

**One of the most important factors in any person's quality of life is their housing.**

So this year we will:

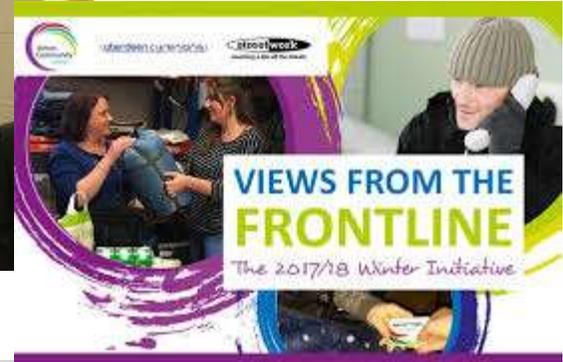
- .. **set a clear national objective to eradicate rough sleeping**, recognising that it requires more than just the provision of housing and that every individual will have their own unique needs and challenges
- .. **establish a homelessness and rough sleeping action group** to lead change in this area and identify the actions, services and legislative changes required to end rough sleeping and transform the use of temporary accommodation
- .. **create a 'Ending Homelessness Together' Fund of £50 million over a five year period** to support anti-homelessness initiatives and pilot solutions to drive faster change
- .. invest an additional £20 million in alcohol and drug services





This past winter we were able to keep more people from sleeping rough – and now our work to fundamentally change how we tackle and prevent homelessness will intensify.

In the year ahead we will act on the recommendations from the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Group and the Scottish Parliament's Local Government and Communities Committee. Later this year we will publish the high-level action plan for delivery of the recommendations, which will be led by the Homelessness Prevention and Strategy Group and a range of partners including local authorities.



- 1. How to minimise rough sleeping in Winter 2017-18**
- 2. How to end rough sleeping for good**
- 3. How to transform the use of temporary accommodation**
- 4. How to end homelessness**

**Ensure local authorities, public bodies and delivery partners work together to prevent rough sleeping and homelessness at every opportunity**

**They should ensure adoption of a “no wrong door” approach to people who need homelessness assistance from any public or 3rd sector agency.**

**Develop an effective evidence-based and consistent national delivery model for front line outreach services:-**

- to support more immediate, multi-disciplinary front-line interventions for people sleeping rough - or at risk of doing so - to facilitate successful and sustained transition off the street.**
- to be adopted nationally but tailored to the local situation and drawing on learning from this year's winter actions and other evidence**
- once tested – to be 'hardwired' into systems and processes**

**Empower front-line workers so that decisions and resource allocation are as flexible and responsive as possible and trusting relationships can be built that ensure psychologically-informed approaches can be take.**

**Ensure plans are always agreed – or agreed as quickly as possible – to prevent homelessness for the groups who are predictably at highest risk of rough sleeping and homelessness.**

**Use available evidence to identify groups most at risk and clearly articulate the pathways and interventions needed to prevent this outcome.**

**Where this already exists (e.g. SHORE standards for prisoners) ensure that the pathways are implemented; where this does not yet exist ensure pathways are developed and implemented.**

**Remove barriers to exercising choice in settled accommodation to break the cycle of recurrent rough sleeping**

**The Code of Guidance to specify expectations in relation to tenancy sustainment, including early intervention, to be addressed by landlords in all sectors, and how this is to be regulated.**

**Social housing providers to ensure services in place to support early intervention and sustainment, health & wellbeing, good quality housing management and specialist support providers for people with more complex needs.**

**Scottish Government and Local Government to ensure the consistent application of the Staying Put provision for care leavers and effective implementation of the Scottish Government Missing Persons' Framework as key interventions in preventing youth homelessness.**

**Health & Social Care Partnerships clearly plan and state how they will work to prevent and tackle homelessness through their full range of activities working in an integrated way with Local Authorities, Housing Associations and the Voluntary Sector.**

**Local Rapid Rehousing Transition Plans as part of the Local Housing Strategies to be fully integrated into Health & Social Care Partnership strategic plans. These should be included in the Housing Contribution statement to ensure they are part of the planning framework.**

**To ensure the social security offer supports households to avoid homelessness and to exit homelessness as quickly as possible when it does occur.**

**Housing Options teams (including Housing staff from RSLs and Local Authority staff) and Job Centre Plus teams to work in partnership to ensure that employability, employment and housing support is provided in a joined-up way.**

**Specific interventions such as mentoring or coaching to be provided for young people at risk of homelessness.**

**Revise legislative arrangements that can result in difficulties with people being able to access their rights: namely, on local connection and intentionality.**

**Scottish Government should monitor the impact of these changes on local authorities to respond to any LAs coming under undue pressure as a result of disproportionate net inflows.**

**Legislate for a new prevention duty that brings the 'Housing Options' approach into the heart of the statutory homelessness framework - so that outcome-orientated preventative practice can be better regulated, and also encouraged, as local authorities engaging in good preventative work will no longer be exposed to legal challenge.**

**Extend robust preventative duties to other public bodies, Housing Associations and other organisations commissioned by public bodies to deliver homelessness and associated services.**

Can we fix  
Homelessness  
in Scotland?



**Aye**  
we can