Second Night Out initiative currently being developed; we aim that no rough sleepers will sleep out, for more than one night.

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<p>Provided direct access to 6 dormitory beds.</p>			
Wet Day Centre			
<p>Continue to support the provision of a safe environment for entrenched street drinkers.</p>	<p>Wet Day Centre</p>	<p>Wet Day Centre</p>	<p>The service reduces crime and disorder by providing a safe alternative environment for people.</p> <p>Improved access to healthcare</p> <p>Addresses housing issues linked to the rehabilitation of people using alcohol.</p>
Housing Advice and determination of homelessness decisions			
<p>Continue to fund advice, assistance and prevention activities.</p> <p>Increase funding to further develop the Private Rented Sector.</p>	<p>In-house Housing Options Service.</p> <p>Leicester Let and the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme - Housing Options.</p>	<p>We propose to retain the service in-house; we will be looking to develop specialisms within the team.</p>	<p>We expect the number of people seeking advice and assistance and making homeless declarations to rise.</p> <p>We propose to increase the number of private rented properties available for letting as an alternative to hostel accommodation.</p> <p>We aim to achieve the efficient and appropriate use of all council funded homeless accommodation and support.</p>

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<p>Develop a full Single Access and Referral Service (SAR)</p> <p>Redesign and facilitate future Housing Advice and Support Programme Board (HASP) meetings.</p>	<p>A SAR is in place for in-house provision and is voluntary for other providers.</p> <p>Council strategic group</p>	<p>All providers will become part of the SAR which we propose to retain in-house.</p>	<p>To ensure we deliver a joined up and accessible service and that scarce resources are directed to the most vulnerable people.</p> <p>To ensure the service is effective in identifying homelessness trends and informing future service planning.</p>
Employment, education and training			
<p>Continue to support employment, education and training opportunities for homeless people</p>	<p>Services provided by the Voluntary and Community Sector</p>	<p>We propose to commission services from external providers.</p>	<p>Unemployment is a key risk in becoming homeless and traps people in homelessness.</p> <p>To re-build confidence and to overcome feelings of isolation and boredom.</p>