

ADDITIONAL CIRCULATION



Community Planning Aberdeen Management Group

The undernoted items are circulated in connection with the meeting of the **COMMUNITY PLANNING ABERDEEN MANAGEMENT GROUP** to be held via MS Teams on **WEDNESDAY, 23 MARCH 2022 at 2.00 pm.**

B U S I N E S S

CPA IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

- 2.1 CPA Improvement Programme Quarterly Update and Appendices (Pages 3 - 12)
Appendix 3 – Two new project charters

G E N E R A L B U S I N E S S

- 3.3 Prevention Consultation (Pages 13 - 26) – **additional item**

Should you require any further information about this agenda, please email CommunityPlanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk

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Agenda Item 2.1

Charter 6.3 Number of care experienced young people receiving multi-agency throughcare/aftercare support.

CPA CHARTER FEEDBACK FORM		
Project Aim:	Increase the number of care experienced young people by 10% receiving multi-agency throughcare/aftercare support by 2023.	
Project Manager	Isabel McDonnell – Lead Service Manager AC	
	Training undertaken: Booked on the Bootcamp in March 2022	
Reviewed by:	Lydia Ross	
Date:	14 th March 2022	
Checklist	Summary of feedback	
1. Is the project aim consistent with aim in the LOIP?	Yes	Stretch Outcome 6: As corporate parents we will ensure 95% of care experienced children and young people will have the same levels of attainment in education, health and emotional wellbeing, and positive destinations as their peers by 2026.
2. Is there a sound business case explaining why the project is important?	Yes	This charter links to a number of other charters under SO6
3. Have connections to Locality Plans been made and reflected?	Yes	There are no links in the locality plans.
4. Is it likely that the changes being tested will achieve the aim?	Yes	The changes proposed will ensure that care experienced young people are aware of the services available to them and how to access them which should lead to an increase in the numbers receiving throughcare/aftercare support
5. Will the measures demonstrate whether a change is an improvement?	Yes	The measures will demonstrate whether the change ideas are an improvement
6. Is a location/Test Group identified?	Yes	Initial testing will be with a group of 20 CEYP
7. Have additional resources needed to implement the change ideas been considered?	Yes	No additional resource needs other than on-going technological support
8. Is there a mix of partners involved in this project?	Yes	At the moment most of those involved are from ACC or the NHS. Additional partners from the third sector and a care experienced young person are also being sourced to join the team
9. Clear outline project plan?	Yes	
CPA Management Group/ Board Ready? Yes		

Improvement Project Title Increase the number of care experienced young people receiving multi-agency throughcare/aftercare support.	
Executive Sponsor Graeme Simpson, Chair of Children's Services Board Tracy Davis, Vice Chair of Children's Services Board	
Project Lead Name: Isabel McDonnell Job Role & Organisation: Service Manager (ACC) Email Address: IMcDonnell@aberdeencity.gov.uk	
Aim statement Increase the number of care experienced young people by 10% receiving multi-agency throughcare/aftercare support by 2023.	
Link to Local Outcome Improvement Plan Stretch Outcome 6: As corporate parents we will ensure 95% of care experienced children and young people will have the same levels of attainment in education, health and emotional wellbeing, and positive destinations as their peers by 2026	
Link to Locality Plans No community ideas identified for this project in the locality plans.	
Why this is important and issues with the current system? <p>The outcomes of those with care experience are well documented and make for stark reading. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) documented in a pre-inspection report 2019 that current multi-agency services and supports in place for care leavers were not at the level which matched known needs, and as such, there was need for improvement. Subsequently, there have been several key influences to understanding and promoting the outcomes and needs to Care Experienced Young People; Covid 19, The Promise, Trauma Informed Practice, Scotland UNCR Bill and Keeping Brothers and Sisters Together.</p> <p>The 2020/2021 Review of Care Leaving Services within Aberdeen City Council also highlighted the need to strengthen engagement and participation with young people and across the partnership. This work will also align with the Corporate Parenting Plan Children's Services Plan 2020-23.</p> <p>A Care Leaver is a legal definition for a Care Experienced Young Person who was formally in care on their 16th Birthday. A Care Experienced Young Person is not necessarily a care leaver. This determines the level of service a young person may be eligible for in relation to Throughcare and Aftercare Services (TCAC).</p> <p>We also know CEYP are associated with poorer outcomes in all areas. Education outcomes for looked after children have improved over the last five years. However,</p>	

there are still significant gaps compared with all pupils with Looked After Children at home continuing to have the poorest outcomes and are less likely to go onto further education or sustain a positive destination

Mental Health has been on the Champion's Board agenda since 2014, and this continues to be an area for improvement.

A collaborative approach is therefore required to ensure that Aberdeen is meeting its Corporate Parenting responsibilities for Care Experienced Young People.

Measures

Outcome measures

- Number of care experienced young people receiving multi-agency throughcare/aftercare support has increased by 10% (baseline being collated)

Process measures

- Number of leaving care health assessments completed
- Percentage of welfare assessments with multiagency input
- Percentage of CEYP aware of how to access services
- Percentage of professionals aware of how CEYP can access/re-access services
- Number of CEYP being closed between the ages of 16-19 years

Balancing measures

- Number of CEYP presenting as Homeless

Change ideas

- Develop a leaving care health assessment (similar to that when coming into care)
- Review welfare assessment process to ensure that where a welfare assessment applies it is completed from a multiagency perspective
- Develop and launch awareness raising materials to increase CEYP knowledge of their rights, and how to access services
- Develop material/run information session/training for professionals on CEYP rights to increase professional's awareness
- Reduce CEYP being closed between the ages of 16-19 years
- Increase uptake of Young Scot card to ensure CEYP experience less poverty

Location/Test Group

Group of 20 CEYP currently open, including both Care Leavers and Care Experienced Young People

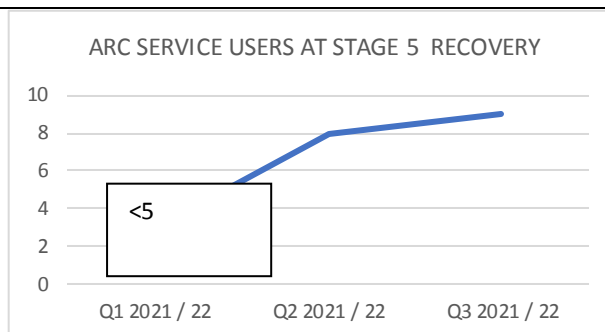
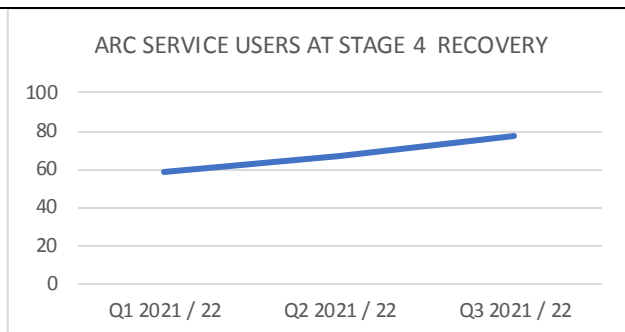
Resources

Continued development of technology		
Potential risks and/or barriers to success & actions to address these <i>Identifying risk/ barriers is useful to help shape some of your change ideas and to take any mitigating actions.</i>		
-Difficulty in identifying the number of young people receiving multi-agency support currently -How the wide range of teams record this data in order to then reflect a 10% increase		
Project Team Isabel McDonnell, Service Manager (ACC) Kayleigh Alexander Campbell Team Leader (ACC) Claire Will, Residential Team Manager (ACC) Alan Ross, Consultant CIN (ACC) Martina Swainson, Team Manager PAC (ACC) Mhairi Shewan, Quality Improvement Officer (ACC) - Education Rep THIRD SECTOR REP TO BE IDENTIFIED NHS representative (Linda Gray? Caroline Clark) Adult Services rep (Transitions Team – Michael Harkness?) Angela Taylor- Lori Leslie (ABZ Works) Graeme Gardiner (ACC, Housing) Care Experienced Young Person		
Outline Project Plan		
Project Stage	Actions	Timescale
Getting Started (Project score 1-3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project team established • Baseline current situation • Draft charter • Submit to CSB • Charter approved 	February 2022 March 2022 14/03/2022 28/03/2022 April 2022
Designing and testing change (Project Score 4-7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start testing using Plan-Do-Study-Act cycle • Update your progress report with results • Continue testing until you are confident in your ideas • Planned end date for testing all changes 	June 2022 Sept 2022 Nov 2022 Mar 2023
Implementing and sustaining changes that demonstrate improvement (Project Score 4-7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree which change ideas tested are proven to work and you would incorporate as business as usual • Continue to gather data to evidence that improvement is sustained 	May 2023 July 2023
Spreading changes (Project Score 9-10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At this point your aim has been achieved and you might consider spreading your change ideas to another setting outwith the scope of your original aim. 	Dec 2023

Charter 12.9 Increase the visibility of drug and alcohol recovery

CPA CHARTER FEEDBACK FORM		
Project Aim:	Increase the number of people undertaking recovery from drug and alcohol issues who are being supported to maintain drug / alcohol free lives in their community by 2023.	
Project Manager	Simon Rayner, ADP	
	Training undertaken: MFI Bootcamp	
Reviewed by:	Allison Swanson	
Date:	21/03/22	
Checklist	Summary of feedback	
1. Is the project aim consistent with aim in the LOIP and highlight alignment to the Locality plans?	Yes	The aim aligns with the LOIP aim and provides numerical target of 20% for increase.
2. Is there a sound business case explaining why the project is important?	Yes	The charter details clearly the rationale and areas of focus.
3. Have connections to Locality Plans been made and reflected?	Yes	The charter shows the status of the community ideas.
3. Is it likely that the changes being tested will achieve the aim?	Yes	Likely that the change ideas will have a positive impact on the test group identified.
4. Will the measures demonstrate whether a change is an improvement?	Yes	The measures will show the impact of the change ideas and also whether the overall aim has been achieved. Data system being established.
5. Is a location/Test Group identified?	Yes	People in recovery/ North and Central.
6. Have resources to implement the change ideas been identified?	Yes	No additional resource required at this time.
7. Is there a mix of partners involved in this project?	Yes	There is a good mix of partners and voice of lived experience.
8. Clear outline project plan?	Yes	
CPA Management Group/ Board Ready? Yes		

Improvement Project: Increase the visibility of drug and alcohol recovery and support the conditions to facilitate community based recovery
Executive Sponsor Gale Beattie, Chair of the Alcohol and Drug Partnership
Project Lead Name: Simon Rayner Job Role & Organisation: ADP Lead Officer Email Address: simon.rayner@nhs.scot
Aim statement Increase the number of people undertaking recovery from drug and alcohol issues who are being supported to maintain drug / alcohol free lives in their community by 2023.
Link to Local Outcome Improvement Plan Stretch Outcome 12: Rate of harmful levels of alcohol consumption reduced by 4% and drug related deaths lower Scotland by 2026 Stretch Outcome 1 Stretch Outcome 2 Stretch outcome 5 Stretch Outcome 11
Link to Locality Plans There are community ideas in the North and Central Locality Plans.
Why this is important and issues with the current system? Alcohol and drugs are the only category across the whole of the UK where the age-standardised mortality rate (ASMR) has statistically significantly increased since 2001 - Avoidable mortality in Great Britain . In Scotland the number of drug and alcohol deaths have increased. Recovery from severe drug and alcohol related harm for many is a long term challenge, particularly where use of drugs and alcohol are “normalised” in our communities. Creating the conditions and opportunities for individuals to recover from drug and alcohol related issues is core to the Scottish Government Strategy Rights, Respect and Recovery . Recovery orientated support needs to be organised at individual, family and community levels. Creating the conditions for people to live free from the potential harm of alcohol and drugs is fundamental to creating a healthier community and is listed as one of Public Health Scotland's top priorities . Aberdeen currently has around 2000 people in structured treatment and support from drug and alcohol related problems. We commission services that are orientated to support people through to recovery. Specifically we commission Alcohol and Drugs Action to provide a 5 stage recovery pathway - with stage 5 being people able to sustain their own recovery in the community without structured service support.



We also fund [Aberdeen In Recovery](#) which is an organisation led by and for people in recovery to help support a “community” of recovery.

An individual’s recovery from a drug or alcohol-related problem is personal to them. Different people will achieve recovery in different ways and it is our role to ensure that there are appropriate supportive opportunities to allow people to sustain their recovery in their community. Increasing the visibility of recovery gives strength and hope to others who are on their own journey. Increasing the visibility of recovery helps reduce stigma and can put a human face to the complex issues underlying drug and alcohol use. Ensuring that there are a range of options for people to engage in recovery helps give resilience and reduce isolation. We will seek to remove barriers to recovery and support housing, employability and education opportunities.

We will seek to increase the visibility and support of recovery in our communities and seek to reduce the stigma faced by those seeking to recover from drug and alcohol use. We will seek to increase number of people undertaking recovery from drug and alcohol issues who are being supported to maintain drug/alcohol-free lives in their community by 2021.

We will ensure that a range of support mechanisms is in place and available to groups who support those in recovery. We will maintain links with local recovery groups, support groups and mutual aid fellowships.

We will seek to ensure that people undertaking recovery from drug and alcohol issues have opportunities and support to maintain drug/alcohol-free lives in their community. We will develop a community service plan in the context of “people and place” and seek opportunities for those in recovery to create communities / environments that support their recovery.

Measures

➤ Outcome measures

- Number of people undertaking recovery from drug and alcohol issues who are being supported to maintain drug / alcohol free lives in their community by 2023 by increasing the number of people in stage 4 and stage 5 recovery by 20% each year to 2026

➤ Process measures

- Number of people undertaking “Reducing Stigma E-Training
- No. of organisations/employers signed up to Reducing Stigma E-Training
- % of people completing the training reporting that they had changed their perception/behaviour following the training

- Number of people undertaking stages 1 to 5 in the recovery pathway from 400 to 600
- Number of people engaged with Aberdeen In Recovery – this has decreased from 90 to 20 during the pandemic
- No. of community groups/activities accessing training/resource on engaging/supporting people in recovery (City Wide and by Locality)
- No. of community groups/activities available for people in recovery (City Wide and by Locality)
- Number of people in recovery attending community engagement groups/activities
- No. of people access the Aberdeen in Recovery website (various pages)
- No. of people viewing/accessing activity timetable.
- No. of people engaging with specific recovery activities
- Number of organisations signing up to “Recovery Friendly Aberdeen”
- No. of employers/organisations offering new opportunities (jobs/work experience) for people in recovery
- % of new job/work experience opportunities being undertaken

➤ **Balancing measures**

- No reduction in the number of people undertaking recovery based activity

Change ideas

- Develop & implement stigma e-training to be added to corporate induction process for all employees to reduce the stigma faced by those in recovery
- Provide culture based activities within the community for services users in recovery programme to enhance the use of creative activities and also provide opportunities to promote recovery/reduce stigma and develop skills to support future employment opportunities. (North Locality Plan)
- Create branded scheme to support local organisations and business to support recovery (Recovery Friendly Aberdeen) offering drug / alcohol free zones for socialisation, free access to recreation / leisure, sheltered work experience and pathways to education / employment.
- Co-design with people with lived experience Make Recovery Visible resources to tell their experience; reduce stigma and to provide opportunity to gain skills in communication/video development. (North Locality Plan)
- Co-design with people with lived experience, a resource/training for existing organisations/ community groups to provide guidance on ways to support people in recovery and pathways to refer someone for direct support where this need arises and to feedback any concerns. This is to increase the range of opportunities for someone in recovery to attend local community activities and to ensure that they have been informed by people with lived experience.
- Add recovery and harm reduction to contracts for commissioned services to provide opportunities for people in recovery and who might need to work in a more flexible manner.
- Develop an employability/education support resource/website for people in recovery to help secure future employment/education opportunities (potential for a page on ABZ website)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test whether direct communication/promotional activities targeted to businesses through different channels (social media, CPA CSR project, case studies, website page) increases the number of businesses who are providing opportunities for people in recovery and who might need to work in a more flexible manner. 															
Location/Test Group People in recovery – North and Central Localities Community Groups - North and Central Localities Commissioned Services – ACHSCP initially Recovery Friendly Aberdeen - Businesses/Organisations – City Wide															
Resources ADP has allocated funding to develop & test the change ideas.															
Potential risks and/or barriers to success & actions to address these Ongoing barriers to engagement due to COVID															
Project Team Simon Rayner, ADP, ACHSCP, ADP Paul Tytler, ACC, ACC, Locality Inclusion Manager Aberdeen In Recovery, Lived Experience Voice Maggie Hepburn - ACVO Fraser Hoggan - Aberdeen Drugs Action Adelle Still – Scottish Drugs Forum Stewart Aitken/Murray Dawson, Culture Aberdeen/SHMU Graham Donald, ACC, Community Learning and Development TBC Procurement, ACHSCP Lori Leslie, ACC Employability															
Community Ideas for Improvement Evaluation/Status <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Community Ideas for Improvement</th><th>Evaluation Rationale</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>North</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Support recovery through physical activity, music, film and other creative experiences</td><td>This aligns with the change ideas.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Support recovery through peer support and developing media skills.</td><td>This aligns with the change ideas.</td></tr> <tr> <td>South</td><td>There are no community ideas from South Locality Plan</td></tr> <tr> <td>Central</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Investigate idea of Recovery Olympics for those with lived experience.</td><td>To be explored further.</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		Community Ideas for Improvement	Evaluation Rationale	North		Support recovery through physical activity, music, film and other creative experiences	This aligns with the change ideas.	Support recovery through peer support and developing media skills.	This aligns with the change ideas.	South	There are no community ideas from South Locality Plan	Central		Investigate idea of Recovery Olympics for those with lived experience.	To be explored further.
Community Ideas for Improvement	Evaluation Rationale														
North															
Support recovery through physical activity, music, film and other creative experiences	This aligns with the change ideas.														
Support recovery through peer support and developing media skills.	This aligns with the change ideas.														
South	There are no community ideas from South Locality Plan														
Central															
Investigate idea of Recovery Olympics for those with lived experience.	To be explored further.														

Outline Project Plan		
Project Stage	Actions	Timescale
Getting Started (Project Score 1-3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project group formed • Problems and areas for improvement identified • Ideas for improvement generated • Gather baseline data for project measures and put systems in place for any data not currently gathered • Charter submitted to ADP & MG • Charter to Board 	Completed March 22 March/April 22 March 22 April 22
Designing and Testing Changes (Project Score 4-7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements prioritised and staff aligned to the various areas and changes designed • Testing to run for 2 months then review outcomes for each of the areas. • Identify changes to tests in light of study of initial testing and run test again. • Review outcomes and data on overall aim. 	May - June 22 July-Aug 22 Sept 22 Sept 22
Implementing and sustaining changes that demonstrate improvement (Project Score 7-10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree which changes to continue to embed and where changes have not approved the desired outcomes. • Aim achieved • Possible funding, resource redesign to embed changes as BAU to support continuity and sustainable improvement. 	Oct 22 Jan 23 Jan 23
Spreading Changes (Project Score 9-10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of sustained improvement • Project end report submitted • Thereafter ongoing review of the effectiveness of our approach which will be adapted as required 	April 23 May 23 Ongoing



Community Planning Aberdeen

Progress Report	Prevention Consultation
Lead Officer	Derek McGowan
Report Author	Graeme Gardner
Date of Report	17 March 2022
Governance Group	Community Planning Aberdeen Management Group 23 March 2022

Purpose of the Report

This report provides a briefing on the Prevention Consultation that is due to close on 31 March 2022 and highlights the opportunity for organisations in Community Planning Aberdeen to consider how we can work together to prevent homelessness in Aberdeen.

Summary of Key Information

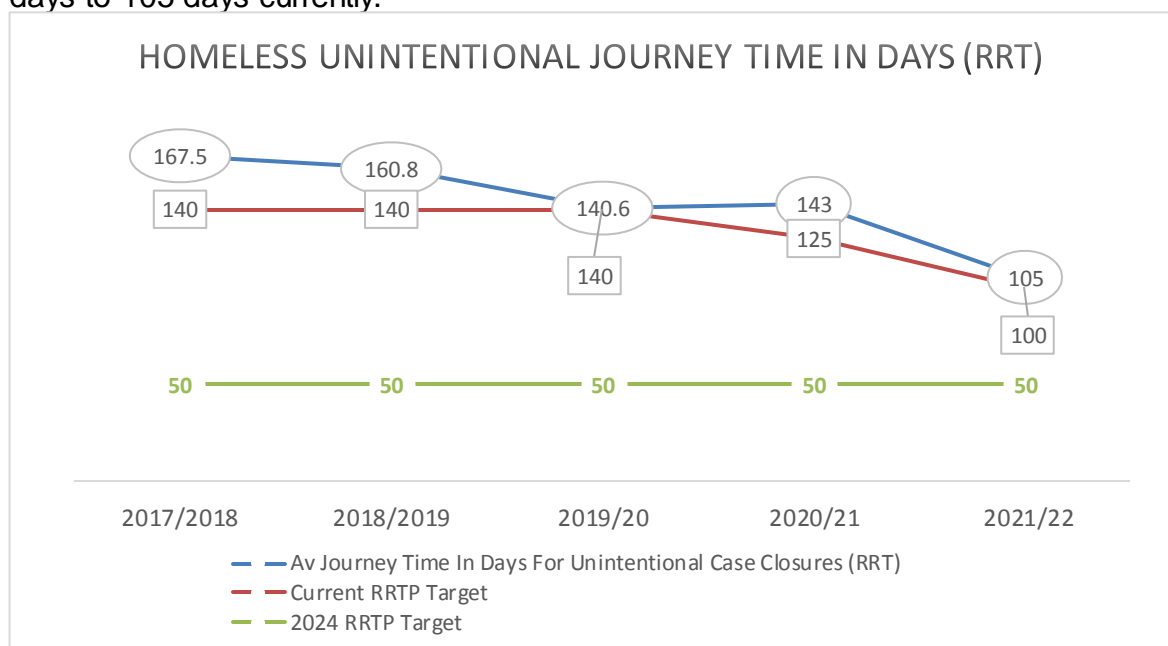
1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Scottish Government and COSLA have launched this consultation in preparation for the introduction of a new Housing Bill in 2023.
- 1.2 The consultation focuses on the recommendations of the Prevention Review Group which reported in February 2021, [Preventing Homelessness in Scotland](#). The review group was chaired by Professor Suzanne Fitzpatrick of Heriot-Watt University and included the views of those with lived experiences of homelessness.
- 1.3 The report made recommendation on two themes:
 - Duties on wider public bodies and landlords
 - Reforming the homelessness system to incentivise prevention
- 1.4 The key changes are to place duties on public bodies to “ask and act” regarding someone’s housing situation where they believe there is a risk of homelessness and to require the Council to intervene up to 6 months prior to potential homelessness, an increase from the current 2 months.

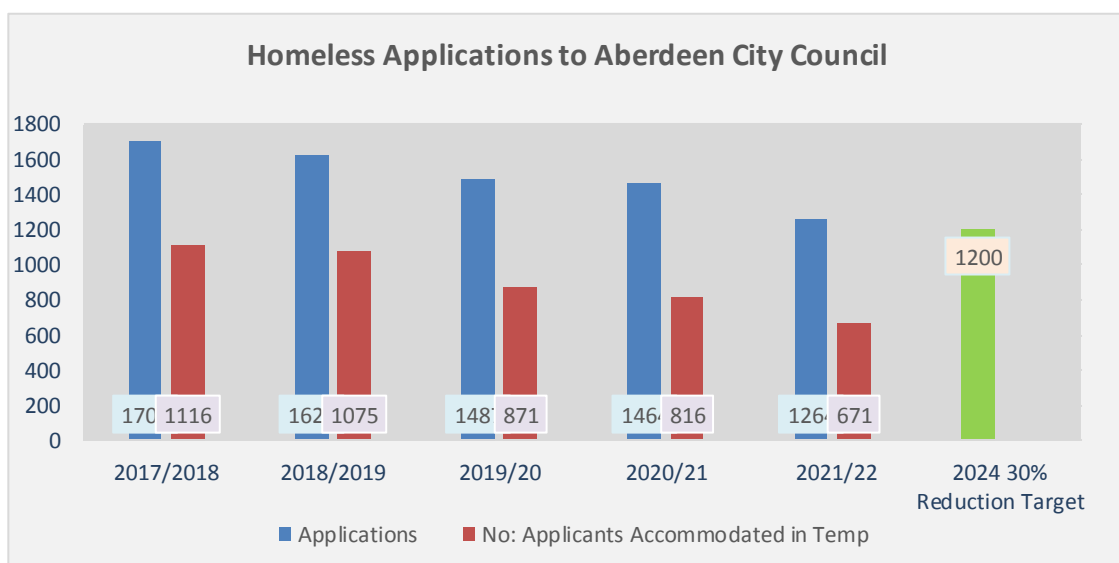
2 Prevention Consultation

- 2.1 The proposed legislation would introduce a duty on public bodies and landlords to prevent homelessness, by “asking” people they are interacting with who they think are at risk of homelessness and then “acting” on the information.

- 2.2 The proposal specifically mentions Police Scotland and GP's who will have a duty to ask about someone's housing situation and then refer to the Local Authority if they have identified a risk of homelessness.
- 2.3 It also proposes formalising joint working protocols across organisations where a person is experiencing homelessness and has complex needs and/or is to be discharged from an institution.
- 2.4 Under the proposals Community Planning Aberdeen would have to set out and establish in Locality Plans the impact of homelessness, emerging issues and joint working to address this. A Community Planning statement would also be required to be contained within the Local Housing Strategy.
- 2.5 We have been successful in Aberdeen, under our Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan, in reducing the amount of time that someone experiences homelessness from 167.5 days to 105 days currently.



- 2.6 At the same time Homeless Applications have not reduced at the same.



2.7 Many of the underlying reasons behind homelessness, and risks to potential homelessness are in common with risks to child and adult protection, health and offending. With resilience to homelessness improved by prosperous places, employment, support, social connections and reducing poverty.

2.8 Aberdeen City Council are working with Centre for Homelessness Impact to bring together a framework of indicators that would identify risk factors for homelessness. There is an appetite within the Council and the Centre to develop this across Community Planning partners to build a broad dataset of risk factors and look together at who can influence and improve resilience to homelessness for our people.

3 NEXT STEPS

3.1 To note the report and look at actions across Community Planning Aberdeen to prevent homelessness.

Recommendations for Action

It is recommended that members of the CPA Management Group:

- i) Note the report and the ongoing Consultation
- ii) Agree to a future report and discussion on how partner agencies can work to ensure the aims of the legislation are met

Opportunities and Risks

Successful delivery of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26 is reliant on strong partnership working between public, private and third sector as well as communities. Using existing practices and developing a response to homelessness across Community Partners can already happen without the need for the Scottish Government to implement this legislation.

Consultation

As part of the consultation response prepared by Aberdeen City Council colleagues in Children's Social Work, Education, Housing Strategy, Housing and Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership.

Background Papers

[Prevention of Homelessness Duties – A Joint Scottish Government and COSLA Consultation](#)

[Preventing Homelessness in Scotland - Recommendations for legal duties to prevent homelessness: A report from the Prevention Review Group](#)

See Appendix 1 – Table of recommendations

Contact details:

Name	Graeme Gardner
Title	Housing Access and Support Manager, Aberdeen City Council
Email Address	grgardner@aberdeencity.gov.uk

No.	PRG / Scottish Government Proposals	ACC / Partners already doing	Changes Required
Public Bodies			
1	Duties on public bodies to identify risk of homelessness and act on this		New Requirement for areas public bodies that are not Aberdeen City Council Housing Access and Support Service
2	Statutory duty on public bodies to prevent homelessness for anybody leaving an institution within six months?		New protocols required with NHS Grampian and armed forces
Integrated Authorities			
3	A statutory duty is placed on the Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) to identify the housing circumstances of service users, and where necessary work with partners to ensure that service users are assisted into suitable housing or that a risk of homelessness is prevented	In place	
4	that Integration Authorities should identify the housing circumstances of people using health and social care services, and where necessary work with partners to ensure that service users are assisted into suitable housing or prevent the risk of homelessness	In place	
5	Where needs are more complex, to the extent that they cannot be supported in mainstream housing even with additional support, then primary responsibility for meeting those accommodation needs should sit with the Health and Social Care Partnership	Part in place	Quicker response required to those that stay in temp accommodation while waiting for assessment/placement
6	Where a social worker or social care worker identifies a risk of homelessness, they should make a referral to the relevant part of the local authority. If they consider that there are unmet social care needs, a social care needs assessment should be carried out.	Already in place	
7	Where it is identified that an individual may have health and social care needs as part of an assessment of homelessness or threat of homelessness, or an assessment of housing support needs, a statutory duty is placed on the health and social care partnership to co-operate with the local authority in planning to meet those needs.		New Requirement
8	By working with other partners, the local authority must ensure that the service		Occurs informally at the moment – protocol

	for prevention and alleviation of homelessness is designed to meet the needs of people leaving hospital and people with mental illness or impairment.		would be required to be put in place
9	The local authority must provide assistance to anyone who is going to be discharged from hospital in the next six months and is considered as threatened with homelessness.		Occurs informally at the moment – protocol would be required to be put in place
10	GP practices should be under a requirement to refer to the local authority where a risk of homelessness is identified		New Requirement
11	<p>For people with complex needs requiring input from two or more public services to support their health or wellbeing, or to facilitate community safety, a case co-ordination approach is put in place.</p> <p>These needs would include, but not be limited to risk of homelessness; substance misuse or involvement with criminal justice, including support and services that may be provided by the health board or integration authority; other parts of the local authority; community justice partners (see section 13 Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016) and relevant third sector partners.</p> <p>a. Identification of a professional to lead on contact with the individual and coordinate service provision</p> <p>b. A means for overseeing case co-ordination to:</p> <p>i. Identify and address gaps in service provision and co-ordination for such individuals</p> <p>ii. Manage and prevent escalation of risk.</p>	Good practice already in place	Formalisation of approach needed across services.
Education / Children's Social Work (Young people)			
12	If a health visitor and head teacher identifies that there is a housing issue or a risk of homelessness for a family, they should make a request for assistance to the local authority's homelessness service		New requirement
13	Local authorities should work with partners to ensure the service meets the needs of young people at risk of homelessness. Services should be able to respond to the diversity of this group.	Specific approach to Youth Homelessness is in place in Aberdeen	

14	Local authorities should ensure that they have family mediation available as part of their homelessness prevention offer	Mediation service in place via Community Safety	
15	Young people aged 16 and 17 at risk of homelessness must be treated as children under the law and should receive assistance from children's social work, who have expertise in the needs of this group. Primary responsibility for assisting homelessness 16 and 17 year-olds should sit with social work.		New responsibility for Children's Social Work
Prison Service			
16	The Prisons and Young Offenders Institutions (Scotland) Rules 2011 are amended to ensure that: o People entering prison are asked about their housing situation as soon as reasonably possible following admission. o If people in prison are likely to need assistance to find housing for when they leave prison, a referral is made as soon as possible to the local authority identified by the individual for homelessness assistance. • Where housing issues are identified, prisons work with partners including housing options and housing associations to address the issues.	In place for ACC tenants at HMP Grampian	Will require to be expanded to all landlords and all prisons.
Court Service			
17	Local Housing Options services work with the Courts service to ensure housing options advice is easily accessible within a court setting.		New requirement
Police Service			
18	Where there is a reasonable belief that someone may be homeless, police should ask about the individual's housing circumstances. Specific circumstances may be identified in appropriate regulations or guidance, including someone rough sleeping, cases of domestic abuse or household dispute leading to possible homelessness. • Where the police identify a risk of homelessness they should make a referral to the local authority (with a corresponding responsibility on the local authority to act on the referral)		New requirement
Domestic Abuse			
19	People at risk of homelessness as a result of domestic abuse should be able to access free legal aid in order to obtain an exclusion order.	ACC Domestic Abuse and Housing policy already in place	New requirement for training for staff members on exclusion orders and security measures to help

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The definition of abuse within homelessness legislation is expanded to cover both the Protection from Abuse (Scotland) Act 2001 and the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018. • Assistance from homelessness services to prevent homelessness must include support and security measures to enable applicants to remain in their homes safely where this is their preference. • Homelessness prevention services should work with other partners to ensure they are able to meet the needs of people requiring housing assistance due to domestic abuse. • Local authorities support victims of domestic abuse to access exclusion orders. • When considering the suitability of accommodation offered to a perpetrator or victim of domestic abuse, consideration must be given to its proximity to the other party in the abuse. • Social landlords should put in place protocols to address housing issues relating to domestic abuse 		applicants stay at home
20	A local authority should accept a referral from a public body or landlord as a formal application, unless the individual states that they do not wish to make an application for assistance, or unless the local authority cannot contact the individual after making reasonable efforts		New requirement
Strategic Planning			
21	<p>Community planning partners should set out and establish in Locality Plans the impact of homelessness, emerging issues and joint working to address this. A community planning statement should be included within the Local Housing Strategy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Social Care Partnerships should set out a clear statement of their contribution to preventing homelessness within the Local Housing Strategy. • The next iteration of the National Performance Framework has an emphasis on housing which enables people to live in it (their home) successfully 	H&SCP contributions contained with the current Local Housing Strategy and the Strategic Plan and Housing Contribution Statement.	New requirement for Community Planning Aberdeen
All Social Landlords			
22	Where a social landlord identifies circumstances which may lead to a risk of homelessness, including:	Mostly already in place and will be improved	New requirement for Court process

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Rent arrears or other financial difficulty which may give rise to risk of homelessness (i.e. before difficulties have led to impending homelessness, such as eviction action or abandonment). o Tenant behaviour or action which may give rise to risk of homelessness. o Other circumstances, including domestic abuse, or court proceedings, for example, relating to criminal charges, which may give rise to a loss of accommodation due to remand or imprisonment. <p>That the social landlord must take relevant reasonable steps to mitigate that risk. Reasonable steps would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Housing management practices to sustain tenancies. o Engaging with the tenant to address relevant financial circumstances. o Engaging the tenant to address behaviour. o Putting in place protocols to address relevant circumstances and mitigate risk of homelessness at an early stage, including protocols relating to domestic abuse. o Where tenants face court proceedings 	upon by new Housing and Support role	
23	If the landlord considers the risk of homelessness for a tenant to require assistance beyond their powers, including where there is a growing risk of eviction, then they should notify the local authority as early as possible that there is a risk of homelessness		Early notification/response require to the Local Authority
Private Landlords			
24	<p>The pre-action requirements on private landlords in cases of rent arrears which were created in the emergency coronavirus legislation to provide information and put in place support for tenants in rent arrears should be made permanent.</p> <p>If the landlord agrees with tenants as part of the conversation around the preaction protocol, or in any other circumstances, the landlord may make a homelessness prevention referral to the local authority, where they are concerned that there may be an emerging risk of homelessness. A local authority must respond to a referral from a private landlord about a possible case of homelessness</p>		Only in place during COVID – proposed now permanent

25	If a local authority is assisting a person threatened with homelessness as a result of pending eviction from a private tenancy, the local authority should have a power to request that the First-tier Tribunal delay execution of an eviction order, proceeding where a landlord has failed to cooperate.		New Power for Local Authorities
26	The homelessness advice and assistance is designed to meet the needs of people living in and seeking to access the PRS.	Already in place	
Homelessness Assistance			
27	A local authority must assist anyone threatened with homelessness within the next six months		Extension from 2 months to 6 months
28	<p>Duty to take reasonable steps to secure that suitable accommodation is available, or does not cease to be available.</p> <p>The minimum statutory framework should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Housing options information, advice and advocacy o Support for landlords and tenants in the private rented sector, including landlord negotiation and assistance, rent deposit guarantee schemes and other access schemes o Welfare and debt advice and assistance o Advocacy support o Support for people experiencing domestic abuse to choose the best housing outcome, including assistance to remain safely in their own home where this is their preference o Family mediation services o Supply of furniture or similar goods o Referral to other relevant agencies 	Already in place for housing options, support for private landlords' welfare and debt advice, support for those fleeing domestic abuse and referrals.	<p>Will be required to put in place Advocacy service.</p> <p>Expansion required for supply of furniture, currently informal policy of one item through homelessness and others provided by SWF.</p> <p>Furniture Leasing Scheme only available to Council tenants.</p>
29	<p>A local authority must take into account the applicant's views as part of the statutory assessment, and try to reach agreement with the applicant on their housing needs, desired outcomes and what they advise the applicant to do to help resolve their circumstances.</p> <p>The statutory assessment should form the basis of a Personal Housing Plan agreed between the local authority and the applicant.</p>	Already in place	
30	Where an applicant has housing support needs, the local authority must assess these and make provision to meet them.	Only for those unintentionally homeless	Increase in Housing Support provision will be required.

31	The duty to take reasonable steps would end in a range of circumstances, including by securing suitable and stable accommodation (discussed in more detail below), or where it becomes apparent that the situation cannot be resolved by taking such steps. In this case the applicant is to be owed the full duty for being rehoused		Would expand the options for the LA to discharge its's duty.
32	Anyone leaving these institutions within the next six months with no accommodation arrangements in place should be considered as threatened with homelessness: o Prison or youth detention accommodation o The armed forces o Hospital – without suitable accommodation to go to		Formalisation of current arrangements required, and role out of local approach with HMP Grampian to all of Scotland.
33	Homelessness and housing options services must work with other services and voluntary sector partners to ensure that the service meets the needs of these groups, and any other that they specifically identify: o Those experiencing domestic abuse o Those going through legal proceedings which may result in the loss accommodation o Those with mental health conditions or impairments o Young people o Those facing homelessness within the private rented sector	Already in place for domestic abuse, legal proceedings, private sector and young people	Formalisation of existing approach and expansion to include those with mental health conditions or impairments
34	Local authorities should agree protocols and ways of working with relevant bodies such as social landlords, prisons, specialist domestic abuse services and other relevant services to support this work, and the Homelessness Code of Guidance should be updated to include specific instructions on this.	Currently in place	Formalisation of protocol required.
35	Assistance from homelessness services to prevent homelessness must include support and security measures to enable people experiencing domestic abuse to remain in their homes safely where this is the applicant's preference. • The definition of abuse within homelessness legislation is expanded to cover both the Protection from Abuse (Scotland) Act 2001 and the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018). • Homelessness prevention services should work with other partners to ensure they are able to meet the needs		New duty under expanded definition. Training requirements for staff regarding exclusion orders

	of people requiring housing assistance due to domestic abuse. • Local authorities support victims of domestic abuse to access exclusion orders.		
Stability and Security of Accommodation			
37	<p>The criteria for identifying appropriate housing options shifts to focus on the stability and suitability of the accommodation, with suitable safeguards. Stability: all accommodation must be expected to be available for a minimum period of 12 months.</p> <p>Stable accommodation should be defined to include to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o A Scottish secure tenancy (SST) or short Scottish secure tenancy (SSST) o Owner occupation (e.g. LIFT scheme – Low Cost Initiative for First Time Buyers) o Private Residential Tenancy (PRT) where there is an expectation that the accommodation will be available for at least 12 months, for example, through receiving an assurance from the landlord that they are not intending to sell during that time o Other forms of accommodation, for example, with a parent or a friend, where the owner/landlord has provided in writing their intention that the accommodation will be available for at least 12 months, and the local authority is satisfied with this reassurance. 		New ability for LA to discharge its' duty for accommodation which is not 'secure' but 'stable'
38	<p>All accommodation must be suitable to the needs of the household.</p> <p>Suitability will cover grounds relating to the accommodation and those relating to the household including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Affordability o The best interests of any children in the household, or for whom the individual has parental responsibility o Location and access to relevant services, employment (including future prospects, for example, where a lone parent is planning to return to work), caring responsibilities or education, family support and social networks o Needs relating to health or disability o Where abuse is a factor (domestic or otherwise), proximity to the perpetrator/victim. 		Will require changes to Council Allocation's policy to cover all elements of suitability
39	Social or private tenancy or owner occupation should be considered as		New ability for LA to discharge its' duty for

	<p>'standard' discharge. Any other form of accommodation ('nonstandard') may be considered for discharge of the duty, where these additional safeguards are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The accommodation must have appropriate facilities for settled living, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. 24-hour access ii. adequate toilet and washing facilities iii. access to kitchen facilities iv. a private bedroom v. a statement of rights and responsibilities in relation to the accommodation. • Applicants must give written consent to be discharged into a non-standard form of accommodation (i.e. they have a veto). 		accommodation which is not 'secure' but 'stable'
Right to Review / Appeal			
40	<p>There should be a comprehensive right to review which covers the following decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Decision as to whether someone is homeless or at risk of homelessness o Decision to refuse an application o Decision as to whether any accommodation secured discharges the local authority's duty to the applicant o Decision to terminate interim accommodation pending an assessment or review o A review of the accuracy of the assessment o Any decision relating to a housing support needs assessment o Decisions relating the reasonable steps a local authority may take to prevent or alleviate homelessness o Decisions to end assistance to prevent someone's homelessness o Decisions to notify another local authority under local connection criteria • Any applicant should still be able to request a review even if they have accepted an offer of accommodation 		Expanded ability to ask for review about Council decisions.
41	<p>Right to appeal: Applicants can challenge decisions through the Housing and Property Chamber of the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland. Appeal grounds should be on both points of law and the merits of a decision.</p>		Expanded ability to ask for review about Council decisions
42	<p>The Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR) should report annually on the</p>		Expanded requirements for

	experiences of households facing homelessness and the threat of homelessness as it does currently for social tenants.		Scottish Housing Regulator.
Strategic Housing Needs Assessment			
43	As part of the local authority Local Housing Strategy required under section 89 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001, an assessment should be carried out of the needs of persons in the area for housing support.		New Requirement