

Homeless Prevention Trailblazer - Briefing

Introduction

Middlesbrough Borough Council are the lead sponsor for the Tees Valley Homeless Prevention Trailblazer. There are 7 partners (5 Local authorities and 2 Social Landlords) who are collaborating across the sub-region. Thirteen Housing Group are the lead delivery service provider.

The partners include:

- Middlesbrough Borough Council (MBC)
- Thirteen Housing Group (THG)
- Hartlepool Borough Council (HBC)
- Stockton-On-Tees Borough Council (SBC)
- Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council (R&CBC)
- Coast & Country Housing (C&CH)
- Darlington Borough Council (DBC)

Aim

This project will develop a coordinated, homeless preventative pathway leading to independence, resilience and employment, for single individuals who are at risk of homelessness, either: Under 35's, or Prison Leavers from HMP's Holme House/Kirklevington Grange.

Vision

To deliver a pilot test and learn project which will seek to reduce homelessness, increase employability outcomes and increase tenancy sustainment across the Tees Valley.

Operational model

- The staffing team is comprised of a Co-ordinator who will oversee and manage the implementation and delivery of the service and a team of specialist workers who will undertake a range of tasks including: Triage and assessment, independent living, financial inclusion and employability support.
- A range of void properties across Tees Valley will be converted into a mix of shared housing and self-contained accommodation.
- A number of affordable and sustainable shared housing options will be provided for the under 35 cohort, who are at heightened risk of homelessness, due to the introduction of the local housing allowance (LHA) cap.
- The accommodation options will include the creation of: shared accommodation with short-term support, shared accommodation without support and self-contained units.
- A single point of assessment and referral will be created to receive referrals and undertake triage and strengths based assessment, supporting customers to identify their goals and develop their personal resilience plan.
- Each customer will have an affordability check undertaken and will be sign-posted to the correct products.
- A range of housing related and personalised support options will be delivered including 'tenancy and life skills training' bespoke to individual's requirements.
- Customer assessment clinics will be delivered at locations across the Tees Valley.
- Customers will be sign-posted into suitable employability provision helping to move them closer to the labour market.