

# North Tyneside Homelessness Prevention Strategy 2018 - 2021

Housing Sub Committee  
11 February 2019



# Why do we need a homelessness prevention strategy?

- Statutory requirement: Homelessness Act 2002
- Tackling homelessness can be costly to the public purse as opposed to investing to prevent homelessness
- Detrimental effect homelessness can have on households, communities and wider issues and problems homelessness can lead to



# Developing our homelessness prevention strategy

- February 2017: homelessness review event
- May 2017 – October 2017: engagement and consultation with organisations, current and former clients
- March 2018: identified achievements over the life span of the 13 – 18 strategy
- April 2018: Draft strategy
- June 2018: Consultation



# Findings from consultation

- Not knowing where to go for advice or how to access support services
- Lack of affordable homes
- Current services not meeting need
- Short term funding
- Conflicting government policies



# Aspirations

- Good mental health
- Positive family and friends network
- Permanent abstinence from substances
- Own home: sense of belonging
- More affordable, appropriate homes
- Earlier intervention
- Improved support services



# Our strategic priorities

- Successful implementation and delivery of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017
- Meeting local housing need
- Supporting households to secure and sustain an affordable home
- Effective communication and robust partnership working



# Priority One: Successful implementation and delivery of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017

- Review and explore options to increase prevention and intervention tools
- Review and monitor personal housing plans
- Review and introduce accessible information for all, particularly the identified vulnerable groups on their housing options
- Regular engagement and information sharing with statutory and voluntary organisations to keep them up to date on the Act



# Priority Two: meeting local housing need

- Continuous engagement with registered providers and private developers to increase the supply of affordable homes
- Successful engagement with the private rented sector to improve the housing offer
- Review use of temporary accommodation and identify alternative provision to meet need
- Achieve accreditation with Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance





# Priority Three: Supporting households to secure and sustain an affordable home

- Support households to successfully move on and sustain their home
- Review outreach support offer
- Introduce schemes that support both landlord and tenant in the private rented sector
- Monitor Single Person Support Officer work and outcomes
- Monitor rough sleeping activity to determine if a specialist outreach service is needed



# Priority Four: Effective communication and robust partnership working

- Review and revise web pages and paper information
- Promotion of services and sign posting
- Continuous engagement with partners to strengthen relationships and tackle homelessness
- On-going prevention work into primary and secondary schools



# Tell us what you think

- Are these the right priorities?
- Is there anything missing?

