

Appendix 1 – Action Plan - To end rough sleeping and begging

Aim 4 – To end rough sleeping and begging	
Outcome - no one sleeps rough and all people begging will not be homeless	
Action	Progress
Explore the development of an “Alternative Giving Scheme” which aims to reduce rough sleeping and begging	<p>Alternative Giving Scheme was agreed by SLT in March 2020.</p> <p>H.O.M.E. (Helping Other's Made Easy) was in its final stages of development as an alternative giving scheme for Rotherham, which has been developed with Shiloh and other partners.</p> <p>However, the scheme was placed on hold due to Covid 19 and the Governments campaign to get everyone in off the streets.</p> <p>The aim of the scheme is to provide more information to members of the public about services available for homeless people and a quick link to homeless charities for people to donate money, as an alternative to giving money to street beggars.</p> <p>In summary the scheme provides information online to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Education on street begging issues. 2. Inform as to what is being done to support them. 3. Details of all local providers working to help them 4. Opportunities to donate directly to any of the providers either online, or by post. <p>The project will be resumed in 2 phases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital online information – September 2021 • Poster campaign - November 2021
Ensure people have access to ongoing support if required when they move out of temporary accommodation into their own tenancy.	<p>Resettlement and Tenancy Support Officers each have a defined portfolio of temp accommodation and provide each occupant with a move on plan. This includes ongoing support to set up their new home if required.</p> <p>£380K of Government funding was successfully accessed to support rough sleepers. This enabled the further development of the Rough Sleeper</p>

	<p>Initiative Team, with additional specialist roles being established to help improve coordination and move on to settled and sustainable accommodation. The roles include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Homelessness Prevention Officer who works closely with the hospital discharge team and local prisons. • An Assertive Outreach Officer who engages with those who are rough sleeping, in order to direct them into services away from the street. • 2 Enhanced Support and Resettlement Officers who engage at all stages of an individuals' journey through services. These specialist workers are skilled at getting the necessary support to those who are most vulnerable and have the most complex needs. • 1 Rough Sleeping Co-ordinator who ensures services are interlinked, that data is accurate, reporting information is collected, blockers in an overall system are identified, changes are made as necessary during service delivery and that case plans are in place for identified individuals. <p>'First Steps' short term move on accommodation specifically for rough sleepers has been in place since 1st August 2020, providing 7 bedrooms and 1 emergency bed space (small box room).</p>
Work with partners to ensure continued advice and support for rough sleepers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly meetings are held at Shiloh. • Side by Side meetings are held quarterly. • Weekly Outreach/Advice surgeries are delivered at Hotels and at Shiloh • 'Renting Ready' courses are provided at hotels providing temporary accommodation.
Conduct quarterly rough sleeper counts and continue to undertake weekly outreach work in key locations to connect people to services	<p>Daily rough sleeper counts are being undertaken. Last year's annual return recorded 10 rough sleepers. By 12th June 2020, this had decreased to 2 rough sleepers, both of whom would not engage with services.</p> <p>As of 2 July 2021, 64 people have also been prevented from rough sleeping as they have been accommodated (48 households in hotels, 10</p>

	<p>households in Council's temporary homeless provision and 7 in First Steps.) Nationally, there has been 14,610 rough sleepers being accommodated.</p> <p>Of the 64 rough sleepers in accommodation we estimate the need for the following types of accommodation and support to move on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing First/Supported Housing with intensive support = 14 • Supported housing or housing with 'floating' support = 25 • Private Rented Sector or social housing tenancy, with start-up 'floating' support = 25
Provide outreach work in key locations.	<p>Prior to lock down outreach for rough sleepers was undertaken at Shiloh. During the Winter, members of the Homelessness Team and South Yorkshire Police step up the work to tackle homelessness.</p> <p>Members of the Rough Sleepers Team, Drugs Services and the police actively go out on an ongoing basis during the early hours to locate any rough sleepers to try and encourage them to connect with relevant help and support.</p>
Ensure there is enough capacity and support available to run SWEP (Severe Weather Emergency Protocols) all winter.	<p>In respect of accommodation the Council has an arrangement with South Yorkshire Fire Service to utilise their training room to provide a Winter night shelter for up to 8 rough sleepers. Referrals are made solely by the Homelessness Service.</p> <p>Cortonwood Come Back Centre was set up in November 2019 to accommodate 8 rough sleepers. Unfortunately, in March 2020 due to Covid restrictions, shared accommodation was suspended. We do not have any plans to restart these services at the centre once the lockdown measures are lifted. Alternative provision of a four bedroom shared house has been developed as an alternative option</p> <p>In addition, during the cold weather (not necessarily below zero) rough sleepers are offered self-contained temporary accommodation</p>

and hotel accommodation.

The team can also make referrals into Rotherham's Housing First Scheme which has 30 units for people with complex needs.