



Housing Support Grant Delivery Plan 2022-2025

2024 update

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1 INTRODUCTION

The Welsh Government requires local authorities to produce a three-year Housing Support Grant (HSG) Delivery Plan 2022-2025 to complement the publication of a four-year Housing Support Programme Strategy 2022-2026. The Plan sets out how Newport City Council intends to deliver the relevant strategic priorities identified in the Housing Support Programme Strategy, and any ongoing general Housing Support Grant delivery requirements, including spending and commissioning intentions for the year ahead. The Plan is up-dated annually.

The purpose and scope of the Plan covers the following areas:

- A summary of the Needs Assessment undertaken to identify gaps in provision or changes needed to existing services.
- Delivery priorities to enable the strategic priorities to be delivered over the next three years.
- A summary of wide-ranging stakeholder engagement
- An equalities impact assessment
- Annual HSG Spend Plans
- Commissioning Plan 2022-2025
- An outline of Homelessness Statutory Duties

The delivery priorities set out in this plan are based on the nine strategic priorities contained in the HSG Strategy 2022-2026 plus general and ongoing Housing Support Grant delivery requirements. The strategic priorities are as follows:

SP1: Move to adopt a Rapid Re-housing approach.

SP2: Strengthen and expand access to mental health support provision to meet an identified increase in demand (including dual diagnosis)

SP3: Strengthen and expand access to substance misuse support provision to meet an identified increase in demand (including dual diagnosis)

SP4: Increase and improve access to the Private Rented Sector (PRS)

SP5: Reduce homelessness for younger people and support their wellbeing.

SP6: Reduce rough sleeping and support those with complex needs.

SP7: Increase homelessness prevention to obtain successful outcomes.

SP8: Raise awareness of homelessness and allied services, encouraging self-help and resilience

SP9: Embrace new technologies and new ways of working.

The strategic priorities listed above will be reviewed in 2024 as part of the mid-term review of the Council's Housing Support Programme Strategy (2022-2026), Council priorities, legislative changes, funding levels and the implementation of the Rapid Re-housing Transition Plan.

In addition, the general and on-going Housing Support Grant delivery requirements are:

- Undertake a three-year programme of review and commissioning of floating support services to complement the Rapid Re-housing Approach.
- Complete the review and re-modelling of hostel and supported housing provision.
- Undertake appropriate research to inform the needs assessment and commissioning of services.

The post-Covid landscape has resulted in a greater understanding of the breadth and depth of homelessness in the City, especially for people with a range of complex needs and the lack of affordable, permanent accommodation for both families and single people. This delivery plan and the complementary Housing Support Programme Strategy both focus on addressing these issues and work towards the provision of good quality housing advice, support and assistance for our citizens.

2024-2025 will be a challenging year for the Housing Support Programme in Newport, especially with no inflationary uplift combined with substantial increases in both accommodation and staffing costs. As such, and noted in Annex C - the Commissioning Plan - there will be no new supported housing schemes developed and, to account for this pressure on budgets, the re-tendering of existing floating support services will result in fewer support hours being delivered and less support staff being employed in the sector.

2 NEEDS ASSESSMENT

As set out in the HSG Guidance, local authorities are required to undertake a comprehensive needs assessment every four years, with a light touch review every two years, to inform development of their HSP Strategy and take into account the publication of relevant data, e.g. Census 2021, Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation etc. The needs assessment analysed a wide range of data from different sources to determine the levels of homelessness, housing need and support provision within Newport, whilst consultation was carried out with service users and stakeholders to better understand their concerns and priorities. The findings were used to identify current trends, areas of growth and gaps in provision, which have helped to shape the Statement of Need.

A link to the Statement of Need document can be found here: [HSP Strategy 2022-2026 Statement of Need \(newport.gov.uk\)](#)

2a Needs Assessment process.

The Needs Assessment was carried out using a variety of data sources including national statistics, regional data and local intelligence, to provide quantitative data about the levels of need within Newport. This was then complemented with qualitative information from service users, stakeholders, and other key partners, who had direct experience of either providing or accessing these services locally.

The intelligence collected through the assessment process provided a comprehensive understanding of existing provision, including levels of need and demand, current challenges, gaps in provision and areas of priority, both now and in the future.

Some of the main themes which emerged from the Needs Assessment and which have helped to shape the strategic priorities of this strategy are as follows:

- The latest census in 2021 showed that the population in Newport has increased by 9.5% since the last census in 2011, the greatest increase of all Welsh local authorities much greater than the overall increase in Wales (1.4%).
- In 2021 Newport's population of over 65s was 17% of its total population, and those under the age of 15 comprised 19% of the population compared with 16.5% for Wales. This contrasts with the trend for the rest of Wales where 21.3% of the Welsh population in 2021 (662,000) were aged 65 years and over.
- Newport has a working population of approximately 95,000 residents.
- 74,300 working age residents in Newport are economically active, inclusive of 3,100 who are currently unemployed. This equates to 78% of the working age population who are either in employment or seeking employment.

- The latest figures published in June 2023 show that 28% of children in Wales are living in poverty.
- Newport saw an increase of 21% in the number of people using their food bank service between 2019/20 and 2022/23.
- As of 31 January 2024, Newport had 1221 accepted homeless cases, of which 146 initial assessments had been completed. The average number of homeless presentations per month from April 2023 to Jan 2024 was 213.
- Average homeless prevention rates from April 2023 to December 2023 are 34% for Quarter 1, 41% for Quarter 2 and 49% for Quarter 3. Average homeless relief rates from April 2023 to December 2023 are 29% for Quarter 1, 26% for Quarter 2 and 32% for Quarter 3.
- 470 households were in Temporary Accommodation as of 31 December 2023, this comprised of 295 single people, 140 with dependent children and 35 other. From April 2023 to Dec 2023, an average of 14 households per month moved on to settled accommodation in Quarter 1, and an average of 13 households in Quarters 2 and 3.
- In the latest monthly reporting period (January 2024), Newport reported the number of individuals sleeping rough as 24. This is a decrease from the previously reported figure from October 2022 of 33.
- From April 2023 to December 2023, the reasons for homelessness presentations were parents no longer willing or able to accommodate (16%), other relatives or friends no longer able to accommodate (16%), non-violent breakdown (5%), violent breakdown of relationship involving partner (9%), violence or harassment which is due to another reason (1%), rent arrears on private sector dwellings (2%), loss of rented or tied accommodation (26%), current property unsuitable (2%), prison leaver (6%), in institution or care (6%) and other (including homeless in emergency, returned from abroad, sleeping rough or in hostel) (14%).
- Newport is the second most diverse unitary authority in Wales after Cardiff and the number of people from a non-white background in Newport has increased from 10.1% at the 2011 Census, to 12.3% of the population at the end of 2022.
- Newport is one of four Home Office dispersal areas for asylum seekers in Wales who are awaiting a determination of their refugee status. The rate of turnover has seen increases from 90% in 2012 to around 100% since 2015 due to faster average decision-time from the Home Office.
- Newport has 95 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA), one of which is the 10th most deprived area in Wales, and 23 (24.2%) of which are in the most deprived 10% in Wales.
- One of Newport's LSOAs occurs in the 10% most deprived LSOA for all domains.
- A further five LSOAs occur in the 10% most deprived areas across at least five domains.
- 43% of Newport's LSOAs are in the 10% most deprived for physical environment, including a number of LSOAs which are amongst the least deprived LSOAs overall.
- There are pockets of serious deprivation in Newport, and there is a need to target resources in these areas to ensure access to services.

2b Conclusion

The Statement of Need clearly showed that there were some key areas of demand and some common themes, which the local authority will need to monitor and address. There are also some new areas of need emerging, which will require further monitoring and possible support provision in the future.

Summary of themes identified:

1. Young people/care leavers – increasing numbers/cohorts.
2. Lack of short and long-term supported accommodation for people with a range of substance misuse issues including a recovery house for those motivated to change, a long-term project house for people with enduring alcohol problems and a specialist project for people with complex needs/dual diagnosis and care needs.
3. Mental health is consistently the highest lead need for support for referrals to HSG services and the number is rising in homelessness presentations.
4. Traditional shared refuge provision still has a role for women fleeing domestic abuse but units of self-contained dispersed accommodation are preferred by women or men with children or those with more complex needs.
5. Consistently high number of people sleeping rough, including lone females and couples.
6. An increase in the number of individuals with very complex needs and the need for a multi-agency approach to address this growing concern.
7. Lack of move-on permanent, affordable accommodation for people in Temporary Accommodation and supported housing.

Summary of emerging needs identified:

1. High need for self-contained affordable single-person accommodation. This was highlighted throughout the elements of the needs assessment from the lack of move-on accommodation from Temporary Accommodation and supported housing/hostels to a shortage of Housing First/Housing-led units, and accommodation for refugees, ex-offenders, care leavers and single people on the Housing Register.
2. More flexible, responsive floating support services has been highlighted as a need across services e.g. early intervention/crisis support. This complements the Rapid Rehousing initiative in preventing the potential loss of accommodation but will entail a re-modelling of services from the traditional planned support model.
3. Ongoing demand for supported housing schemes for care leavers, young single refugees and young homeless people.
4. Mental health is consistently the highest lead need for support for referrals to HSG services and the number is rising in homelessness presentations. Although there are a number of supported housing schemes in the City, there is a need for transition/half-way accommodation to free up units in existing supported and Temporary Accommodation.
5. Increasing access to digital technology and increasing digital inclusion is also a key need, as highlighted on the Regional Housing Support Collaborative Group's (RHSCG) work plan.

The ability to successfully meet these needs and deliver appropriate solutions remains challenging and cannot always be achieved by one service area. However, with better collaboration and more joined up service delivery, the strategy will work to meet both the current and future demands identified.

3 DELIVERY PRIORITIES

The table below shows how the strategic priorities identified in the first Housing Support Programme Strategy (2022-2026) will be delivered over the three years and, where relevant, the links to the HSG Spend Plan in Annex B of this Plan. The Delivery Plan and priorities will be reviewed annually and could be subject to amendment due to changing circumstances e.g., Welsh Government legislation, economic changes, demographics and assessed need.

Table 1: Delivery Priorities 2022-2025

Strategic Priorities	Delivery Priorities	Timescale	Action by	Spend Plan Project Type reference
SP1: Move to adopt a Rapid Re-housing approach	DP1a: Implement Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan	Ongoing from Oct 2022	HSG Team/ Housing Needs Unit (HNU)	N/A
	DP1b: Review NCC's Allocations Policy	April 2024	HNU	N/A
	DP1c: Remodel floating support services	Oct 2025	HSG Team	N/A
	DP1d: complete review of hostel accommodation	Mar 2024	HSG Team/ HNU	N/A
	DP1e: Review pathways and move on from supported housing and temporary accommodation	Jul 2024	HSG Team/ HNU/TA Team	N/A
SP2: Strengthen and expand access to mental health support provision to meet an identified increase in demand (including dual diagnosis)	DP2a: Develop and open 6-bed supported housing scheme	May 2023 (completed)	HSG Team/ Melin Homes	Floating support: mental health
	DP2b: Consolidate funding for CMHT support worker	April 2022 (completed)	HSG Team	Floating support: mental health
	DP2c: Establish multi-agency forum/panel and map service provision	June 2022 (completed)	HNU	N/A

Strategic Priorities	Delivery Priorities	Timescale	Action by	Spend Plan Project Type reference
	DP2d: Continued contribution towards ABUHB co-occurring group	Ongoing	HSG Team	N/A
	DP2e: Review referral pathways and support from primary and secondary mental health care	March 2025	HSG Team/ HNU/TA Team/ ABUHB	N/A
	DP2f: Upskill all frontline staff in trauma informed working	March 2025	HSG Team/ HNU/TA Team	N/A
SP3: Strengthen and expand access to substance misuse support provision to meet an identified increase in demand (including dual diagnosis)	DP3a: Consolidate funding for GDAS Assertive Outreach Project	May 2022 (completed)	HSG Team	Floating support: substance/alcohol misuse
	DP3b: review need for 24-hour Recovery House	March 2023 (completed)	Pobl Group	Short-term supported accom: substance/ alcohol misuse dry
	DP3c: Ensure full implementation of Gateway's complex needs house	May 2022 (completed)	HSG Team/ Gateway Support & Care	Permanent accom: mental health
	DP3d: Establish multi-agency forum/panel	June 2022 (completed)	HNU	N/A
	DP3e: Develop a recovery house	March 2026	HSG Team	Short-term supported accom: substance misuse
	DP3f: Implement relevant Drug-Related Death Panel recommendations for Homelessness and Housing Support Services	ongoing	HSG Team/HNU	N/A
SP4: Increase and improve access to the Private Rented Sector (PRS)	DP4a: Implement PRS Strategy	March 2025	Housing Supply & Regulation	N/A
	DP4b: Review Homeless Prevention Fund policy	March 2023 (completed)	HNU	N/A

Strategic Priorities	Delivery Priorities	Timescale	Action by	Spend Plan Project Type reference
	and homeless prevention funding DP4c: Complete recruitment of PRS Officer DP4d: Trial of NCC 'Acting as Guarantor' DP4e: Maximise WG's Leasing Scheme Wales initiative DP4f: Develop an overarching communications plan to target and promote PRS	June 2022 (completed) Oct 2024 Mar 2025 Mar 2025	HNU Housing Supply & Regulation Housing Supply & Regulation Housing Supply & Regulation	Other homelessness prevention projects N/A N/A N/A
SP5: Reduce homelessness for younger people and support their wellbeing	DP5a: Consolidate funding for 4-bed young person's move-on scheme DP5b: Develop and open 6-unit 24-hour supported housing scheme for young homeless people DP5c: Ensure provision of floating support for young unaccompanied refugees DP5d: Contribute to the development of the accommodation and support strategy and pathway for care leavers and young homeless people	April 2022 (completed) May 2023 (completed) ongoing ongoing	HSG Team Pobl Group/ HSG Team/ Llamau HSG Team Service Manager Children's Services/HNU	Short-term supported accom: young people Short-term supported accom: young people Floating support: refugees N/A
SP6: Reduce rough sleeping and support those with complex needs	DP6a: Implement governance arrangements of strategic housing forum/ rough sleeper task force	Mar 2025	HoS/HNU/HSG Team	N/A

Strategic Priorities	Delivery Priorities	Timescale	Action by	Spend Plan Project Type reference
	DP6b: Develop multi-agency forum/panel	June 2022 (completed)	HNU	N/A
	DP6c: Ensure full implementation of Gateway's complex needs house	May 2022 (completed)	HSG Team/ Gateway Support & Care	Permanent accom: mental health
	DP6d: Develop sustainable supported housing/safe house for women at risk of sexual and/or financial abuse	May 2023 (completed)	HNU/HSG Team/Cyfannol	Short-term supported accom: VAWDASV
	DP6e: Complete recruitment of Rough Sleeper Support Officer	Aug 2022 (completed)	HNU	Rough Sleeper Assertive Outreach Services
	DP6f: Development of additional supported accommodation for people with complex needs	Dec 2024	HSG Team/Pobl	Short-Term Supported Accom, Generic - intensive needs
	DP6g: Develop a housing and support pathway for people with complex needs	Sept 2024	HSG Team/HNU	N/A
	DP6h: Review Temporary Accom provision for people with complex needs	Oct 2024	Housing Supply & Regulation	N/A
SP7: Increase homelessness prevention to obtain successful outcomes	DP7a: Review Homeless Prevention Fund policy	Mar 2023 (completed)	HNU	N/A
	DP7b: Review staffing capacity to deliver homeless prevention	Dec 2022 (completed)	HNU	N/A
	DP7c: Implement No Eviction into Homelessness protocol	Feb 2023 (completed)	HNU/Registered Social Landlords (RSLs)	N/A
	DP7d: Implement temporary allocation policy to increase direct lets with RSL partners	June 2024	HNU	N/A

Strategic Priorities	Delivery Priorities	Timescale	Action by	Spend Plan Project Type reference
	DP7e: targeted early intervention with statutory partners	Mar 2025	HNU/statutory partners	N/A
SP8: Raise awareness of homelessness and allied services, encouraging self-help and resilience	DP8a: Implement Communications Strategy for the public, stakeholders and service users	Dec 2024	HNU/ Communications Team	N/A
	DP8b: Re-establish Homeless and Support Workers Forum	Mar 2023 (completed)	HNU/HSG Team	N/A
	DP8c: Open multi-agency housing and support hub	Apr 2023 (completed)	Pobl Group/ HNU/HSG Team	Day-time drop-in services
SP9: Embrace new technologies and new ways of working	DP9a: Review and implement homeless and housing modules of Civica database	Dec 2024	HNU/HSG Team	N/A
	DP9b: Work in partnership to deliver recommendations in Gwent HSG Service User Survey 2021 report	Ongoing	Gwent HSG Teams	N/A
	DP9c: Implement automation software for Home Options	Sept 2024	HNU	N/A

4 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Engagement and consultation form an integral part of service development and delivery in Newport; service users and stakeholders are regularly invited to contribute to the HSG planning process. Engagement is vital to the development of the HSG delivery plan, whilst also facilitating the continual improvement of HSG services, both on a local and regional level.

4a Stakeholders engaged with

In recent years, both face-to-face and online methods of engagement have been utilised, as a result of Covid restrictions in 2020 and 2021. An online survey has been developed on an annual basis and published on the [Gwent Housing Support website](#) specifically for service users. A link to this survey has been disseminated to all support providers in Gwent, with encouragement to support their service users to complete it. The latest survey ran for six weeks in September and October 2023 and 113 service users took part across Gwent, 42 (37%) of which were based in Newport.

A face-to-face consultation day was held in September 2023 with support providers and stakeholders working in/with housing support services across Gwent. Attendees were asked for feedback regarding the housing-related support needs of vulnerable people and gaps in current supported housing provision, as well as providing comments at facilitated tables covering the topics of the cost of living crisis, good practice, health and wellbeing, homelessness and recruitment and retention of staff.

Other stakeholders invited to take part in the consultation process include the carers/families of people who use HSG services, Health and Social Services colleagues, the Probation and Police services, VAWDASV Partnership Boards, Substance Misuse Area Planning Boards, Children and Communities Grant, HSG Providers and landlords.

4b Stakeholder feedback

The feedback received from different engagement processes was positive and enabled robust and detailed information to be collected, which reaffirmed and clarified the needs and pressures that are currently being experienced by those both receiving and providing support, and will help to shape the strategic priorities. Some key themes to emerge from the engagement included:

- **Lack of accommodation** – the need for more accommodation and different accommodation options is regularly identified through the engagement process and remains a long-term challenge in Newport.

- **Improved collaboration and partnership working** – there are some positive examples of existing partnership working and collaboration, but further work is needed to ensure that all services are working together effectively and gaps in provision are being met.
- **Complex Needs** – consultation has shown there are now more service users with complex or multiple needs which cannot be met by one service area alone, further supporting the need for more collaborative approaches. In particular, accommodation for people who are sleeping rough and also access to VAWDASV services are areas of significant concern.
- **Barriers to engagement** – service user feedback has highlighted the issues of poor access to mental health services and online/digital access to services, the latter being addressed as a separate project by the Regional Housing Support Collaborative Group to better enable future consultation exercises.
- **Awareness Raising** – service user feedback also highlighted that availability of information about support services is not always consistent and it remains a priority for HSG teams to continually promote and raise awareness of Housing and the HSG programme.
- **Recruitment, Training and Retention** – the recruitment of staff has been identified throughout the consultation process as an area of great pressure for support providers, which is impacting on effective service delivery.

4c Partnership working

As well as engaging in annual consultation in partnership with the other Gwent Local Authorities, Newport also undertakes regular local engagement with service users and stakeholders as part of ongoing service reviews and partnership meetings. This has resulted in a long-term, collaborative approach to engagement and key partners and service users from a wide range of organisations are regularly consulted.

The Council's Housing Support, Housing Needs and Housing Strategy teams continue to build on the excellent working relationships with partners which have greatly improved during and post the pandemic, especially with local support providers, substance misuse and mental health services. The addition of the Housing and Homelessness Strategic Co-ordinator also ensures that a more cohesive and inter-locking set of strategies, plans and assessments are produced to improve services., e.g. the complementary Rapid Re-housing Transition Plan.

A number of strategic groups currently operate in Newport and members of the Housing Support, Homelessness, Housing Options, Housing Strategy and Rough Sleeper teams sit on these. They include the Strategic Housing Forum, Landlord Forum, Rough Sleeper Task Force, Housing First Strategy Group, Rapid Re-housing Group, RSL Partnership meetings and Ending Rough Sleeping Multi-Disciplinary Team - all led by NCC; the Co-occurring Group (dual diagnosis) led by ABUHB; the Adults at Risk of Sexual Exploitation Group led by Gwent Police; the Gwent Pathway Group led by the National Prison & Probation Service; and the Community Wellbeing Steering Group led by Public Health Wales.

In addition, senior Council officers are members of steering groups for the lottery-funded Gwent BOOST homelessness project and The Royal Foundation's Homewards initiative – both five-year projects – regional VAWDASV groups and the Regional Partnership Board's Health, Social Care & Housing Operational Group.

Newport's Housing Support team will regularly review the governance of local planning groups and to ensure that key partners are represented at all relevant forums, and that they are fully engaged in any discussions. Partners will be engaged at an operational and strategic level thereby creating opportunities to collaborate across boundaries and sectors to optimise resources and capacity. The team will also continue to promote the HSG programme locally, through ongoing engagement and consultation, utilising any channels of communication available.

A IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Newport City Council has an established Fairness and Equality Commission which is an independent body that advises the Council on the best use of resources and powers to achieve the fairest outcomes for local people. The Fairness Commission has established four Principles of Fairness which have to be considered as part of any decisions that the Council make. The principles are: Equity, Priority, Inclusion and Communication.

Impact assessment process

The Council's Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment includes an equality impact assessment based on protected characteristics, a section on stakeholders who may be impacted by the decision, a section on engagement, a Welsh Language assessment, sustainable development principles and socio-economic duty assessment. A separate Children's Right Impact Assessment has also been completed. The impact assessment was undertaken on the Delivery Plan's priorities as a whole rather than each separate delivery priority but highlighted specific priorities where relevant.

Key findings

Impact assessments undertaken:

- Identification of all stakeholders impacted by the decision or proposal
- How engagement has taken place
- Views of stakeholders including service users
- Protected Characteristics assessment
- Welsh language assessment
- Sustainable development principle – 5 ways of working assessment
- Socio-economic duty assessment
- Children's Rights Impact Assessment

Summary of the consolidated assessment for the Delivery Plan:

- A wide range of stakeholders are identified including statutory services, support providers, wider stakeholders, social and private landlords, service users who may be homeless, threatened with homelessness or who need support to sustain their accommodation, Council departments.
- Engagement via surveys, questionnaires, partnership meetings, forums, working groups, project groups, use of technology, Gwent HSG website, local and regional HSG proposal forms, negotiations with support providers,

- Analysis of surveys, questionnaires, Gateway application, assessment and risk forms, research findings
- The assessment of the impact of implementing the delivery priorities on the categories of people with protected characteristics was positive on all counts as additional, more responsive, flexible, targeted services would improve people's lives.
In addition, the development of specific supported housing schemes to meet unmet needs e.g. for care leavers and young homeless people, people with complex needs and those with mental health problems would offer more choice and be an important improvement on current services.
- Specific delivery proposals have also been considered and approved by members of the multi-agency HSG Planning Group.
- Similarly, the strategic priorities' itemised delivery priorities for homeless people or those threatened with homelessness will result in a positive impact for these citizens.
- The impact of the delivery priorities on the Welsh language was assessed as neutral. Services will be offered through the medium of Welsh or other languages and documentation will be provided in Welsh. The outcome of the recent Census will also inform current and future service provision.
- The impact of the delivery priorities on the Council's socio-economic duty was again assessed as being very positive as the programme supports many vulnerable citizens affected by degrees of disadvantage. A table identifying the groups of people cross-referenced with areas of inequality produced a high or very high score in each delivery priority/development.
- The impact of the specific delivery priorities are considered to be positive when completing the Six Steps to Due Regard under the Children's Rights Impact Assessment, especially in relation to improving homelessness services and targeted support for vulnerable families, homeless young people.
- In addition, the delivery priorities in the plan around developing specific accommodation and support schemes for care leavers and young homeless people 16 yrs+, as well as an identified unmet need for specific accommodation for young people transitioning from CAMHS to adult mental health services, will have a positive impact on children's lives as they begin their journey to more independence and security.
- Lastly, one of the six Key Objectives of the Strategic Equality Group is *Objective 6: Independent Living - Newport City Council contributes to the city being a great place to live, to grow older and live independently and has in place a range of services that accommodates people in different situations.* Housing Support provide the lead for this objective.

B SPEND PLAN

Spend Plan collection period		Local Authority HSG Spend Plan 2024/25					
Regional Collaborative Committee:		Gwent					
Local Authority:		Newport					
HSG Annual Allocation		£8,710,259.89					
		Client Units	Total HSG Spend Against Project Type	Spend per Unit	Local Authority contribution	Priority Reference No	Notes (brief explanation of spend)
Project Type	Project Type Breakdown	Numbers	£	£	£	Text	Text
PRS Access Schemes	TOTAL	0	0.00	0	0.00		
Rapid Rehousing/Housing-Led Services	Housing Led	0	0.00	0	0.00		
	Housing First (verified)	0	0.00	0	0.00		
	Housing First (unverified)	0	0.00	0	0.00		
	TOTAL	0	0.00	0	0.00		
Emergency Accommodation Provision	General	0	0.00	0	0.00		
	Specific 'dry' accom	0	0.00	0	0.00		
	specific 'wet' accom	0	0.00	0	0.00		
	TOTAL	0	0.00	0	0.00		
Rough Sleeper Assertive Outreach Services	TOTAL	124	579,926.89	4,677	0.00		1 x Floating support scheme increased to provide former HPG-funded RSIT service. 2 x posts
Mediation Services	Landlord	0	0.00	0	0.00		
	Family	40	119,047.88	2,976	0.00		1 scheme now extended to include part of the former HPG-funded Emphasis service and contributions to 2 other schemes
	TOTAL	40	119,047.88	2,976	0.00		
Daytime Drop-in Services	TOTAL	57	84,178.01	1,477	0.00	SP8: DP8c	Allocation of part of NDAFS scheme (2 x workers) and Advice hub costs
Enforcement, Investigation or Compliance with Housing Legislation	TOTAL	0	24,000.00	0	0.00		
Activities designed to promote and publicise compliance with housing	TOTAL	0	11,000.00	0	0.00		
Floating Support	VAWDASV	74	224,566.54	3,035	0.00		1 x scheme
	Learning Disability	0	0.00	0	0.00		
	Physical Disability	12	40,765.81	3,397	0.00		Allocation of worker from generic scheme
	Mental Health	150	518,403.17	3,456	0.00	SP2: DP2a, DP2b	2 x schemes & contribution to another scheme. Includes dedicated floating support for 6 x short-term supported housing schemes
	Substance misuse and/or alcohol issues	86	267,661.15	3,112	0.00	SP3: DP3a	1 x scheme and part allocation of 1 other scheme (other part in ex-offenders)
	Ex-offenders	73	247,900.33	3,396	0.00		Part allocation of 1 other scheme (other part in substance misuse and/or alcohol issues)
	Young People	103	377,237.57	3,663	0.00		1 x scheme
	Refugees	0	0.00	0	0.00	SP5: DP5c	
	Older People	182	294,335.73	1,617	0.00		2 x schemes and contribution to inter authority SLA
	Gypsy and Travellers	8	24,000.00	3,000	0.00		Contribution to inter authority SLA
	Generic	838	1,895,343.32	2,262	0.00		4 x schemes, 2 x FISW posts, 3 x GAMO posts, 4 x GAW posts (internal & external), 2 x TASA posts
	Other	61	230,322.30	3,776	0.00		2 x schemes
	TOTAL	1,587	4,120,535.92	3,776	0.00		
	Short-Term Supported Accommodation	Learning Disability	0	0.00	0	0.00	
Physical Disability		0	0.00	0	0.00		
Mental Health		0	0.00	0	0.00		
Substance misuse and/or alcohol issues (wet)		0	0.00	0	0.00		
Substance misuse and/or alcohol issues (dry)		5	97,821.29	19,564	0.00	SP3: DP3b	1 x scheme
Ex-offenders		0	0.00	0	0.00		
Young People		24	486,949.01	20,290	0.00	SP5: DP5a, DP5b	
Older People		0	0.00	0	0.00		
Refugees		0	0.00	0	0.00		
VAWDASV		0	0.00	0	0.00	SP6: DP6d	
Generic		87	423,285.78	4,865	0.00		2 x schemes
Generic - intensive needs		37	528,780.53	14,291	0.00		2 x schemes. DP3f 1 x remodelling into intensive needs scheme
Other		5	130,872.52	26,175	0.00		1 x scheme
TOTAL		158	1,667,709.13	26,175	0.00		

		Client Units	Total HSG Spend Against Project Type	Spend per Unit	Local Authority contribution	Priority Reference No	Notes (brief explanation of spend)
Project Type	Project Type Breakdown	Numbers	£	£	£	Text	Text
Permanent Supported Accommodation	Older People	0	0.00	0	0.00		
	Learning Disability	126	226,867.83	1,801	0.00		Contributions to internal SLA x 3
	Mental Health	79	838,547.87	10,615	0.00	SP3: DP3c SP6: DP6c	6 x schemes and contributions to internal SLA x 2
	Other	20	277,474.21	13,874	0.00		2 x schemes
	TOTAL	225	1,342,889.91		0.00		
ExtraCare Services	TOTAL	0	0.00	0	0.00		
Alarm Services	VAWDASV	0	0.00	0	0.00		
	Other	0	0.00	0	0.00		
	TOTAL	0	0.00		0.00		
Refuges	Male	0	0.00	0	0.00		
	Female	24	433,509.12	18,063	0.00		2 x schemes and contribution to inter authority SLA
	Other	0	0.00	0	0.00		
	TOTAL	24	433,509.12		0.00		
Target Hardening Equipment	TOTAL	0	0.00	0	0.00		
Non-Statutory HSG Funded Posts	TOTAL	6	230,073.38	38,346	0.00		6 x posts
Other Homelessness Prevention Projects	TOTAL	24	81,389.65	3,391	0.00	SP4: DP4c	2 x posts
Other	Uncommitted Spend	0	0.00	0	0.00		
	General Other	0	16,000.00	0	0.00		Database contribution and interpretation costs
	TOTAL	0	16,000.00		0.00		
GRAND TOTAL		2,245	8,710,259.89		0.00		

C COMMISSIONING PLAN

The following table shows Newport City Council's commissioning intentions over the next three years.

Table 3: Commissioning Plan

Year 1: 2022/2023			
Timescale	Activity	New Service/ Contract to Commence	Progress
April 2022 to March 2023	Interim remodel and longer-term review (re rapid rehousing) of homeless hostels and supported housing provision	n/a - ongoing project	
April 2022 to December 2022	Prepare for and complete commission / tender for Rough Sleeper / homeless / street-based lifestyle	01/07/2023	Complete
July 2022 to June 2023	Prepare for and complete commission / tender for Generic (1)	01/11/2023	Complete
October 2022 to September 2023	Prepare for and complete commission / tender for Migrants and Refugees	04/03/2024	
January 2023 to March 2023	Undertake discussions with support providers to review and agree a 2023-2024 delivery plan for services transferred from HPG to HSG	01/04/2023	Complete

Year 2: 2023/2024		
Timescale	Activity	New Service/ Contract to Commence
April 2023 to March 2024	Interim remodel and longer-term review (re rapid rehousing) of homeless hostels and supported housing provision	n/a - ongoing project
January 2024 to June 2024	Review service provision for generic floating support, support for people in temporary accommodation and support for people with multiple and/or complex needs	n/a
July 2023 to December 2023	Undertake service evaluation and agree arrangements from April 2024 onwards for services transferred from HPG to HSG	01/04/2024

Year 3: 2024/2025		
Timescale	Activity	New Service/ Contract to Commence
April 2024	Enter into new contract arrangements as required for services transferred from HPG to HSG main programme	01/04/2024
July 2024 to September 2024	Prepare for and commission / tender for existing Generic services (4 in total)	01/01/2025
September 2024 to March 2025	Complete commissioning and tender for Generic services x4	01/04/2025
January 2025	Review commissioning intentions and commence tender preparations for DA/VAWDASV	01/04/2027
January 2025	Review commissioning intentions and commence tender preparations for Young People & Families	01/04/2026
January 2025	Review commissioning intentions and commence tender preparations for Offending / Substance Misuse	01/04/2026
January 2025	Review commissioning intentions and commence tender preparations for Mental Health	01/04/2026

D HOMELESSNESS STATUTORY DUTIES

The Homelessness statutory duties are delivered by the Housing Needs Unit, which consists of three teams:

- Housing Solutions, who deliver the front-line statutory service under the Housing Wales Act 2014. Fourteen FTE Housing Solutions Officers deliver front-line support and hold the statutory caseloads. Additional capacity has been created during 2023/2042 with fixed term posts, and a Housing Preventions team provides targeted intervention and increased prevention rates.
- Home Options manage the waiting list for affordable housing in Newport and facilitate advertising of properties via the common housing register for RSL partners.
- The TASA (Temporary Accommodation Support Assistance) team, who provide crisis intervention, housing related support and move on assistance, consists of two FTE Officers (HSG funded), one FTE PRS Officer (HSG funded), an HSG -funded Vulnerable Adults housing support worker and (HSG funded) Gateway Assertive Move On worker.
- Operational management is provided by three FTE Team Leaders, and the service is overseen by the Housing Needs Manager

The statutory function to accommodate and provide temporary accommodation has transferred to the Private Sector Initiatives Team

HSG funding is also utilised to fund a Rough Sleeper Coordinator and Rough Sleeper support Officer, who coordinate outreach services, collate data on rough sleeping and support needs. Partnership working with other statutory services and third sector providers enables targeted support to be offered to the cohort of those sleeping rough.

Housing Support Grant funding enables housing-related support to be provided to households that are owed a statutory duty via dedicated posts. Crisis support is available for those who may need to access temporary accommodation and also those who are moving on to permanent accommodation. The team signposts to specialist services if longer-term support is required. HSG funded posts facilitate move-on to permanent accommodation in the social and private rented sector and support the reduction of B&B use for temporary accommodation.

The Housing Needs Unit also works closely with commissioned service providers to deliver a front-line service that supports the needs of specific cohorts, such as those experiencing VAWDASV, prison leavers, rough sleepers and young people, via co-locating office space and joint case management. Close working relationships with other commissioned providers ensures that targeted, accurate and timely advice is provided to service users.

A strategic approach to homeless prevention and relief is achieved via close working relationships between the Housing Needs Unit, Housing Support Grant Team and Housing Strategy. The corporate objectives and work plans and forums incorporate RSL objectives and to provide an oversight of funding streams.

The Delivery Plan outlines how projects and services will be delivered to achieve the strategic objectives contained within the Housing Support Programme. Service provision will continually be reviewed to identify gaps and barriers to achieving Welsh Government objectives of making homelessness rare, brief and non-recurrent.

The staffing capacity required to deliver statutory services and the objectives within the delivery plan are subject to ongoing restructure arrangements which should be completed within 2024/2025. Funding available via the Revenue Support Grant, Housing Support Grant and Homeless Prevention Grant will be utilised to achieve efficiency and cost-effective service provision. Rapid rehousing will remain a core aspiration alongside increased homelessness prevention.

Front line services and statutory provision will enable support needs to be quickly identified, with a thorough assessment then completed to ensure that households receive targeted and trauma-informed floating support and are signposted or quickly referred to other statutory or commissioned support. A range of accommodation options will be available, dependent on need and service users will receive advice, information and support to relieve homelessness or ensure that homelessness is brief, rare and unrepeated wherever possible.

Partnership working will be strengthened via revised governance, multi-agency working, data sharing and created accountability, with the service user remaining the primary focus. A person-centred approach will be taken to identify pathways of support and intervention needed, to achieve statutory homelessness prevention or relief via appropriate statutory and commissioned accommodation and support needs being met.

The Delivery Plan aligns with the strategic objectives within the Housing Support Programme, Rapid Rehousing Plans and Housing Strategy objectives to increase the supply of affordable homes. Outcomes will be regularly reviewed locally, and regional approaches will also be considered where efficiencies and shared objectives can be achieved.