

Area for development
Joint working

Process is deemed to be too rigid which has resulted in a division of responsibilities and different front doors.

Operational Working Group

- o Review current process/protocol and explore at each point where joint working would be beneficial.
- Joint training with HAST
- Joint front door for all YP threatened with homelessness.
- Integrated gateway/Next Steps with HOT officer to support joint assessment and plans and offer housing expertise on duties and access to DHP.
- Hold regular operational partnership meetings to improve cohesiveness, information sharing, updates and training across TfC, HOT and commissioners starting with briefing on the HRA legislation changes and duties.
- Assessment plan sent to HOT via the professional referral address.
- Personal advisers attend initial HRA (homeless) application meeting.

September 2018

September 2018

Operational group to be established looking at delivering joint working area for development. This group will meet on a monthly basis and report back to the strategic group. Membership of the group will be:

Joan Reed
Gill Welsh / Justin Collins
Andrea Solomon / Josh Barr
Ron Hamilton
Laura Johnstone / Emma Stewart

Weekly panels - a member of staff from the Housing Options Team to be invited to sit on these young persons panels. They occur every Wednesday. Representative is Leanne Riddell from HOT.

The actions from the workshop have highlighted that the biggest in terms of tenancies is affordability.

- An action plan from the workshop, including timelines, to be prepared and circulated to this group.

Complete

Complete

Complete - the Joint Protocol was presented to the working group on 30 May for approval. This was agreed with some amendments and reformatting. It was further agreed that the final draft be presented to the senior management teams in both TFC and Neighbourhoods, with advice being sought as to whether or not it should be presented to Cabinet for final approval and adoption.

Data and intelligence relating to homeless young people

There is no joined up data currently available across TfC, HOT and Adult services to inform commissioning and no forum to jointly understand and monitor need or outcomes. There is no joint commissioning between TfC, Adults and HOT.

Data on 18 - 25 year olds has now been produced.

Task and Finish Group

Spreadsheet to be mapped and recording formally agreed and how this is reported internally.

Complete a youth homelessness housing needs assessment for YP. Collating data from the current cohort regarding age, types and levels of need, along with similar data from other cohorts such as younger looked after children to gain current and future picture of support and provision needed in Sunderland. Also include the underlying causes of homelessness.

Create a regular young person's accommodation forum and support commissioning forum with TFC, HOT, Adults to agree and review data collection, outcomes and needs of homeless young people and those threatened with homelessness.

Dec-18

A task and finish group to be convened to look at the collection and analysis of data relating to young people. This group will meet on a fortnightly basis. Membership of the group will be:

Gill Lawson / Liz McEvoy
Leanne Riddell / Justin Collins
Julie Lynn
Josh Barr
Jane Wheeler
Ruth Neasham

The data collection for 18+ is available. However, TFC still need to identify a way in which they can reliably capture all the information for 16-17 year olds who present as homeless.

Consideration to be given to including a tab in LiquidLogic which can be used to record both young people who present as homeless to their social worker and also those who come in through Next Steps. This would give a more accurate picture of 16-17 year olds who are homeless. J Lynn to raise the issue with TfC in meeting on 1 February.

A request to be submitted to get the Housing Options Team access to both children and adults LiquidLogic.

Amber - TfC have agreed that as part of the project to reconfigure LiquidLogic a tab will be created to record homelessness which should allow reports to be written from LiquidLogic. This should allow recording by both Next Step and Locality Social Workers.

Complete - training has been given and officers in the Housing Options Team can now access Adults LiquidLogic.

Amber - However, permission is still to be given for the Children's system.

Joint commissioning and sourcing of supported accommodation for homeless YP	TfC about to start commissioning .	Emma Stewart TfC, Ann Dingwall Adults, Liz McEvoy, Gill Lawson Housing	Meeting/discussion with HOT, Adult, TfC to explore joint commissioning. Housing related floating support - targetted at supporting vulnerable young people, including those previously on the edge of care, those aged 18 - 25 who Housing are working with to support them to develop and maintain positive, independent living skills. Emergency accommodation including crash pad provision pending CIN assessment.		A meeting is scheduled for 13.09.18 to discuss whether the current specification can be changed to support those on the "Edge of Care". The issue of making this service available to non-Looked After. Consider if the providers can be requested to offer up a range of beds rather than a specified number. Clarification on the length of the contract - is it 3 years with an extension built in? Provision being made for 16-17 year olds presenting as homeless, however what is being done for the 18-21 age group?	Four days have been set aside from 29 January for the evaluation of tenders for the supported accommodation contracts. A young person has been invited to be part of the assessment panel.	Complete
Preventing homelessness	Focus is on providing accommodation rather than trying to prevent evictions	Gill Welsh Housing/Andrea Solomon TfC	Create opportunities and incentivise future planned moves and not focus too early on accommodation and offer of S20. Increase capacity for on the day home visits in every case.	Jan-19	In terms of capacity for home visits, this may be able to be picked up following the recruitment of additional staff members within the Housing Options Team. GW to progress with A Solomon.	An officer of the Housing Options Team has been shadowing a social worker from Next Steps. There are implications regarding a resource for these to continue happening.	Complete
Transition with Adult Social Care	Sunderland currently has a multi-agency protocol and pathway in place, setting out a shared vision for supporting children and young people with disabilities to prepare for adulthood. A Multi-Agency Transition Management Group meets on a monthly basis to discuss and coordinate identified cases, in order to ensure a smooth transition for young people with disabilities and/or social care needs, as defined under the Care Act 2014.	Eirini Zochiou (Team Manager, Adult Social Care)	Existing Transition protocol to be reviewed (Multi- agency preparing for adulthood protocol & pathway for Children and Young People with SEND) in order to ensure a robust approach to Homelessness reduction. Review to be informed by the Prevention of homelessness and provision of accommodation for 16 and 17 year old young people who may be homeless and/or require accommodation guidance.	Sep-18	Complete - however a further, more in-depth review, including the structure is being undertaken. EZ will keep this group informed of any changes and ask for input as and when required.	The protocol has been circulated to the attendees of the Transition Magement Group for final comments. A meeting is planned for Tuesday 12 February for final sign off.	Complete
Review of Allocations Policy	Currently young people leaving care are being routed down the homeless route via professional referral to get priority for Gentoo's Home Hunt scheme.	Liz McEvoy, Housing Manager	Care leavers and children aged 16/17 who are not looked afetr but are in need, to have priority allocation banding with the Council and gentoo's Home Hunt but only when they are ready to live independently.	Jan-19	Complete - following discussions with Gentoo, young people will no longer need to be classed as homeless to be allocated housing. They will be given Band 2 priority with Gentoo and will therefore not have to be assessed as being homeless.	Previous comments raised by LM have been forwarded to L Langman (as the Lead) to ensure they are included in the final version.	Complete
Communications with Young People	Neither TfC or LA website provides homelessness information or advice for parents, YP or care leavers. The HRA has introduced additional duties to provide universal advisory service including YP. Care leavers are a named group and a LA must provide specific information.	Sharon Willis (Service Manager Children's Homes) Gill Welsh HOT	Next Steps and HOT work with YP to design how general information is provided. Explore different media, including short videos. Provide practical self help information for YP and their families or carers, including care leavers along with early contact support to prevnt crisis later on.	Feb-19	This work is ongoing. Josh TfC has produced a draft which is with HOT for comment. HOT drafting advice for young homeless people outside of the care system.		Complete
Explore funding opportunities		TfC Gill Lawson Housing	Explore, Flexible Homeless Support Grant, Homeless Prevention Grant, TfC and Adults Commissioning funding.	Mar-19	To be progressed.	Bids for funding have been submitted Regional Rough Sleeper Fund (16 bed) Changing Lives regional bid for £250,000	Complete - bids were successful

HAST Workshop

HAST Workshop

L McEvoy - Housing

Offer made from HAST to run a workshop in Sunderland. This has been scheduled to take place on 2 October from 10.00 - 3.00.

Oct-18

This session will be aimed at opertional staff from HOT and Next Steps. SW has proposed that providers be invited, she will send invitations to the appropriate organisations.
The focus of the workshop will be a summary of the session held in Newcastle and good practice around the UK, following this working groups will focus on prevention, joint working, particularly around how young peope enter the service.

Complete

