

## Countywide Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy Update. September 2025.

Action RAG Rating Status:

**Green** – Action Complete.

**Amber** – Work on action has begun.

**Red** – Work on action has not begun / action no longer desirable or achievable.

**Blue** – Action represents ongoing work of local authorities.

### **Priority Area 1: Making homelessness everyone's responsibility through a system-wide approach.**

RAG Rating	Action	Current Situation	Is action still desirable?	Is action still achievable?	Next steps	Notes
	Gain commitment from partner agencies across Derbyshire to develop a Homelessness Charter together.	The process of co-developing a charter started with a workshop activity at the strategy launch event in May 2023 and responses were collated to create a draft charter. A consultation on the draft charter ended in January 2024 and the final document has been published on the Street Support Derbyshire website.	Yes	Yes	The Derbyshire Homelessness Charter has now been published on the Street Support Derbyshire website. Action is considered completed.	
	Assess the feasibility of a Commitment to Collaborate in order to embed homelessness prevention across Derbyshire's statutory and voluntary services.	Nothing currently in place that formally embeds homeless prevention among statutory non-housing/homelessness services beyond the duty to refer for public bodies under the Homeless Reduction Act.  West Midlands Combined Authority have produced a toolkit for a commitment to collaborate. The homeless strategy steering group has discussed whether developing a commitment to collaborate in Derbyshire would be a better for the East Midlands Combined Council Authority as the mayor has convening powers for statutory organisations across the region, especially given the current uncertainty around local government reorganisation.	Yes	Yes	GS (NEDDC) and EE (BDC) both attend EMCCA meetings and will advocate for this approach in that forum.	

	<p>Identify the key triggers for homelessness and work with partners to ensure that they are equipped to prevent homelessness and/or make seamless referrals where necessary.</p>	<p>Local authorities and partners are good at recording and understanding the headline causes of homelessness e.g. eviction from supported housing, fleeing domestic abuse, received s.21 notice. However a greater understanding of the root causes/issues that lead to individuals experiencing homelessness could be beneficial.</p> <p>There are existing referral pathways for partners to refer to local authorities and there is homelessness prevention work being done by partners but it can be difficult to know the full extent of this work. Opportunities for further training of staff have been identified to equip partners to identify signs of potential homelessness.</p> <p>The strategy steering group has agreed this action is partially completed as the key triggers for homelessness are well understood. The rest of the action is classed as "ongoing" as there is a commitment to work with partners but success isn't clearly defined. There is also an overlap between this action and another action on improving referrals from partners.</p> <p>The steering group has identified a distinction between countywide work such as a prison release protocol and hospital discharge protocols and work being done by individual local authorities to engage local partners.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>Effectively evidence the work local authorities have done locally to engage partners. For example, GS (NEDDC) has delivered training to Citizens Advice in North East Derbyshire.</p> <p>Consider changing the action to read:</p> <p>"Identify the key triggers for homelessness. Commit to working with partners to ensure they are equipped to prevent homelessness and/or make seamless referrals where necessary."</p>	<p>Action considered to overlap and/or be a duplicate of the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Streamline the Duty to Refer referral system and work with partner agencies to improve the timeliness and quality of referrals."</li> <li>2. "Develop a prison release protocol".</li> <li>3. "Secure support from leadership at relevant hospitals to develop discharge protocols with Derbyshire councils."</li> </ol>
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	Streamline the Duty to Refer referral system and work with partner agencies to improve the timeliness and quality of referrals.	<p>The strategy steering group has assessed this action as having three parts, the first of which is complete. All local authorities have an online Duty to Refer portal and the process is as streamlined as possible. The Duty to Refer is generally understood and used by the relevant public bodies, however there is ongoing work needed to improve the timeliness and quality of referrals, including a prison release protocol and ongoing hospital discharge improvement work.</p> <p>One of the difficulties in assessing the current situation is that we don't know how many referrals we are not receiving.</p> <p>AR (HMP Ranby) has developed a training package for prison resettlement staff on how to make referrals, which has been approved by MHCLG.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>Assess the possibility of securing commitment from partners to make referrals in 100% of relevant cases.</p> <p>Develop a Derbyshire Prison Release Protocol.</p> <p>Continue to identify opportunities to input into hospital discharge improvement.</p> <p>Engage DWP and seek representation at the strategy steering group.</p>	<p>Action considered to overlap and/or be a duplicate of the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Identify the key triggers for homelessness and work with partners to ensure that they are equipped to prevent homelessness and/or make seamless referrals where necessary"</li> <li>2. "Develop a prison release protocol."</li> <li>3. "Secure support from leadership at relevant hospitals to develop discharge protocols with Derbyshire councils."</li> </ol>
	Develop a Countywide Homelessness Forum as a vehicle for delivering the Countywide Homelessness Strategy.	The first countywide homelessness forum took place on 11/12/2023 at NEDDC offices and was well attended by approx. 70 people. This will take place on an annual basis going forwards.	Yes	Yes	The forum has now been established and will continue on an annual basis. Action is considered complete.	

	<p>Work with DCC, the Primary Care Trust, Derbyshire Foundation Trust and Public Health to influence and inform the commissioning and delivery of mental health, substance misuse and adult social care services to ensure they are accessible and meet the needs of clients experiencing homelessness with multiple and complex needs.</p>	<p>Good working relationships with partners exist, in particular public health who co-fund the strategy role and winter provision. Relationships with other partners could be more formalised and there is always desire and scope for ever-closer partnership working on the part of housing.</p> <p>The strategy steering group is made up of representatives from relevant statutory partner organisations with the explicit aim of working together to deliver the priorities of the strategy. This could lead to opportunities for co development of services or at least for homelessness to have influence in development and delivery of services.</p> <p>The strategy steering group reports into the Derbyshire Housing and Health Systems Group, which is attended by the strategy project coordinator, public health, local authority housing leadership and health colleagues. The DHHSG reports into the Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Board, at which the strategy project coordinator and relevant public health lead have presented on the homelessness agenda.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>Mechanisms for ongoing cooperation in influencing and informing the commissioning of relevant services are in place, through both the strategy steering group and its governance structure.</p> <p>A homelessness health needs assessment, required by another strategy action, is taking place during 2025 and will serve as an illustrative document of where improvements could be made in health services for those experiencing homelessness.</p>	<p>Action is ongoing but considered complete as mechanisms for this ongoing cooperation are in place.</p> <p>Action considered to overlap with the actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Seek to better understand the health needs of the homeless population through a health needs audit with partners. "</li> <li>2. "Working with partners, improve access to health services and health outcomes for individuals experiencing homelessness."</li> </ol>
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	<p>Seek that stock holding authorities sign up to the principles of Homes for Cathy.</p>	<p>There is no formal agreement from stock-holding authorities to sign up to principles of Homes for Cathy.</p> <p>VS from South Yorkshire Housing Association (a founding Homes for Cathy member) gave a presentation on Homes for Cathy at the strategy launch event in May 2023 and MR (NEDDC), JB and KB (SDDC) attended the Homes for Cathy annual conference in October 2023. SYHA were heavily involved with the homelessness remit of the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority and successfully embedded Homes for Cathy principles into this joint working. There is an opportunity for EMCCA to similarly adopt these principles. MR (NEDDC) has raised this with EMCCA.</p> <p>The strategy steering group have discussed this action. Not all Derbyshire authorities retain housing stock and those who do already work to the Homes for Cathy homeless prevention principles without formally adopting them. Stock holding authorities do not consider that formal adoption of these principles is necessary.</p>	No	Yes	<p>GS (NEDDC) and EE (BDC) attend EMCCA meetings and will advocate for the adoption of Homes for Cathy principles in its homelessness delivery.</p>	<p>Action is considered to overlap with the action:</p> <p>1. "Encourage all social housing providers to become a member of Homes for Cathy."</p>
	<p>Encourage all social housing providers to become a member of Homes for Cathy.</p>	<p>Some local social housing providers are already Homes for Cathy members, including EMH Homes, Nottingham Community Housing Association, Platform Housing, Places for People and Longhurst Group.</p> <p>VS from SYHA spoke at strategy launch event promoting HfC as a founding and influential member.</p> <p>The strategy steering group are in agreement that encouraging all social housing providers to become members is no longer an effective use of resources. Instead, it is preferable to focus on</p>	No	Yes	<p>As referenced in the previous action, we will advocate for the adoption of Homes for Cathy principles at EMCCA. The EMCCA homeless taskforce is will include senior staff from social housing providers.</p> <p>Be alert to opportunities to encourage relevant providers to become Homes for Cathy members on an individual basis, but we won't carry out a</p>	<p>Action is considered to overlap with the action:</p> <p>1. "Seek that stock holding authorities sign up to the principles of Homes for Cathy."</p>

		individual providers we experience problems with and encourage them to become members.			specific piece of work to engage all social housing providers.  Action is being marked as red due to it no longer being desirable in its specific intention.	
	Develop a common referral form to access supported housing services across Derbyshire.	Previously each individual provider used their own referral forms, all requesting similar information from the referring agency. Agreement from SHIP partners that a common referral form was desirable, which was then drafted for consultation. This consultation has ended, the form has been finalised and was launched to partners at an event on 27.3.2025.	Yes	Yes	A common referral form has been developed and was launched to partners at an event on 27.3.2025. Action is considered complete.	
	Ensure that data is captured widely and effectively across the system to understand homelessness and the wider determinants, and that this data is used to improve interventions and joint approaches.	<p>Each district and borough council collects the same homelessness data to report to central government. All councils, apart from SDDC, use the same case management system (Locata) and a Locata coordinator is jointly hired to help ensure data reporting requirements are being met. We have also introduced data reporting requirements for commissioned services such as the jointly commissioned rough sleeping service. This data is used to inform service improvements.</p> <p>The strategy steering group has debated whether an additional data analyst to proactively analyse service data is required and has concluded this is not necessary. MR (NEDDC) currently collates H-CLIC data (central government homelessness</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>Effectively evidence how we have used data to improve interventions and services. For example in the Rough Sleeping Initiative services, our Private Rented Sector Offer, Housing First and the Salus Project.</p> <p>The strategy steering group considers this action complete, as tools are in place to capture data widely and effectively. Data is used to improve interventions and joint approaches and the conditions for this to</p>	

		<p>reporting) for Derbyshire authorities.</p> <p>Data is used to demonstrate the need for new interventions and often tells us what is already known through the anecdotal experiences of running housing options services.</p>			continue to be the case are in place.	
	<p>Seek to better understand the health needs of the homeless population through a health needs audit with partners.</p>	<p>Data around the health needs of the homeless population is currently collected by local authorities and commissioned services, but this is not done in conjunction with health services or with specific health interventions in mind.</p> <p>SB (DCC) has led on the development of a health needs audit and has explored options for conducting this, including a "deep dive" to sit alongside a Derbyshire County Council Joint Strategy Needs Assessment. The health needs audit will now be delivered by Homeless Link during the autumn of 2025, with funding for this work coming from DCC Public Health.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>Support Homeless Link in the delivery of the health needs audit. This work was introduced to relevant partners at the countywide homelessness forum on 11th June 2025, with research being conducted "in the field" for six weeks in autumn of 2025. The conclusions of the health needs audit are due to be published by the end of the year.</p>	<p>Action is considered to overlap with the actions:</p> <p>1. "Work with DCC, the Primary Care Trust, Derbyshire Foundation Trust and Public Health to influence and inform the commissioning and delivery of mental health, substance misuse and adult social care services to ensure they are accessible and meet the needs of clients experiencing homelessness with multiple and complex needs."</p> <p>2. "Working with partners, improve access to health services and health outcomes for individuals</p>

						experiencing homelessness."
	Working with partners, improve access to health services and health outcomes for individuals experiencing homelessness.	<p>Access to health services is repeatedly raised as a barrier for individuals experiencing homelessness, in particular access to mainstream substance misuse and mental health services.</p> <p>Mechanisms are in place to work with health colleagues on improving access to health services for individuals experiencing homelessness through the strategy steering group and its governance structure.</p> <p>The strategy steering group considers the related action to carry out a homelessness health needs audit as the necessary starting point in identifying areas in which improvements are needed.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>A health needs audit with partners (see action above) is the best starting point for this action as by understanding the needs of the cohort we can then establish how well these are being met. SB (DCC) is leading on this action on behalf of the strategy steering group. Ensure he is supported in this.</p>	<p>Action is considered to overlap with the actions:</p> <p>1. "Work with DCC, the Primary Care Trust, Derbyshire Foundation Trust and Public Health to influence and inform the commissioning and delivery of mental health, substance misuse and adult social care services to ensure they are accessible and meet the needs of clients experiencing homelessness with multiple and complex needs."</p> <p>2. "Seek to better understand the health needs of the homeless population through a health needs audit with partners."</p>



	<p>Evaluate the extent of rural homelessness across the area and the need for a specific public awareness campaign with rural communities.</p>	<p>Derbyshire does have rural areas and communities, especially in the High Peak and Derbyshire Dales local authority areas. It can be difficult to know the true extent of rural homelessness as it could be more hidden due to visibility and access to services.</p> <p>The data that we collect, including the annual rough sleeping counts suggests that rough sleeping pressures in the county are not in rural areas.</p> <p>All local authorities have public messaging that is applicable and available to all residents, not just those in more urban communities. The Street Support Derbyshire website also provides information about homelessness services that are available to all residents.</p> <p>The strategy steering group has agreed that this action is no longer desirable as the solutions to resolve homelessness are not rural-specific. It is however recognised that more general public awareness campaigns are necessary on a rolling basis.</p>	No	Yes	<p>Develop a public awareness campaign targetted at all Derbyshire residents to raise awareness of homelessness services and where to seek support. Do this in conjunction with Street Support Derbyshire.</p> <p>Action is being marked as red due to it no longer being desirable in its specific intention.</p>	<p>Action is considered to be a duplicate of the action:</p> <p>"Undertake an awareness raising campaign focusing on homeless prevention, encouraging individuals to seek help at the earliest point."</p>
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	<p>Identify opportunities to create more consistent approaches and promote best practice in the delivery of housing options services.</p>	<p>All district and borough council work under the same homelessness legislation and code of guidance. Close working relationships exist between local authorities, with the Derbyshire Homelessness Officers Group (DHOG) well established.</p> <p>MHCLG regularly attend DHOG to ensure all Derbyshire homelessness leads receive a consistent message from central government.</p> <p>There have been numerous instances of joint training for housing options staff, most recently a two day training event in October 2024 delivered by Andy Gayle on homelessness legislation, case law and best practice.</p> <p>Trauma Informed Derbyshire facilitated training to all housing options teams throughout late 2024 and early 2025, including reflective practice sessions for front line staff.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>This action is ongoing but is considered complete as work to deliver a consistent approach has happened and conditions to ensure further opportunities to do so are identified are in place.</p>	<p>This action is not well defined and is considered to overlap with / be a duplicate of the action:</p> <p>"Commit to improving prevention toolkits across Derbyshire."</p>
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## Priority Area 2: Prevent and respond to homelessness through early intervention and personalised solutions:

RAG Rating	Action	Current Situation	Is action still desirable?	Is action still achievable?	Next Steps	Notes
	<p>Undertake an awareness raising campaign focusing on homeless prevention, encouraging individuals to seek help at the earliest point.</p>	<p>All local authorities have public messaging that is applicable and available to all residents. The Street Support Derbyshire website also provides information about homelessness services that are available to all residents.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>Develop a public awareness campaign targeting all Derbyshire residents to raise awareness of homelessness services and where to seek support. Do this in conjunction with Street Support Derbyshire.</p>	<p>Action is considered to overlap with the action:</p> <p>"Evaluate the extent of rural homelessness across the area and the need for a specific public awareness campaign with rural communities. "</p>

	<p>Work with partners to develop an integrated homelessness and wellbeing assessment.</p>	<p>The Signal project is addressing this with more holistic wellbeing questions in the assessment. An initial pilot of three organisations (P3, Elm Foundation and Pathways) is being expanded and other Derbyshire organisations (Freedom Project and Action Housing) have taken out their own licenses.</p> <p>NEDDC have included Signal in the specification of a new supported housing scheme to be delivered by P3.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>Strategy lead to meet with key partners and take learning from the more established Signal project in NE England to understand how the methodology can give better connectivity between organisations.</p> <p>This project involves Public Health, the ICB, a supported employment programme and substance misuse services and our aim is to replicate much of this in Derbyshire.</p>	None
	<p>Work with DCC to meet the requirements of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, including ensuring that there is a range of housing options, choice and information available to those experiencing domestic abuse.</p>	<p>There is close working between local authorities and domestic abuse services. The Salus project is a major project that has been developed since the homelessness strategy was published and increases access to accommodation and support for those fleeing domestic abuse prior to refuge.</p> <p>DHOG consider this action completed as per workshop exercise on 15.4.24. Action is written as an ongoing action with success/completion not clearly defined.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>Whilst this action is marked as completed, it could also be considered an ongoing action. As such, we will continue to be alert to opportunities to improve access to domestic abuse support services.</p>	None

	<p>React accordingly and ensure a range of measures are in place to prevent homelessness linked to the wider economy and increases in the cost of living.</p>	<p>Most of the measures currently in place rely on external funding to continue e.g. Household Support Fund and Discretionary Housing Payments. Reporting for these initiatives is very light touch, so it's not possible to provide accurate data on exactly how this money is spent.</p> <p>Financial Inclusion Groups are already established across the county and are well attended with a range of expertise. MR (NEDDC) has met with leads for FIGs to ensure homelessness representation at each and that work is not being duplicated. Financial Inclusion colleagues from Derbyshire County Council also spoke at the countywide homelessness forum in June 2025.</p> <p>A general consensus that pressures related to the cost of living and wider economy are acutely felt by all services but opportunities to make meaningful change are limited beyond advocacy and lobbying.</p> <p>GS (NEDDC) has met with Citizens Advice and delivered training in NEDDC area and there is scope to expand this across county. The websites of each Derbyshire district and borough council have been audited to ensure financial advice and signposting to relevant services is present on each.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>Seven of the eight district and borough councils share the Locata homelessness case management system. This has a prompt to ask if a money advice referral is needed and it is possible to track whether this referral is then being made. Consider the need to audit this to ensure referrals are being made in all appropriate cases.</p> <p>The steering group is satisfied this is an ongoing action.</p>	<p>There is some overlap between this and the action:</p> <p>"Identify the key triggers for homelessness and work with partners to ensure that they are equipped to prevent homelessness and/or make seamless referrals where necessary."</p>
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	Commit to improving prevention toolkits across Derbyshire.	<p>The steering group agreed this action is vague and feels like another duplication, with work being done elsewhere in the strategy covering this action. Prevention outcomes are being maximised by local authorities jointly commissioning and/or funding services rather than doing so individually.</p> <p>Data reported to and published by central government demonstrates that homelessness prevention rates in Derbyshire are among the highest in the country.</p>	Yes	Yes	The steering group has agreed to mark this action as complete, although our prevention tools will be kept under review as funding and pressures change.	None
	Work with partners to better understand the nature and extent of family evictions and develop targeted preventative tools accordingly.	<p>The extent of family evictions can be demonstrated through the use of H-CLIC data. Understanding the nature of family evictions is more difficult, as Locata doesn't allow for more in depth reporting.</p> <p>H-CLIC data from October to December 2024 showed that for households owed a homelessness prevention duty, the main reason for loss of last settled home was "family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate" in 32% of cases. This was 25% for households owed a relief duty.</p> <p>30% of all Derbyshire prevention cases and 20% of relief cases in this same period were living with family at the time of their approach to the council.</p> <p>A deeper data dive for the period 2023/24-2024/25 is currently underway.</p> <p>The steering group has discussed this action and clarified that its intention was to understand evictions from a family home, rather than families being evicted more broadly.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>Homeless Strategy Officer (NEDDC) has data on homelessness approaches for family evictions through Locata, an analysis of this data will be presented to the steering group and be used to help understand the nature and extent of family evictions.</p> <p>It will then be a decision for the steering group on next steps.</p>	None

	<p>Work to maximise preventions from the private rented sector through the development of targeted interventions.</p>	<p>Evictions from the private rented sector make up a large proportion of homelessness prevention cases for all local authority housing options teams. H-CLIC data for October-December 2024 showed that the average percentage of prevention cases due to the end of a private rented assured shorthold tenancy was 39%.</p> <p>Countywide homelessness prevention initiatives already exist, as well as work done by housing options services, including Call B4 You Serve and the Derbyshire Law Centre. A countywide private rented sector offer is in the early stages of development, although this was focus more on increasing access to the private rented sector rather than homelessness preventions.</p>	Yes.	Yes	<p>The strategy steering group has decided to mark this action as complete, as we are already strong on preventions from the private rented sector with services that all local authorities contribute to.</p>	None
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	<p>Develop a prison release protocol.</p>	<p>Colleagues from criminal justice attend the strategy steering group. MR (NEDDC) attends quarterly Accommodation Prior to Release strategy meetings at HMP Nottingham.</p> <p>There were 409 prison releases into Derbyshire last year from 14 different prisons. 61 of these releases were released to no fixed abode and 27% of all releases came from out of area, meaning that protocols agreed with local prisons wouldn't apply in these cases. Of these 409 releases, only 159 remained in the community 3 months later, highlighted the need to improve stability for this cohort upon release.</p> <p>A prison release protocol has recently been developed in Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City, with many of the same criminal justice colleagues from Derbyshire involved in its development. It has been agreed to use this protocol as the basis of a Derbyshire one to minimise complexity for prison staff who manage releases on a regional basis.</p> <p>A task and finish group for this work is currently being assembled and a draft Derbyshire protocol has been produced. The Derbyshire protocol will initially focus on prison releases, but will in time also include offenders who are serving community based sentences.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>The task and finish group for this work will review the draft protocol and data sharing agreement and input into a bespoke Derbyshire protocol. We will also seek to include colleagues from Derby City in this work.</p>	<p>Action considered to overlap and/or be a duplicate of the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Streamline the Duty to Refer referral system and work with partner agencies to improve the timeliness and quality of referrals."</li> <li>2. Identify the key triggers for homelessness and work with partners to ensure that they are equipped to prevent homelessness and/or make seamless referrals where necessary.</li> <li>3. "Secure support from leadership at relevant hospitals to develop discharge protocols with Derbyshire councils."</li> </ol>
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	<p>Secure support from leadership at relevant hospitals to develop discharge protocols with Derbyshire councils.</p>	<p>As part of other priority action work, MR (NEDDC) and LT (EBC) had developed a programme of workshops to be facilitated by Shelter to develop a hospital discharge protocol for Derbyshire. MR attended the Discharge Planning &amp; Improvement Group and although homelessness was recognised as a challenge by this group, was unable to gain commitment from health colleagues to commit the development of a protocol in this way. Shelter have therefore unfortunately had to withdraw their support as their funding was conditional on a whole system approach.</p> <p>MR has regular meetings with health colleagues and is exploring other ways in which we can input into wider discharge improvement work. MR and SB (DCC) have presented to the Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Board to promote the homelessness agenda and highlight the need for collaboration between health and homelessness on mutual problems.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>MR (NEDDC) to continue regular meetings with health colleagues.</p> <p>The Homelessness Health Needs Audit currently being carried out by Homeless Link and due to be published by the end of 2025, will give a greater insight into the health needs of Derbyshire's homeless population and highlight where gaps in health provision exist.</p> <p>MR has organised a joint training event for housing options and hospital discharge staff to take place on 2/10/25.</p>	<p>There is some overlap between this and the actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Seek to better understand the health needs of the homeless population through a health needs audit with partners."</li> <li>2. "Working with partners, improve access to health services and health outcomes for individuals experiencing homelessness."</li> </ol>
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	<p>Work with partners to ensure access to services to improve customers' financial capability, including access to education, training and employment.</p>	<p>Building Better Opportunities was a nation-wide programme that ran from 2016 to 2023 and had a Derbyshire/Nottinghamshire (D2N2) programme. The programme was jointly funded by National Lottery Community Fund and the European Union European Social Fund to the tune of £605million. This programme has unfortunately now ended. Nation-wide there were positive results for people experiencing homelessness:</p> <p>75% achieved one of the three results, split by 37% into employment, 23% into education or training and 16% into job search.</p> <p>With this programme now ended, there's no equivalent programme in Derbyshire, although smaller services do exist on a local level. Futures Housing Group lead the work of Communities That Work locally.</p> <p>The steering group has identified that greater engagement with DWP is needed.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>MR (NEDDC) to map the local providers who are part of Communities That Work and also ensure DWP representation in the strategy steering group going forwards.</p>	<p>There is some overlap between this and the action:</p> <p>"Develop specialist education, employment and training opportunities for those with a complex history of homelessness and rough sleeping."</p>
	<p>Explore the viability of creating a countywide private landlords forum in order to improve landlord participation and engagement.</p>	<p>No such forum currently exists although individual local authorities do hold their own local forums and Call B4 You Serve hold regular landlord engagement events.</p> <p>Discussions have been had about integrating a landlord forum into the wider countywide private rented sector offer.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>As part of the countywide private rented sector offer, explore the feasibility and appetite for hosting landlord forums on a countywide basis rather than locally.</p>	<p>There is some overlap between this and the action:</p> <p>"Following consultation with private landlords, develop a comprehensive and attractive countywide landlord offer."</p>

	<p>Develop a supported housing pre-eviction protocol in partnership with providers.</p>	<p>The Supported Housing Improvement Programme is now established with staff covering most of the county, aiming to improve standards in supported accommodation.</p> <p>Derby City have developed a pre-eviction pilot project and LS (EBC) has opened dialogue with them to take learning for the development of our own protocol. The SHIP programme is the best vehicle for delivering this.</p> <p>A new severe multiple disadvantage housing project has been launched in Chesterfield this year which includes a pre-eviction protocol in its specification.</p> <p>The strategy steering group has agreed that it is not the right time to introduce a pre-eviction protocol more widely, as we have recently introduced a common referral form for supported housing with some resistance from providers.</p>	Yes	Yes	Continue conversations with Derby City about their protocol pilot and start planning what a Derbyshire protocol could look like.	
	<p>Work in partnership with children's services and other key agencies to minimise the detrimental impact of homelessness on children.</p>	<p>No specific coordinated work of this nature is currently taking place other than on an individual case by case basis where necessary.</p> <p>The strategy steering group has discussed what we're trying to achieve with this action. The word "minimise" is ambiguous.</p> <p>Safeguarding referrals are made when an intentionally homeless decision is made that involves families. The steering group has discussed some of the challenges surrounding next steps in this process and agreed that an agreed protocol with social care colleagues would provide a more uniform approach between local authorities.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>Adult social care colleagues are on the strategy steering group. Look to include children's social care colleagues in the steering group and make this a future priority action for the steering group.</p> <p>MR has obtained data from Home Options coordinator about TA usage and intentionally homeless decisions involving families to better understand the background to present to social care colleagues.</p>	

	<p>Consider research projects into the wider social issues on homelessness where shared approaches are central to resolving them. Prioritise projects and seek resources for these based on impact and extent of existing research.</p>	<p>No Derbyshire-based research projects have been commissioned. However the wider social issues relating to homelessness have been well researched on a national and international basis. The now expanded SIGNAL pilot is helping us develop a greater understanding of some of the wider social issues surrounding homelessness through the holistic health and wellbeing assessment. This data could form the basis of more specific research projects in the future.</p> <p>The strategy steering group has agreed this action is very broad and could be a very large piece of research. We have commissioned targeted pieces of research where we want to focus on a specific area, for example the Supported Housing Needs Assessment and the Health Needs Audit.</p>	<p>Yes</p>		<p>The now expanded SIGNAL pilot is helping us develop a greater understanding of some of the wider social issues surrounding homelessness through the holistic health and wellbeing assessment. This data could form the basis of more specific research projects in the future.</p> <p>Several DHOG representatives are visiting Newcastle in October to see how SIGNAL has been embedded within statutory services there.</p> <p>The strategy steering group agrees that it is not necessary to commission any further research on wider social issues on homelessness, as there has been extensive national research the demonstrates the complexity of homelessness and a Derbyshire focussed piece of research is unlikely to tell us anything further.</p>	<p>Action is considered to overlap with the actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Ensure that data is captured widely and effectively across the system to understand homelessness and the wider determinants, and that this data is used to improve interventions and joint approaches."</li> <li>2. "Seek to better understand the health needs of the homeless population through a health needs audit with partners."</li> <li>3. "Gather evidence and consider research projects into:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The extent of dual diagnosis within the homelessness population in order to create an evidence base of work with commissioners to create new service pathways.</li> <li>b) The nature and scale of hidden homelessness.</li> <li>c) The nature and scale of intergenerational homelessness across Derbyshire.</li> </ol>               Prioritise those projects needed based on impact and seek funding to progress them."             </li> </ol>
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	<p>Commit to working towards preventing homelessness prior to 56 days (in advance of any statutory duty) and explore funding opportunities to develop a specialist early intervention project.</p>	<p>LAs have a statutory duty to work with applicants who are at risk of homelessness within 56 days. No Derbyshire authorities have specific policies to work with people prior to this statutory period. However, more "upstream" prevention work does take place such as the commissioned rough sleeping service working with sofa-surfers and other people at risk of homelessness who wouldn't necessarily meet the statutory requirements.</p> <p>Workshop exercise at DHOG on 15.4.24 identified this action as no longer being a priority. In the current climate, it is not seen as possible to develop specific policies to work with people earlier than the statutory required period.</p>	No	No		<p>Workshop exercise at DHOG on 15.4.24 identified this action as no longer being a priority. In the current climate, it is not seen as possible to develop specific policies to work with people earlier than the statutory required period.</p>
	<p>Develop a Young Persons Positive Pathway with children's services to include a joint protocol for 16/17 year olds.</p>	<p>No such pathway currently exists. There's been various attempts at a county council led project in recent years but nothing currently in development.</p> <p>District and borough councils only have a statutory homelessness duty to 18+ year olds.</p> <p>Workshop exercise at DHOG on 15.4.24 identified this action as no longer being a priority. Action won't be removed from strategy and we will remain open to opportunities for this work, but won't pro-actively pursue them at this time.</p>	No	No		<p>Workshop exercise at DHOG on 15.4.24 identified this action as no longer being a priority. Action won't be removed from strategy and we will remain open to opportunities for this work, but won't pro-actively pursue them at this time.</p>

### Priority Area 3: End Rough Sleeping and Repeat Homelessness.

RAG Rating	Action	Current Situation	Is action still desirable?	Is action still achievable?	How to progress action	Notes
	Develop a multi-disciplinary team to work to deliver assertive and coordinated services to rough sleepers and individuals experiencing homelessness with multiple and complex needs, with a focus on preventing repeat homelessness.	<p>This action was written at a time that district and borough councils were hoping to develop a multi-disciplinary team as part of a joint Rough Sleeping Initiative bid. There has been some success in developing multi-disciplinary roles as part of this service, however it is unlikely this will be delivered as first hoped.</p> <p>Efforts made to incorporate elements of a multi-disciplinary team into the RSI-funded services. Funding was secured for 2x substance misuse navigators, however contractual obstacles with NHS to have those roles hosted at DRP caused delays and eventually only one post was in place for 2024/25. RSI funding was also secured for 1x mental health link worker role, however no host organisation could be found.</p> <p>MR (NEDDC) &amp; KC (CBC) have presented to Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board, giving case studies on individuals with multiple and complex needs. Recognition from the board that more work needs to be done on MCN, as well as a ministerial letter stating a need to involve</p>	Yes. This has previously been a priority action for the strategy steering group and working collaboratively with partners to tackle rough sleeping will remain an important piece of work.	No. Not as originally conceived.	<p>Continue to develop close working relationships with partners to increase opportunities for meaningful partnership working and future co-funding opportunities.</p> <p>MR (NEDDC) &amp; KC (CBC) have presented to Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board, giving case studies on individuals with multiple and complex needs. Recognition from the board that more work needs to be done on MCN, as well as a ministerial letter stating a need to involve homelessness services. Follow up work could include a MCN sub-group for SAB.</p>	<p>This action overlaps with the action:</p> <p>"Work with DCC, the Primary Care Trust, Derbyshire Foundation Trust and Public Health to influence and inform the commissioning and delivery of mental health, substance misuse and adult social care services to ensure they are accessible and meet the needs of clients experiencing homelessness with multiple and complex needs."</p>

		homelessness services. Follow up work could include a MCN sub-group for SAB.				
	Plan and develop specialist winter provision for future winters.	The winter offer for rough sleepers differs year on year, dependant on resources and need. Single site solutions have been used twice in recent years - firstly during Everyone In in 2020/21 and then again in 2022/23. Winters 2023/24 and 2024/25 have not had a single-site offer and instead utilised existing B&B and TA stock with enhanced support from commissioned outreach service. Derbyshire County Council currently providing funding iro £50k for winter offer.	Yes.	Yes	This action was discussed at DHOG 08/09/25 and EE (Bolsover) has agreed to speak with existing providers (P3, Pathways etc.) to see how we might fund additional capacity within their services over winter 2025/26.	
	Assess the impact and outcomes of the Rough Sleeping Initiative-funded projects and develop a business case to secure future funding, including a details cost benefit analysis.	<p>Rough sleeping funding currently ends in March 2026. There have been indications from central government that funding will shift from bids to an allocation, with a more flexible grant however nothing has been confirmed yet.</p> <p>DHOG has discussed three possible scenarios for 2026 - less funding, same funding, more funding. Agreement that until funding announcement, no formal decisions can be made.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>DHOG has discussed three possible scenarios for 2026 - less funding, same funding, more funding. Agreement that until funding announcement, no formal decisions can be made.</p> <p>If the shape of rough sleeping funding changes in the manner we're anticipating then individual local authorities will need to decide if they still feel able to contribute to a countywide service or manage locally with their own resources.</p>	<p>This actions overlaps with the actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "As part of the Rough Sleeping Initiative develop a targeted prevention approach to prevent the flow of new rough sleepers on to the street."</li> <li>2. "Explore the feasibility of developing an assessment centre to provide off the street accommodation for rough sleepers."</li> <li>3. "Explore how we can provide a rapid offer of off the street accommodation so that no-one has to spend a second night on the streets."</li> </ol>

	<p>As part of the Rough Sleeping Initiative develop a targeted prevention approach to prevent the flow of new rough sleepers on to the street.</p>	<p>Levels of new rough sleepers fluctuate and generally when new rough sleepers appear they don't become entrenched. Reasons for new rough sleepers are varied, but mainly relationship breakdown. We will continue to monitor the flow of new rough sleepers and the reasons for homelessness/rough sleeping. If significant changes occur, explore targeted prevention approaches.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>Continue to monitor the flow of new rough sleepers and the reasons for homelessness/rough sleeping. If significant changes occur, explore targeted prevention approaches, bearing in mind current funding uncertainty as outlined above.</p> <p>In conjunction with Street Support Derbyshire, we will develop a public awareness campaign of support services for people to seek help before they become homeless.</p>	<p>This action overlaps with the action:</p> <p>"Assess the impact and outcomes of the Rough Sleeping Initiative-funded projects and develop a business case to secure future funding, including a details cost benefit analysis."</p>
	<p>Explore the feasibility of developing an assessment centre to provide off the street accommodation for rough sleepers.</p>	<p>No central assessment centre currently exists. However, principle commissioned rough sleeping services (Pathways and P3) have sites that can be used for assessments and support.</p> <p>Local Authorities supported Freedom Projects' bid to Winter Transformation Funding for 2023/24, which would have included a single site for assessment and accommodation, however this bid was unsuccessful.</p> <p>Without significant external investment it is difficult to see how this action will be delivered. Monitor and be vigilant for funding opportunities.</p>	Yes	No.	<p>Without significant external investment it is difficult to see how this action will be delivered. Monitor and be vigilant for funding opportunities.</p>	<p>This action overlaps with the action:</p> <p>"Assess the impact and outcomes of the Rough Sleeping Initiative-funded projects and develop a business case to secure future funding, including a details cost benefit analysis."</p>

	<p>Explore how we can provide a rapid offer of off the street accommodation so that no-one has to spend a second night on the streets.</p>	<p>There is currently no specific pathway for off the street accommodation for rough sleepers. The quickest route into accommodation is for the individual to be referred into supported accommodation, but the speed of these referrals and suitability of accommodation varies greatly depending on the individual and/or provider.</p> <p>Discussion and agreement at DHOG that our single homelessness and rough sleeping services from April 2026 should contain a stronger development of a specific pathway. This is however subject to funding, as outlined in other actions above.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>Explore issues surrounding supported accommodation referrals and how to improve timeliness of response. Consider if a model similar to Salus Project for domestic abuse could be used, with Local authorities making units of accommodation available specifically for this cohort for a max of 7 days whilst they are supported to secure alternative accommodation.</p> <p>The development of this rapid offer and single homelessness pathway is subject to funding, which we await an announcement on.</p>	<p>This action overlaps with the action:</p> <p>"Assess the impact and outcomes of the Rough Sleeping Initiative-funded projects and develop a business case to secure future funding, including a details cost benefit analysis."</p>
	<p>Gather evidence and consider research projects into:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The extent of dual diagnosis within the homelessness population in order to create an evidence base of work with commissioners to create new service pathways.</li> <li>2. The nature and scale of hidden homelessness.</li> <li>3. The nature and scale of intergenerational homelessness across Derbyshire.</li> </ol> <p>Prioritise those projects needed based on impact and seek</p>	<p>The strategy steering group agreed on 6/3/2025 that this action is far too broad, there are really three actions within one here. Upheld decision at DHOG on 15.4.24 that this action should no longer be a priority.</p> <p>It was felt that action point 1. about dual diagnosis will be covered by the Homeless Link health needs audit, but more broadly the issue of multiple complex needs and dual diagnosis has been researched nationally and is well understood.</p> <p>The group considered action points 2. and 3. and concluded that allocating resources to specific research projects on</p>	No	No	<p>The strategy steering group agreed on 6/3/2025 that this action is far too broad, there are really three actions within one here. Upheld decision at DHOG on 15.4.24 that this action should no longer be a priority.</p> <p>It was felt that action point 1. about dual diagnosis will be covered by the Homeless Link health needs audit, but more broadly the issue of multiple complex needs and dual diagnosis has been researched nationally and is well understood.</p> <p>The group considered action points 2. and 3. and concluded that allocating resources to specific research projects on</p>	<p>This action prompted broader discussion between the strategy steering group about the strategy in general. There was a general feeling in the group that there are too many actions within the strategy, meaning it is difficult to prioritise actions that will make the biggest difference. This is some learning that could be taken forward into the development of future strategies.</p>



	funding to progress them.	these points was not desirable as it is unlikely to have a notable impact on how understanding of homelessness in Derbyshire and the delivery of homelessness services.			these points was not desirable as it is unlikely to have a notable impact on how understanding of homelessness in Derbyshire and the delivery of homelessness services.	
	Develop a supported reconnection policy to support rough sleepers to return safely to their home areas.	<p>Commissioned outreach service currently support rough sleepers to return to home arrears if necessary without a formal policy.</p> <p>The strategy steering group has agreed this action is easily achievable, however a formal policy to be adopted by all local authorities is not necessary.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>The strategy steering group agreed that a written supported reconnection procedure should sit with the commissioned street outreach service.</p> <p>MR (NEDDC) has met with the commissioned street outreach service and a draft policy has been written. This is to be shared with the strategy steering group for consultation.</p>	

	<p>Develop an alternative giving campaign and work to promote public awareness around rough sleeping and begging, where there is evidence that the issue exists.</p>	<p>Street Support Derbyshire was launched in December 2023. An alternative giving scheme forms part of what Street Support can offer.</p> <p>The strategy steering group has discussed this action. For the majority of local authorities begging is not a significant problem. Whilst levels of begging and other street activity are highest in Chesterfield, this has not been a political issue raised by members. An alternative giving campaign is unlikely to resolve the issue of begging in Chesterfield as intelligence suggests those who are begging are not homeless. There are problems with individuals harassing members of the public at ATMs and car park payment stations, these problems are best addressed by police and community safety teams.</p> <p>The steering group agreed that improvements can be made in raising public awareness of existing services such as DOT, Street Support Derbyshire, Framework etc.</p>	No	No	<p>Develop a public awareness campaign targeting all Derbyshire residents to raise awareness of homelessness services and where to seek support. Do this in conjunction with Street Support Derbyshire.</p>	<p>This actions overlaps with the action:</p> <p>"Undertake an awareness raising campaign focusing on homeless prevention, encouraging individuals to seek help at the earliest point."</p>
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	Develop specialist education, employment and training opportunities for those with a complex history of homelessness and rough sleeping.	<p>Pathways has some links into education, employment and training for former rough sleepers but it is an area that requires improvement across the board.</p> <p>Workshop exercise at DHOG on 15.4.2024 identified this action as no longer being a priority. It was felt that the number of former rough sleepers who are in a position to actively engage with this type of service is so small that developing a specific service would not be worthwhile.</p> <p>However, other strategy work is being done to improve access to these types of services across the board.</p>	No	No	MR (NEDDC) to map the local providers who are part of Communities That Work and also ensure DWP representation in the strategy steering group going forwards.	<p>This action overlaps with the action:</p> <p>"Work with partners to ensure access to services to improve customers' financial capability, including access to education, training and employment."</p>
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#### Priority Area 4: Develop sustainable supported and settled housing solutions.

RAG Rating	Action	Current Situation	Is action still desirable?	Is action still achievable?	How to progress action	Notes
	Work towards increasing the provision of appropriate, affordable social housing.	<p>Social housing waiting lists are massively over-subscribed in all LA areas. 5/8 LAs are stock-holding authorities. All LAs and housing associations experience the same national housing shortage as the rest of the country and the solutions are not unique to Derbyshire.</p> <p>The strategy steering group discussed whether this action should be in a homelessness strategy and agreed it is a better fit elsewhere. It is now a requirement for all local</p>	Yes.	Yes	<p>The steering group as a collective has limited influence, but all local authorities are working towards increasing the provision of appropriate affordable social housing.</p> <p>All local authorities to ensure they have a housing strategy in place.</p>	None

		authorities to have a housing strategy. A Derbyshire housing strategy meeting also exists. Agreed to set action as complete.				
	Following consultation with private landlords, develop a comprehensive and attractive countywide landlord offer.	<p>Individual LAs have their own private sector incentives, but these typically consist of bond guarantee schemes which are limited and out of step with current PRS pressures. Work has begun on developing a countywide PRS offer and discussions with CallB4YouServe are ongoing for the continuation of that service.</p> <p>MR (NEDDC) outlined the basic offer proposal to landlords at a CallB4YouServe event in December 2024 and landlords gave feedback on what they would like to see in an attractive offer.</p>	Yes.	Yes	The outline of what a countywide offer could look like has been developed. NEDDC intend to recruit a PRS officer who would lead on the further development and implementation of the offer, although this post has not yet been approved.	<p>This action links with the actions:</p> <p>1. "Explore opportunities to develop a countywide private sector leasing scheme."</p> <p>2. "Explore the viability of creating a countywide private landlords forum in order to improve landlord participation and engagement."</p>
	Work with DCC to develop additional provision for domestic abuse, including immediate access provision and advocacy support.	<p>Salus project has been developed since the strategy was written. This has provided an instant-access accommodation and support service for those fleeing domestic abuse who are unable to secure a refuge placement straight away.</p> <p>DHOG consider this action completed as per workshop exercise on 15.4.2024.</p>	Yes.	Yes	Include domestic abuse services in strategy steering group and remain vigilant to opportunities for further partnership working.	None

	<p>Carry out a review of temporary and interim accommodation: 1. Identify future need and an options based appraisal for future delivery arrangements including the option of nightly paid emergency accommodation. 2. Explore the opportunities for a countywide temporary accommodation forum.</p>	<p>District and borough LAs have different approaches to the provision of temporary and interim accommodation, based on their individual resources. Some have access to lots of their own stock for use as TA, some have limited TA stock and are more reliant on B&amp;B type accommodation for emergency accommodation. Many LAs are finding their B&amp;B options are reducing due to external pressures such as hotels being repurposed for asylum seeker accommodation.</p> <p>The strategy steering group discussed this action in March 2025. It was highlighted that a temporary accommodation forum already exists for Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, with NEDDC leading on this work.</p> <p>There are variations in how local authorities log TA status on Locata and internally. It could be a large piece of work to carry out a thorough review of TA and is something we could task the forum with. The strategy steering group could carry out a lighter touch analysis of usage and availability. The group also agreed to include CAS3 accommodation in this review.</p>	Yes.	Yes	MR (NEDDC) to analyse Locata and CAS3 data to present back to the steering group.	None
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	In partnership with DCC develop appropriate housing provision for clients with complex, multiple and longer-term care needs where funding permits.	<p>This type of accommodation for individuals with identified social care needs is not currently funded in any part by district and borough councils. There are barriers to LAs/commissioned services accessing social care assessments to establish an individual's eligibility for this type of accommodation.</p> <p>A supported housing needs assessment has been commissioned by district and borough councils and Homeless Link are delivering this piece of work. This needs assessment will help to build the case for whether more of this type of accommodation is needed. The needs audit is due to be completed in the autumn of 2025.</p>	Yes.	Yes	<p>Ensure adult social care are represented in the strategy steering group.</p> <p>Share findings of the supported housing needs assessment with adult social care colleagues and work on relevant recommendations from the audit.</p>	None
	Explore opportunities to develop a countywide private sector leasing scheme.	No such scheme currently exists but could form part of a countywide PRS offer. MR spoke with landlords at a CallB4YouServe event December 2024 and a leasing scheme was appealing to landlords looking for longer term stability and certainty for their properties.	Yes.	Yes	<p>The outline of what a countywide offer could look like has been developed, with a leasing scheme being seen as a potential end goal. NEDDC intend to recruit a PRS officer who would lead on the further development and implementation of the offer, although this post has not yet been approved.</p>	<p>This action links with the actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Following consultation with private landlords, develop a comprehensive and attractive countywide landlord offer."</li> <li>2. "Explore the viability of creating a countywide private landlords forum in order to improve landlord participation and engagement."</li> </ol>