



City of **Stoke-on-Trent**

Directorate of Housing, Regeneration and Operations

Draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy

2025 - 2030

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Foreword:

I am proud to introduce Stoke-on-Trent City Council's new Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025-2030, which sets out our vision and priorities to prevent and reduce homelessness in all its guises in the city over the next 5 years.

Everybody deserves to have a safe place they can call home, yet still we see that a significant number of our residents find themselves either without a home or living in insecure accommodation.

Homelessness is a multifaceted issue, reaching far beyond a simple lack of housing. The exact cause of a person's homelessness is invariably rooted in a complex interplay of situations and events, sometimes following the effects of national issues such as the cost of living crisis and housing pressures; or being due to experiences of personal trauma and loss or a combination of all of these factors.

At a national and local level, there are simply not enough affordable homes available to those who are on the lowest incomes. A reducing supply of social housing and supported accommodation over the last decade has left people largely reliant on the private rented sector as their only viable option. However, even that is becoming increasingly inaccessible for many.

Our new Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy does not shy away from the challenges we are facing. Closely aligned to the core values within our Corporate Plan; "Our Strategy, Our Wellbeing", it seeks to address poverty and hardship in the City, ensure decent homes for all and support people to live independently.

This new Strategy recognises that homelessness can often be predicted but this doesn't mean it should be inevitable. As we look to the future, I strongly believe that with the energy, passion and dedication to the cause that so often radiates from our city, we can collectively make durable and effective changes to prevent and reduce homelessness of all kinds.

Introduction:

The Homelessness Act 2002 mandates all local housing authorities to publish a Homelessness Strategy every 5 years in consultation with local partners and stakeholders. The Strategy must set out how the authority will prevent and reduce homelessness and provide support to those affected by it.

People with experience of homelessness are not a homogenous group and their needs and life experiences rarely follow the same path. Throughout this Strategy, the term "homeless" includes people who;

- are sleeping rough;
- are at risk of losing their accommodation;
- have been illegally evicted from their accommodation;

- are living in temporary or insecure supported accommodation;
- are statutorily homeless and seeking assistance with their housing from the local authority and;
- are considered to be 'hidden homeless', such as those who are 'sofa-surfing' with friends or relatives houses.

This Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy links in to the council's "Our Strategy, Our Wellbeing" Strategic Plan 2024-2028, with particular focus on 3 of the corporate strategic aims:

A Healthier City	By preventing homelessness and tackling rough sleeping, improving housing quality and helping people to live independently at home.
A Safer City	By bringing empty homes back into use, supporting people who are sleeping rough into accommodation that meets their needs, supporting victims of domestic abuse and dealing with unlawful encampments in the City
A Fairer City	By allocating social housing in accordance with the Allocations Policy, supporting care leavers to make the transitions into their own tenancies, supporting families at risk of or experiencing homelessness and ensuring a sustainable response to the settlement of asylum seekers and refugees in the City.

In addition to the Corporate Strategy, this Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy also ties in with other local strategies:

"Place to Be" – Adult Services Strategy 2023-2026	Ensuring vulnerable adults are supported to live their lives well is a key focus of this Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy, which corresponds with the vision of the Place to Be Strategy
Community Safety Strategy – 2024-2027	The Community Safety Strategy has four key priorities. Anti-Social Behaviour is the main priority, which relates to this Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy, as ASB was highlighted as a significant area for action in the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Review
Domestic Abuse Strategy Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent	The current Domestic Abuse Strategy is being reviewed. There are four priority areas within the Strategy, of which two relate to this Homelessness and Rough Sleeping

2021-2024: “Breaking the Cycle of Domestic Abuse”	Strategy: Provision of services and Provision of Safe Accommodation
Stoke-on-Trent Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2025¹	This Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy links in to many priority areas of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy , including Developing Well into Adulthood, Supporting People to Maintain Independence, Promoting Good Mental Health, Building Strong Communities, Living in a Healthy Home Environment and Supporting Sustainable Employment, Skills and Local Economy.
“Room to Grow” Children and Young People’s Strategy	This Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy has highlighted Children and Families as priority areas for action and as such, relates directly to several of the key objectives within the Council’s Children and Young People’s Strategy .

It is fundamentally acknowledged that homelessness is everybody’s problem. With this in mind, this Strategy takes a radically different approach to tackling the issue of homelessness and sets out the collective vision and priorities of the City Council, its partner agencies and residents over the coming 5-years, which we believe will instil homelessness prevention as a core value, thereby reducing homelessness and ensuring rough sleeping is rare, short-lived and non-recurring.

Vision:

A city where everyone has a safe and secure place to call home.

¹ A refreshed Health and Wellbeing Strategy is currently being developed and will be reflected in the final version of this strategy

Priorities:

1. **Prevention:** To raise the priority of homelessness prevention within the city. To embed robust pathways through early intervention to identify and prevent crisis situations
2. **Innovative Intervention:** To intervene to relieve homelessness and tackle rough sleeping quickly, by exploring new and innovative ways to make best use of the accommodation options we have available in the city to ensure households have prompt access to appropriate accommodation.
3. **Focus on Support:** To ensure those most vulnerable to homelessness, including single people and families with children, have the right level of support tailored to their needs within appropriate and secure accommodation

Context:

The impact of homelessness and rough sleeping is felt across public and voluntary sectors and within local communities alike. The last five years has seen several national policy and socio-economic developments, including the embedding of the Homelessness Reduction Act (2017), the Covid Pandemic of 2020 and the current cost of living crisis, each of which have had a significant impact on homelessness and rough sleeping. Despite significant financial investment and strategic pledges from Government over recent years, homelessness is still increasing across the country and as such, the fundamental question becomes ever more significant; what more can be done collectively at a local level to prevent and reduce this complex issue?

Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Review 2024:

A review of homelessness and rough sleeping in Stoke-on-Trent was completed in September 2024, which assessed the current and likely future state of homelessness within the City; mapped out the existing and likely future structure of homelessness prevention provision and outlined the resources available to deliver homelessness and rough sleeping services in the area. The Review will inform future commissioning approaches based on up to date intelligence.

There are several key factors, which have an impact on homelessness in different localities across the country. Stoke-on-Trent still suffers today from the significant post-industrial decline of the pottery industry and although it is not unique in this situation, other poor economic and social structures (as identified in the Indices of Deprivation) combine to exacerbate problems locally.

The 2021 Census and more recent data from the Annual Population Survey 2022, reveal that the adult population of Stoke-on-Trent is significantly more likely to be classified within a “low socio-economic” group, which includes people who are in routine, unskilled occupations and those who have never worked and are long-term unemployed.

Some key statistics highlighted within the Review include:

- There were almost 4,000 people sleeping rough on a single night across the UK in November 2023
- There are estimates of around 300,000 people who are hidden from statistics in temporary shelters, ‘sofa surfing’, or unsuitable accommodation in the UK
- The most common reasons for people losing their accommodation in Stoke-on-Trent in 2024 are ‘family and friends no longer willing to accommodate’ and ‘loss of a private rented tenancy’
- The number of homelessness enquiries to the local authority has increased by almost 16% over the last 5 years
- Since the implementation of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017, single adults who are owed a statutory duty now dominate homelessness duties accepted, which can mask the prevalence of homeless families, the number of which is also increasing.
- The number of households on the Local Authority Housing Register has increased by 38% over the last 4 years to over 3,000.
- In 2023/24, more than 19,500 people were supported through Food Banks in Stoke-on-Trent, with 8161 vouchers being issued to people in need.
- Just under 1500 people moved into Supported Housing services in 2023/24, of which a quarter were aged under 25.
- There were 1789 people on waiting lists for supported housing provision in 2024
- The number of Children in Care has increased by 47% over the last 10 years and research shows that Children in Care are at a heightened risk of becoming homeless within the first two years after leaving care.
- There were 44 people on the Rough Sleeper Caseload at the time of writing the report, of which 30 (68%) were long-term rough sleepers. Women now account for around 30% of all rough sleepers locally, a figure which has doubled in the last 5 years
- Women’s homelessness is often under-reported and commonly linked to several forms of abuse

- There is a high degree of mental ill-health and substance dependency amongst homeless populations, although younger people tend to need greater support to stay safe and build confidence.

Performance data and statutory homeless figures provide a useful indicator as to the reasons why people lose their accommodation, but in reality, they tend to highlight the event which happened immediately prior to becoming homeless, rather than providing any insight into its root cause. As such, whilst recognising that statistics play a crucial role in profiling homelessness, the Review complements those figures with relevant narrative from local and national research in order to provide a more comprehensive assessment.

Achievements during the Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020 - 2025:

There have been several significant legislative, environmental and socio-economic developments since the last Homelessness Review was carried out, each of which has had a profound influence on levels of homelessness and associated support services.

Despite the challenges and uncertainties faced across Stoke-on-Trent over the last 5 years, there have been several positive developments and achievements in homelessness prevention and relief during the lifetime of the previous Strategy, including:

- The strength of partnership working in the City, together with the implementation of a wide range of projects and initiatives, flowing from the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Plan 2020-2025, has consistently placed Stoke-on-Trent amongst the top performing local authorities in the country in relation to homelessness prevention and relief².
- £20m of funding secured for multiple rough sleeping initiatives
- 74 new bed spaces created for people sleeping rough through the Rough Sleeper Accommodation Program (RSAP), Accommodation for Ex-Offenders (AfEO) and Single Homeless Accommodation Program (SHAP)
- “Hanley Connects” homelessness hub launched, with over 1000 customers supported in the first 6 months
- 1,014 people supported off the streets through the work of the Rough Sleeper Service and the Rough Sleeper Coordinator

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/homelessness-statistics>

- 1,927 people moved into Housing Related Support Services, with 85% making a planned departure
- Changing Futures Program launched in September 2022 focusing on systems change and improving outcomes for adults experiencing multiple disadvantage
- New roles created within the Housing Solutions Team to help provide focus around rough sleeping, hospital discharge, prison release and move on from supported housing.
- Measures to improve access to Private Rented Sector including the Local Lettings Scheme, Landlord Incentives, Rent Guarantor and Bond Scheme providing 180 bonds over the last 4 years
- Launch of the Pre- eviction Protocol with Supported Housing providers in November 2023
- New Supported Housing Contracts commissioned (Destination: Home and Domestic Abuse Sanctuary and Safe Accommodation Service)
- Launch of the Homeless Healthcare Service, with more than 300 consultations every month for around 120 individuals.
- Employment of a Mental Health Senior Support Worker, providing assertive outreach for up to 12 rough sleepers at a time.
- Specific Rough Sleeper Drug & Alcohol Support, funding through OHID
- Adoption of the Homelessness Charter
- Launch of the Supported Housing Improvement Program (SHIP), to tackle the challenge of unregulated providers.

Engagement and Co-Production:

Partner agencies across the city, colleagues from other Council departments and Expert Citizens all fed into the production of the Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Review, to ensure that the information contained within is accurate and provides a rounded picture of homelessness in the city informed by the voice of lived experience.

The first stage of the consultation process was a Homelessness Summit in March 2024. The Summit was led by Expert Citizens, a local Community Interest Company providing a voice of Lived Experience in the City, and asked the first important questions about the current state of homelessness in the City. 100 people attended the summit in total, with representation from supported housing services, drug and alcohol services, young people's support services, housing providers, commissioning, health services and people with lived experience of homelessness. The group was asked to discuss where they felt the gaps remained in service provision, what the anticipated solutions were to bridge those gaps and what people

felt the priorities to address homelessness should be over the coming 5-year period. The discussions from the Summit formed the foundation for the first draft of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Review.

The second stage of the process was to present the draft Review document to stakeholders and the public, with an ask to contribute further evidence as required. As part of this process, the document was published on the City Council's website, together with a short questionnaire and promoted via social media, reaching out to support agencies, members of the public and service users across the city. People were asked for their overall perspective on the findings of the Review and the challenges which have been identified so far.

In addition to the web-based questionnaire, there were also 4 online discussion sessions with stakeholders from across the City, as well as 3 separate in-person consultation events held with people with lived experience of homelessness. All of these group discussion sessions used the website questionnaire as the basis to facilitate informed group conversations on the Review.

The findings from the Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Review 2024, combined with feedback gained during each stage of the consultation process, then informed the production of a draft Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025-2030, which was then subject to a final period of public consultation to ascertain whether the local authority has reflected the evidence base available and has listened to the community voice when determining future priorities for the city.

Objectives and Priorities:

Priority 1: To raise the priority of homelessness prevention within the city.

Effective homelessness prevention involves a fundamental understanding of the issues which can lead to a household losing their home, the adoption of clear strategies to identify who is at risk of homelessness in the city, with varying levels of focus and ultimately, the provision of robust intervention measures such as expert advice, mediation, advocacy and negotiation before the household reaches a crisis point.

Homelessness prevention can sometimes require substantial investment in the short-term in order to achieve significant benefits in the longer-term, but because that investment is preventing the use of reactive, emergency provision, the actual monetary savings can often be difficult to quantify.

One of the most prominent messages emerging from research and from the consultation process for this Strategy is that the prevention of homelessness is critical, both at a financial and humane level and it should be central to future decision making.

There is a good amount of prevention work already taking place in the City, however, through this Strategy we will seek to expand and embed that activity, offering a more targeted approach and providing timely support for vulnerable people, including; young people and Care Leavers; vulnerable families and people in transition from prison and hospital with no fixed abode, with a focus on early intervention before minor issues escalate into a crisis.

Working in partnership with public and voluntary sectors, community and faith groups and residents across Stoke-on-Trent, this Strategy seeks to:

- Establish a set of robust indicators which will help to identify cases where early intervention could prevent the occurrence of homelessness. This will require effective joint working between Housing Services, Prison and Probation Services, NHS Services, the Stoke-on-Trent Family Matters Programme and Children and Family Services
- Invest in effective pathways for different groups of people, to provide the right advice, mediation, advocacy and negotiation for those households identified through early intervention measures
- Use the findings from the Supported Housing Needs Assessment to commission adequate provision of supported accommodation within the City, where eviction into homelessness is not an option
- Strengthen partnerships with private sector landlords to encourage better communication channels and greater levels of support, particularly following the enactment of the Renter's Rights Bill 2024.
- Deliver education, training and awareness of homelessness campaigns across the city, including Family Hubs, Community Lounges, Schools and Local Businesses, which will increase knowledge and recognition of the potential precursors of homelessness and the next steps people can take
- Draw on expertise from Community Psychologists to develop and launch education and skills training packages for people at risk of homelessness, which will help people to manage tenancies and understand the requirements of modern living.
- Focus on young people, particularly Looked After children, to address the challenges they face with regards to their future housing and work with Children and Family Services to invest in measures to prevent escalation into homelessness
- Develop a cross sector workforce strategy focused on promoting housing and homelessness as a career of choice including recognising and developing professional qualifications, supporting staff working in challenging environments and valuing and enhancing the role of faith, voluntary and community services.

How will we measure success?

- Nobody is homeless when they leave a state institution such as prison, hospital or the care system
- Everyone, who is known to be at an increased risk of homelessness or rough sleeping, receives the right support, advice, mediation and advocacy to prevent the occurrence of homelessness
- Education and training packages are available for businesses, Schools, Family Hubs and Community Lounges around homelessness and its impacts
- Education and skills training packages are available to people who are at risk of homelessness
- The right supported accommodation option is available for everyone who needs it, when they need it

Priority 2: Use innovative interventions to relieve homelessness and rough sleeping quickly

Although Stoke-on-Trent remains one of the more affordable areas in the country, the cost of housing, including rising rent levels and household bills, is arguably one of the biggest pressures facing people on low incomes, people in receipt of welfare support and those who are “economically inactive”, which combined makes up a significant proportion of the city’s population.

The number of applicants on Stoke-on-Trent’s Housing Register has increased by 38% in the last 2 years and the number of void properties has decreased by more than half since 2020. This partly reflects a 13% reduction in Council stock over the last decade, but is also a reflection on people’s inability or willingness to move, due to the cost of living pressures or the lack of suitable alternative accommodation. Housing Association stock has grown by 15% over the last 10 years, but starting from a relatively low number originally and at a time of increasing demand, still represents a net loss of housing options in the city. Whilst the City has seen an increase of around 5,700 new homes within the private sector over the last 10 years, a large proportion of this remains inaccessible for households on a low-income. There are currently 126 units of floating or resettlement support and 492 units of

accommodation-based support commissioned in the city, however, pathways into and out of supported accommodation are limited by a lack of move on options. All of these factors are placing intense pressure on the available accommodation in the city.

Increasing the overall supply of affordable housing across all sectors, including social and private rented and supported accommodation, needs to sit within a large-scale national programme of housing development³ and as such, it is beyond the scope of Stoke-on-Trent's Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy in isolation to find definitive resolutions to the problem. However, there is an opportunity for the Local Authority to explore new and innovative ways to diversify and make the best use of the accommodation options which are available.

This priority is about working across the sectors to make best use of what already exists, such as bringing empty homes back into use and increasing the availability of accessible, affordable social and private rented accommodation in the city. In partnership with public and voluntary sectors, community and faith groups and residents across Stoke-on-Trent, this Strategy seeks to:

- Invest in new approaches to reach out to “hidden homeless” households and ensure effective accommodation pathways are available
- Work with partners to increase the supply of suitable, affordable accommodation that meets the needs of all households vulnerable to homelessness across all tenures in the City and provides a robust pathway from emergency, short term into supported accommodation where appropriate and ultimately into suitable, long term settled housing.
- Work with Registered Providers to increase the number of nominations for homeless households and those on the Housing Register
- Engage with private sector landlords to increase the accessibility and availability of private rental properties for homeless and vulnerable households
- Continue to provide a proactive rough sleeping outreach service and deliver an Everyone In/ Bed Every Night approach for entrenched rough sleepers linked to daytime support to divert individuals away from damaging street activity

³ Source: The Kerslake Commission Report: [Turning the Tide on Homelessness](#) (2023)

- Work with Adult Social Care and Health to provide step-down accommodation for people being discharged from hospital that have no fixed abode or are unable to return home and specialist accommodation for those with enduring support needs
- Work with Children and Family Services to establish a clear pathway for Care Leavers into accommodation well in advance of them reaching their 18th birthday
- Review the Council's Allocations Policy to ensure accommodation is allocated to those most in need
- Establish 'Tenancy Ready' approaches to support across all sectors

How will we measure success?

- A greater number of people with multiple and complex needs can access housing that is appropriate to their needs and is sustainable.
- Housing Waiting Lists are decreased
- The Private Rented Sector is a viable option for people on low incomes
- Fewer people are sleeping rough and when it does occur it is brief and non-recurring
- Fewer Care Leavers are homeless
- More homelessness cases are resolved at the prevention stage rather than at the relief or main duty stages
- Fewer households especially families and children are placed in temporary accommodation and reduce our reliance on bed & breakfast establishments

Priority 3: To focus on the right level of support before, during and after homelessness

Whilst it is acknowledged that homelessness can affect anyone, there are some people who require more specialist support. The challenge is how to ensure the most vulnerable residents in the community, especially those experiencing multiple disadvantage, have the right support, tailored to their needs, whilst keeping sight of

the fact that everyone who experiences homelessness and rough sleeping is experiencing stressful and difficult times.

Young people, particularly Care Leavers, are vulnerable to homelessness and rough sleeping and often have different routes into homelessness than adults. They can often face distinct structural disadvantages such as higher risks of poverty, insecure employment and discrimination in the housing market. Young People who are single and who have never been in the Care system can also be subject to lower levels of Local Housing Allowance and Universal Credit. The right level of support is critical to the success of the transition from the parental home to more independent living and in cases where that support is missing or has failed, there is a greater risk of chronic homelessness and multiple disadvantage in later life.

Stoke-on-Trent has taken some positive steps, with the continued employment of two dedicated Young Person Housing Needs Officers and one commissioned housing related support service for homeless families. However, a renewed focus is needed to establish what the support network looks like for young people, Care Leavers and Homeless Families and how we can improve that support.

The use of Temporary Accommodation is at a record high across the country and at a local level. Homeless families account for a large proportion of the figures, with the number of children in Bed and Breakfast (B&B) accommodation, amounting to the highest on record. National statistics report that over 6,000 family households were in temporary accommodation across the West Midlands in March 2024. Of those, 850 were placed in Bed & Breakfast. In Stoke-on-Trent, there were 20 families with children in B&B accommodation in March 2024.

Homelessness, particularly rough sleeping, is harmful and potentially dangerous to anyone, but women can carry the added burden of gender-based violence and abuse before, during and after their experiences. There are currently a number of services in Stoke-on-Trent which are commissioned specifically for women, including the women's refuge, providing housing related support services for women fleeing domestic abuse and the Snow Hill provision within the Destination: Home single homeless service. The Council also commissions the Adult Sex Worker Support Service which, although commissioned for all adults who engage in sex work irrespective of gender, supports a service user group comprising almost entirely females. There is, however, a need for more specialist women's services to deliver a more gender specific approach to rough sleeping that is responsive to the differing routes into and out of homelessness.

Multiple exclusion homelessness is a severe form of disadvantage involving often long-term, entrenched homelessness, substance misuse, mental ill-health, involvement with the criminal justice system and activities such as begging or street drinking. Complex issues often stem from adverse childhood experiences and, without the right care and support, can often develop into self-medicating substance misuse and either consequent or contributory mental health problems. This, often

coupled with significant social exclusion, can then lead to a substantial difficulty in the provision of effective support services to reduce and prevent homelessness. A system wide, integrated approach is needed to ensure that there is a range of linked services available to meet the needs of those with highly complex needs.

In partnership with public and voluntary sectors, community and faith groups and residents across Stoke-on-Trent, this Strategy seeks to:

- Develop and embed a partnership approach to providing more targeted, specialist support for adults with multiple disadvantage, to help establish a clear pathway from homelessness into sustainable housing building on the learning from the Changing Futures programme
- Use the findings of the Supported Housing Needs Assessment to ensure an adequate supply of high quality, fit for purpose supported accommodation within the City including rebalancing the provision of larger hostels and dispersed accommodation and the provision of specialist accommodation for vulnerable groups based on a Housing First approach.
- Implement a single integrated referral and assessment process that ensures access to Housing, Social Care, Substance misuse, Mental Health and Health services for those who need them based on a “No Wrong Door”, one team approach and effective short term interventions for people new to homelessness or rough sleeping
- Work closely with Police, Anti-Social Behaviour Teams and Probation Services to embed effective rehabilitative support for people who are homeless or rough sleeping and exhibiting offending behaviour.
- Review the Domestic Abuse Needs Assessment and Safe Accommodation Needs Assessment to ensure sufficient support is provided for victims of domestic abuse and their families within appropriate accommodation.
- Engage with the work of the Family Matters programme and Children’s Services to reach out to communities, understand what the support network looks like for homeless families, young people and Care Leavers and commission more accommodation options as required
- Provide a range of meaningful daytime activities linked to night time support and accommodation providing pathways into volunteering, employment, education and training for people experiencing and recovering from homelessness building on the success of the Hanley Connects Hub

How will we measure success?

- Fewer people are sleeping rough, especially those classed as entrenched or returning

- There is less crime and anti-social behaviour linked to homelessness and rough sleeping in our town centres
- Appropriate and sufficient supported accommodation and targeted support is commissioned specifically for people experiencing multiple disadvantage
- Appropriate and sufficient supported accommodation and targeted support is commissioned specifically for homeless families, young people and Care Leavers
- There is more supported Safe Accommodation and targeted support commissioned specifically for vulnerable women

Resources and Capacity:

We can never stipulate a precise financial value, which would resolve all forms of homelessness due to its multi-faceted complexity. However, on a national level, almost £1bn is being invested into council budgets across the country to help break the cycle of spiralling homelessness:

Over £633 million	Homelessness Prevention Grant – of which, £192 million is to increase prevention initiatives
£185.6 million	Rough Sleeping Prevention and Recovery Grant – Consolidating Rough Sleeping Initiatives (RSI) and Accommodation for Ex-Offenders (AfEO) programmes
£53.7 million	Rough Sleeping Drug and Alcohol Treatment Grants
£37 million	Ongoing support for Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programmes (RSAP)
£10 million	Changing Futures Programme

There are both financial and human resources available within Stoke-on-Trent, which will help to deliver the priorities outlined within this Strategy and ultimately have a positive impact on homelessness levels across the City. The Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Review provides a detailed synopsis of all resources available at a local level.

Governance:

The Homelessness Reduction Board provides a multi-agency approach to addressing homelessness issues in Stoke-on-Trent. The Board strengthens partnership working and helps us continue to make improvements to homelessness services in the city.

The Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Review 2024 helps us to understand the issues that lead to homelessness in the city and the Strategy sets out our approach to meeting the challenges. A whole system approach is required in order to address these issues.

The delivery of this Strategy will be enabled with a robust and dynamic action plan, which will be owned at strategic level by the Homelessness Reduction Board, providing six monthly updates to senior Council Officers and elected members. Performance against objectives will be delivered and measured at an operational level via the Homelessness Forum.

DRAFT