

**South
Nottinghamshire
Homelessness and
Rough Sleeping
Strategy
2022 - 2027**

South Nottinghamshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2022-2027

Foreword

As the portfolio holders for Broxtowe Borough Council, Gedling Borough Council and Rushcliffe Borough Council with responsibility for homelessness, we are pleased to be introducing the new South Nottinghamshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy.

Over recent years, the Homelessness landscape has seen a number of significant changes and challenges, including new duties on Council's and other public sector organisations to prevent and relieve homelessness. The introduction of the Homelessness Reduction Act and the Domestic Abuse Act have been positive steps in helping vulnerable groups, this has been set against a backdrop of other challenges, notably, Welfare Reform, Universal Credit and the COVID-19 pandemic.

More recently and particularly since the COVID 19 pandemic, there has been an increased emphasis on assisting rough sleepers and those at risk of rough sleeping with opportunities to provide specialist support and accommodation. Successful Rough Sleeper Initiatives and Rough Sleeper Accommodation Programme Services will continue to play a key role in ending rough sleeping.

We recognise the importance and benefits of effective partnerships in improving the wider health and wellbeing outcomes for homeless and vulnerable individuals. A key focus of this strategy will be the ongoing collaboration between stakeholders across South Nottinghamshire and Nottinghamshire as a whole. Successful partnership working between the Borough Councils, Nottinghamshire County Council, Registered Housing Providers, Public Health and Commissioned Service Providers, Voluntary, Charitable Agencies and Community Interest Companies will ensure a system wide approach to reducing homelessness and rough sleeping.

The strategy sets out 6 key strategic aims and contains an action plan that outlines how these will be delivered. Progress on the action plan will be reported to the Broxtowe Interagency Forum and reviewed on a quarterly basis. It will also be monitored through the respective governance arrangements.

We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the development of this Strategy and in particular the vital role of Partners, who continue to play an important role in delivering the strategic priorities within the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy.

Introduction

Housing is fundamental to the wellbeing of our residents, their families and our communities. Homelessness can affect anyone, whilst many people affected or who are threatened with homelessness will have family or social networks that are able to provide support, some do not and the statutory services provided by their local Council need to assist.

The Homelessness Act 2002 places a legal requirement on local authorities to undertake a review of homelessness within their area, and develop and publish a strategy to prevent homelessness, based on the findings of the review.

People can be defined as homeless if they have nowhere to stay and are living on the streets, they can also be considered homeless even if they have a roof over their head. People experiencing homelessness include those;

- sleeping rough or sofa surfing
- living in hostels or night shelters or other unsuitable temporary accommodation
- squatting
- at risk of violence or abuse
- living in poor housing conditions that affects their health
- living apart from family because they don't have a place to live together
- who cannot continue to occupy their current accommodation and have no other accommodation available to them

The new South Nottinghamshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2022-2027 builds on the progress and outcomes from the previous Strategy 2017-2021. It recognises the changing national and local context which has brought and is likely to bring increased demand for services alongside unprecedented health and economic challenges. Within the appendices, the Review of Rough Sleeping across South Nottinghamshire shows the emerging challenges and trends that we are facing.

Since the previous strategy was launched, the Government launched a national 'Rough Sleeping Strategy' that set out the Government's intention to halve rough sleeping by 2022 and end it by 2027. We share this vision and priority and tackling rough sleeping is a key strategic objective of this strategy.

The previous Strategy (2017-21) focussed on effective service delivery to increase prevention opportunities to reduce the risk of crisis presentations that could make access to appropriate accommodation options difficult. Over the last 5 years the three Borough's, in partnership with others within Nottinghamshire, have responded positively to the challenges and additional duties posed by the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017. This has been achieved by expanding and creating new pathways to services for the most vulnerable applicants, through the provision of specialist support and settled accommodation for vulnerable groups. This is an acknowledgement of the increase in complexity of cases and the number of individuals and families who present with multiple or complex needs. Improvements

have also been made to services at the point of first contact so that early opportunities to prevent homelessness are maximised.

This strategy will continue to focus on early intervention, homeless prevention and strengthening pathways and partnerships. However, the additional challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic will require an increased and proactive focus to be placed on health and housing and providing mechanisms of support to those at risk of homelessness and rough sleeping within our communities and providing suitable and sustainable housing options to all those affected.

The Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) has also provided and continues to provide increasing funding streams, either allocated or through bid submission, to invest in accommodation, prevention and support for those who are homeless, at risk of homelessness and/or rough sleepers or those at risk of rough sleeping. The South Nottinghamshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy commits to using this funding in the most effective ways to ensure the best outcomes for clients and bring rough sleeping to an end.

Key Achievements

The three Councils have worked effectively to improve homelessness services over recent years, examples of these achievements are outlined below;

- Successful implementation of the Homeless Reduction Act across all Boroughs
- Establishment of a South Nottinghamshire Winter Night Shelter at Elizabeth House in 2019-20. Commitment to continuation of a winter provision during COVID-19 pandemic and further 13 individuals assisted in 2020-21.
- Increasing units of supported accommodation within South Nottinghamshire with the expansion of Elizabeth House and through successful RSAP Funding bids in partnership with Framework with funding from the DLUHC. This alone will deliver 16 units of additional supported accommodation targeted at rough sleepers.
- Successful implementation of the Government's 'Everyone In Scheme' during the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to 55 rough sleepers being assisted off the streets in South Nottinghamshire.
- Improved offers to Private Sector Landlords within South Nottinghamshire, including assistance with deposits, rent in advance and landlord incentives.
- Successful continued partnership working and implementation of new initiatives through the Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI) funding, providing access to improved pathways for clients such as Homelessness Navigators and Call Before You Serve.
- In partnership with Framework, the provision of a comprehensive Street Outreach Service to assist rough sleepers off the street.

Context and Challenges

The Homelessness landscape has seen a number of significant changes at both a national and local level.

The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 introduced a number of new duties and a revised Code of Guidance. This included the extension of a period a household is 'threatened with homelessness' from 28 to 56 days, new duties to prevent and relieve homelessness for eligible applicants, a Personal Housing Plan (PHP) to be agreed with applicants, and a new 'duty to refer' for public services to notify a local authority if an individual may be homeless or at risk of homelessness.

The National Rough Sleeping Strategy (2018), sets out the aim to end rough sleeping by 2027. This strategy is structured around '3 Pillars', which are commitments and actions surrounding;

- Prevention – integrated working with partner agencies to identify those at risk of rough sleeping before crisis
- Intervention – a responsive outreach service to support rough sleepers to move off the streets and towards recovery and to identify new rough sleepers as quickly as possible
- Recovery – support for individuals to find and sustain stable accommodation and to meet wider support needs.

Unintended consequences and effects brought about by the Welfare Reform Act 2012, which introduced changes in many established benefits and introduced Universal Credit. This has created difficulties in vulnerable groups accessing the benefits system and gaining assistance with their housing costs.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a key role in shaping the national and local context of homelessness since 2020 and has as well brought to the fore the needs and vulnerabilities of rough sleepers.

There are two relevant national policies and approaches introduced in response to the pandemic to target individuals rough sleeping or at risk of rough sleeping. These are the 'Everyone In' initiative and the 'Next Steps' Accommodation Proposal (NSAP), now renamed Rough Sleeper Accommodation Programme (RSAP) 2021-24.

The 'Everyone In' initiative announced in March 2020 aimed to provide safe and self-contained accommodation for those sleeping rough. This was in response to the national COVID-19 lockdown and in recognition that rough sleepers were more vulnerable due to longer term and complex health issues. In response, each Council was required to provide emergency accommodation and a move on plan detailing how the rough sleepers accommodated were going to be accommodated permanently.

The NSAP scheme was launched in July 2020. Funding has been available to Council's to submit bids for from the DLUHC with the aim of continuing to provide accommodation for vulnerable people, including rough sleepers and to help those groups to obtain suitable long term accommodation options. Funding was available for both Capital and Revenue projects, based on local need, to provide accommodation and support to this client group. The three Councils have been successful in securing £311,000 funding as part of the NSAP initiative in year 2020-21 to secure 7 units of accommodation with support across South Nottinghamshire and secured another £450,000 funding as part of the subsequent RSAP initiative in year 2021-22 to secure a further 6 units of accommodation with support. This much needed resources will make a significant difference to those individuals that are rough sleeping or at risk of rough sleeping in South Nottinghamshire.

Another COVID 19 emergency policy response that will have an emerging effect on housing advice and homelessness services in the short to medium term will be the moratorium on evictions. The moratorium has run for in excess of 12 months during 2020 and 2021. This has meant that primarily rental evictions (and some other evictions), from social and private landlords have not been able to proceed during this period. The moratorium was lifted in May 2021 and is likely to have led to increasing household debts and created further uncertainty and insecurity of tenure.

Other consequences of COVID-19 that could have an emerging impact on homelessness include the 'furlough' scheme and the potential increase in unemployment which is likely to lead to an increase in demand for our services.

An analysis of the data surrounding the current homelessness situation and challenges are summarised in Appendix 1.

The COVID-19 legacy issues are likely to compound the existing challenges faced by individuals already in precarious housing situations as well as statutory and third sector organisations managing finite resources. Following a review of the previous Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2017-21 and a the current homelessness issues, the key challenges faced in South Nottinghamshire are summarised below;

Increasing numbers of households seeking assistance

We expect to see increasing demand for housing advice, homelessness assistance and requests for support over the coming years, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated challenges. We aim to ensure services are accessible and our strong relationship with partners will enable us to develop joined up pathways as well as maximise resources and avoid duplication of effort.

Increasing numbers of individuals with complex needs and who are at risk of rough sleeping

Mirroring the national picture, South Nottinghamshire's rough sleeping figures have seen a small increase. The successful DLUHC funded initiatives have been key in reducing rough sleeping and sustaining accommodation. The three partner Councils jointly access the (RSI) commissioned services, which incorporates Framework

Street Outreach, providing comprehensive outreach services to rough sleepers to access accommodation and/or support services.

In addition, the RSI commission Change, Grow, Live (CGL) to provide specialist addiction services, physical health, mental health and social work services and also has a range of specialist “Navigator” posts based in hospitals, prisons and within the community to support those at risk of homelessness.

Despite the services provided, rough sleeping remains on our streets and we acknowledge that there will be an additional ‘hidden’ (i.e. sofa surfing) homeless population that are at risk of rough sleeping.

The three Boroughs remain committed to ending rough sleeping across South Nottinghamshire.

RSI services are detailed and summarised in Appendix 2.

Meeting the needs of individuals with complex and/or multiple support needs

Homelessness is not just a housing issue and many homeless people have complex needs which require a varied and tolerant approach. We aim to continue to work with partners to forge strong working relationships to deliver a bespoke and effective package of support, advice and accommodation to clients to ensure they get the help and support that they need.

We will look to build upon the health and social care partnerships strengthened during the COVID-19 response to ensure a holistic response to tackling common challenges. We will also aim to continue to build partnerships with other key partners such as CGL, the probation and criminal justice agencies, domestic abuse services, asylum and refugee support services, as well as services assisting in access to housing, via local Registered Providers.

Lack of affordable, suitable and quality settled accommodation

There is an ever increasing demand for social housing and supply outstrips demand. People are waiting longer for accommodation without the certainty of being allocated a property to meet their needs. The lack of settled affordable accommodation can mean households put their lives on hold or in some instances, are placed in temporary accommodation whilst waiting for suitable accommodation to be found. This accommodation can often be in the form of hotel accommodation.

Previously the three Boroughs had been able to access accommodation within the private rented sector, but as competition of rental properties increases, landlords routinely increase their rents. This means that many areas of Nottinghamshire are seeing rents far in excess of the Local Housing Allowance (LHA). This makes it increasingly a less viable solution.

Delivering the Strategy

The South Nottinghamshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy went out for public consultation between October and December 2021. The consultation methodology, responses and outcomes can be found in Appendix B.

Strategic aims

Based on the key challenges, the strategy has been summarised into 6 strategic aims.

1. Early intervention through effective partnership working
2. The provision of an accessible, agile and responsive homelessness service.
3. Access to affordable and quality accommodation across all sectors
4. Tackle rough sleeping by developing and improving pathways
5. Linking health, well-being and housing together to improve the life chances and aspirations of those affected
6. Delivering long term support solutions to sustain tenancies for the most vulnerable

Making sure we deliver

The South Nottinghamshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy has been developed in consultation with the South Nottinghamshire Inter Agency Homelessness Forum, consisting of a wide range of statutory and voluntary agencies involved in providing homelessness services.

The RSI commissioned services have recently been subject to an external evaluation by the University of Lincoln. This has identified a number of key action points which will be incorporated as action plan targets in the new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy.

The action plan will be progressed, reviewed and updated in consultation with the forum annually to measure progress. The action plan will also take account of any legislative changes that may arise.

The South Nottinghamshire Inter Agency Forum will be responsible for the monitoring and review of the action plan having regard to legislative and good practice changes that may arise during the lifetime of the strategy. An annual report will also be provided to each of the partner Councils and the DLUHC.

Action Plan

Early intervention through effective partnership working				
Strategy Action	How it will be implemented	Type of Objective	Responsible	Target Date
Continue to develop the partnership working around homelessness with Nottinghamshire County Council	The three Councils will continue to engage positively with partnership meetings such as the Housing Sub Group to improve and coordinate agency responses across South Nottinghamshire and Nottinghamshire as a whole	Prevention	BBC, GBC, RBC, Nottinghamshire County Council	22-23 ongoing
Work in partnership across the three Councils and with partner agencies to help to educate young people around the risks and implications of homelessness	Continue work with partners like Broxtowe Youth Homelessness to develop and provide support in local schools and in the communities to young people	Prevention	BBC, GBC, RBC, Broxtowe Youth Homelessness	22-23 ongoing
Strengthen links with key partner agencies to improve help and assistance to vulnerable households	Involve and work with agencies such as the Police, Community Safety Partnerships and other community and outreach services to ensure appropriate advice and support is given and appropriate referral pathways are used	Prevention	BBC, GBC, RBC, statutory partners	22-23 ongoing
	Ensure that the three Councils are using their forums to share knowledge	Intervention	BBC, GBC, RBC	22-23 ongoing

Ensure that we are maximising all potential accommodation options	and referral pathways to all providers who are working with vulnerable groups and communities within South Nottinghamshire			
Ensure that links with Registered Social Landlords are strengthened	Improve links with Registered Social Landlords operating within South Nottinghamshire surrounding potentially homeless clients that they are looking to evict, to improve early intervention	Prevention	BBC, GBC, RBC, RSL's in South Notts	23-24
Maximise the funding available to assist homeless clients	Ensure that DLUHC funding is applied for through bids to ensure that there is a supply of accommodation that meets the needs of clients in South Nottinghamshire. Explore the continuation to year 5 of the RSI funding and its associated services	Prevention, Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC, RSI services	22-23 ongoing

The provision of an accessible, agile and responsive homelessness services

Strategy Action	How it will be implemented	Type of Objective	Responsible	Target Date
All three Councils continue to develop and improve prevention options	The three Councils will continue to review data and trends within their Borough and clients and explore with partners new approaches to homelessness prevention	Prevention, Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC	22-23 ongoing
Ensure that homelessness data is analysed to inform quality and targeted service delivery	Analyse and review data collected to identify trends and discuss between Boroughs to inform future service delivery	Prevention, Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC	23-24
Ensure that those accessing the service receive a quality service that provides clients with the best options and advice	<p>Annual review of staff training and knowledge undertaken to ensure staff are well equipped to undertake their roles</p> <p>Development of robust quality assurance frameworks within Housing Options teams, seeking the views of service users, to ensure quality service delivery and shape the future service</p> <p>Ensure that peer reviews and good practice that is being used in other areas is being considered or implemented within South Nottinghamshire</p>	Prevention, Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC	23-24

<p>Ensure that homeless clients are able to access housing options and advice services</p>	<p>Review the service access and customer journeys within the Borough's to ensure that clients are able to access services and are able to access them in a variety of ways, including the perspective of the service user</p>	<p>Prevention, Intervention, Recovery</p>	<p>BBC, GBC, RBC</p>	<p>23-24</p>
<p>Publicise outcomes achieved in tackling homelessness, and publicising the support that is available</p>	<p>Provide annual updates on the strategy Use social media and other media to publicise partnership work and positive outcomes</p>	<p>Prevention, Intervention, Recovery</p>	<p>BBC, GBC, RBC</p>	<p>22-23 ongoing</p>

Access to affordable and quality accommodation across all sectors

Strategy Action	How it will be implemented	Type of Objective	Responsible	Target Date
Ensure homeless applicants are being appropriately prioritised using housing allocations schemes	Review allocations policies within the three Council areas to ensure that the prioritisation of applicants is fair and appropriate	Prevention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC	23-24
Ensure that homeless clients are assisted and are enabled to access suitable accommodation in the private sector	Review private rented sector incentives and monitor effectiveness, looking for new incentives or opportunities	Prevention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC	23-24
Improve availability of suitable supported accommodation with South Nottinghamshire	Consider establishing a "Housing First" scheme is appropriate within South Nottinghamshire	Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC	23-24
Enable access to suitable social housing for homeless clients	<p>Improve the links that Housing Options teams in South Nottinghamshire have with their Choice Based Lettings(CBL) service and look to establish social landlord forums to discuss maximisation of social housing being made available to Councils</p> <p>Build on the strength of the first two successful rounds of RSAP funding which will deliver and additional 13 units, continue to seek and successfully bid for additional funding for supported accommodation.</p>	Prevention, Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC, RSL's in South .Notts	23-24

Ensure that the temporary accommodation offered in South Nottinghamshire is of a high standard	Improve the quality of temporary accommodation offered to homeless clients, minimising the use of bed and breakfast accommodation where possible	Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC	23-24
Work to bring empty properties throughout South Nottinghamshire into use	Consult with Private Sector Housing Teams to identify empty properties and working with Registered Providers to bring them back into use where appropriate for use for housing vulnerable people	Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC	22-23 ongoing

Tackle rough sleeping by developing and improving pathways

Strategy Action	How it will be implemented	Type of Objective	Responsible	Target Date
Improve accommodation options for rough sleepers	<p>Increase amount of accommodation with support available within South Nottinghamshire that is targeted at rough sleepers through RSAP and other funding mechanisms.</p> <p>13 units so far via this initiative, in addition to winter provision</p>	Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC	22-23 ongoing
Ensure effective partnerships are built and maintained to tackle rough sleeping and known rough sleepers	Establish and maintain Rough Sleeper Action Groups within South Nottinghamshire to share information and develop strategies towards rough sleeping.	Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC, rough sleeper navigator	22-23 ongoing
Ensure a rapid response to rough sleeping reports across South Nottinghamshire	Work closely with Framework Street Outreach to identify rough sleepers to offer support and engage positively around accessing support	Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC, frameworks street outreach	22-23 ongoing
Ensure that support is offered or provided to rough sleepers and those at risk of rough sleeping	Work with the services provided through the RSI, gain a greater understanding of what barriers there are for engagement with rough sleepers and what support can be provided particularly for entrenched rough sleepers with complex needs	Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC, all RSI services	23-24

	<p>Look to create action plans for known rough sleepers using Rough Sleeper Action Groups</p> <p>Seek out good practice and involve specialist officers where appropriate to tackle entrenched rough sleepers</p>			
Groups that are known to be at greater risk of rough sleeping are given improved pathways to access support	Work to improve protocols regarding those clients that are at greater risk of rough sleeping or for whose homelessness is difficult to prevent. Particularly those being released from prison, leaving care or discharged from hospital	Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC, RSI services, statutory partner agencies	23-24
In times of severe weather, all efforts are made to ensure nobody is sleeping rough in South Nottinghamshire	An agreed South Nottinghamshire protocol is maintained regarding Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) and a commitment to ensuring those sleeping rough are accommodated for the severe weather period	Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC	22-23 ongoing

Linking health, well-being and housing together to improve the life chances and aspirations of those affected

Strategy Action	How it will be implemented	Type of Objective	Responsible	Target Date
Ensure that the Domestic Abuse Act is fully implemented across South Nottinghamshire	<p>Ensure that policies and procedures are amended to ensure that the new Act is being implemented correctly</p> <p>Work with Nottinghamshire County Council to ensure the improvement of domestic abuse services across Nottinghamshire through the Local Partnership Board and contributing to the new County wide commissioning proposal</p>	Prevention, Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC, Nottinghamshire County Council	22-23 ongoing
Ensure the health implications of homelessness within South Nottinghamshire are understood and are part of our strategic and operational approach	Improve and enhance the work undertaken with partner agencies to acknowledge and improve the health and wellbeing of homeless clients in South Nottinghamshire	Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC	22-23 ongoing
Ensure effective links are built and maintained between Housing Options teams and Health and Social Care teams	Build on partnerships built through the Housing Sub-group to facilitate better access to services and commissioners of services to local people	Prevention, Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC	22-23 ongoing
Ensure that support needs are identified in all homeless households	Review risk assessment and application processes to ensure that these are being picked up and	Prevention, Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC	23-24

	suitable onward referrals are being made			
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Delivering long term support solutions to sustain tenancies for the most vulnerable

Strategy Action	How it will be implemented	Type of Objective	Responsible	Target Date
Ensure that clients that are moving on from supported accommodation are not at a disproportionately high risk of tenancy failure	Work with supported accommodation providers on processes surrounding move on assessments to ensure that providers of accommodation are aware of any potential tenancy sustainment risks	Prevention, Intervention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC	23-24
Ensure that clients are rough to overcome housing related difficulties that threaten homelessness and can lead to rough sleeping	Work closely with Framework Housing to maximise and ensure effective usage of the Prevention and Resettlement service	Prevention	BBC, GBC, RBC, Framework	22-23 ongoing
Develop new and innovative approaches to sustaining tenancies and preventing homelessness	Continue usage of support mechanisms such as prevention funds to ensure that clients are able to access or sustain their accommodation Consider the use of mediation services to work with families or landlords to	Prevention, Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC	22-23 ongoing

	prevent homelessness and sustain accommodation			
Ensure the effective support to is provided to clients in the procured RSAP units	Review support mechanisms provided during the initial phase, identifying and providing improvements where necessary	Recovery	BBC, GBC, RBC, Framework	23-25

*Abbreviation guidance

BBC- Broxtowe Borough Council

GBC- Gedling Borough Council

RBC- Rushcliffe Borough Council

RSL – Registered Social Landlord. A Registered Social Landlord is an organisation that provides social and affordable housing. Generally comprised of housing associations that are non-profit making but are independent from state ownership of local authority control.

RSI – Rough Sleeper Initiative – Services provided to assist in prevention, intervention and recovery of homelessness through Government funding following successful bids.

DLUHC – Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

South Nottinghamshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy – Review of Homelessness

The strategy is based on a review of homelessness in South Nottinghamshire. This review was undertaken in summer 2021. The review looks at the last 3 fiscal years, as a relevant comparison and data set for review because of the changes in the reporting requirements following the introduction of the Homelessness Reduction Act.

The purpose of the review is

1. Examine current levels of homelessness and housing using available statistical data. This includes a review of the levels of homelessness across South Nottinghamshire, a breakdown of the causes of homelessness and the households that become homeless and to consider if certain groups or types of household are at higher risk of homelessness or require specific intervention and to review the accommodation levels of offers available.
2. Review the current services and support available within the area and resources available to assist the Councils and its partners to prevent and relieve homelessness.
3. Having reviewed these two areas, identify service gaps and potential weaknesses in the services provided and that are currently available, as well as estimating what homelessness pressures there may be in the coming years.

These findings will inform the South Nottinghamshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2027.

Key Findings

An analysis of the last 3 years, which is used comparatively and to establish trends, shows how the three Boroughs have responded to the Homeless Reduction Act in terms of the new duties that this introduced.

It is necessary to provide context that figures in 2020-21 are affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and therefore analysis of certain data in this year needs to take account of the context and challenges that this brought about, which are outlined in the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy document.

The key findings of the review are;

- The number of households being assessed in the three Borough's is declining. The number in the 20-21 was a significant decrease, but this can be largely discounted because of a number of wider factors relating to the COVID-19 pandemic and response, these are outlined in the strategy.
- Applicants that are assessed are predominantly owed a Prevention Duty. This would be consistent with what would be expected in accordance with the Homeless Reduction Act.
- The number of households that are being assessed as having no duty has decreased significantly since 18-19 as a proportion of the overall figure of households assessed. This would be an explanation for a decreasing trend in the number of households assessed.
- The main reasons for homelessness, in terms of the loss of the last settled accommodation, is consistently family and friends are no longer able to accommodate. This is followed by a Private Rented Sector tenancy coming to an end, which is prevalent in the figures for the applicants owed a Prevention Duty.
- There has been a general trend of an increase in the prevalence of Domestic Abuse, both affecting support needs and in terms of accommodation loss.
- The most prevalent household type facing homelessness is consistently single adult males, particularly in the Relief Duty. Although, there is a significant number of single females and single females with children facing homelessness, particularly in the Prevention Duty.
- Support needs that surround the need to access or requirements for mental health support shows a high prevalence, the highest of all the support need measures across the three Borough's.
- Homelessness is an issue that predominantly affects younger people within South Nottinghamshire. Consistently over half of people assessed have a

main applicant that is under 35. There is also a high prevalence of support needs for younger adults in managing independently.

- The majority of homeless applicants are either registered unemployed, unable to work or are not seeking work.
- Rough sleeper figures are consistent across South Nottinghamshire, with between 3 and 5 being recorded at the Snapshot over the last 3 years. There is further context surrounding rough sleeping and the “Everyone In” and COVID response measures captured in the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy and Action Plan.
- The waiting list data shows that there are significant numbers of people across South Nottinghamshire that are seeking and waiting for a social housing tenancy.
- The number of lets through the Borough’s waiting lists is showing significant decline, these are lets for all reasons not just homeless applicants. Over the last 3 years there has been a reduction of around 30%. The demands on the housing options services of the three Borough’s is not showing the same trend. This leads to service pressures.

Homelessness Statistics in South Nottinghamshire 18-19

Homelessness summary by Borough in 18-19			
Indicator	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Households Assessed	368	414	389
Households owed a duty	353	360	324
Households owed the prevention duty	244	223	261
Households owed the relief duty	109	137	63
Households owed no duty	15	54	65

Reason for loss of last settled home for household owed a Prevention Duty			
Accommodation Tenure	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate	62	45	59
End of private rented tenancy – assured shorthold	109	89	78
Domestic Abuse	8	9	21
Non-violent relationship breakdown with partner	24	13	36
End of social rented tenancy	2	1	10
Eviction from supported housing	3	4	7
End of private rented tenancy – not assured shorthold	3	5	6
Other violence and harassment	4	4	6
Left institution with no accommodation available	2	0	1
Required to leave accommodation provided by home	3	1	0

office as asylum support			
Other reasons/not known	24	52	37

Reason for loss of last settled home for household owed a Relief duty			
Accommodation Tenure	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate	35	39	17
End of private rented tenancy – assured shorthold	12	11	6
Domestic Abuse	10	22	9
Non-violent relationship breakdown with partner	12	19	4
End of social rented tenancy	6	4	5
Eviction from supported housing	5	4	4
End of private rented tenancy – not assured shorthold	0	3	1
Other violence and harassment	4	3	3
Left institution with no accommodation available	1	2	1
Required to leave accommodation provided by home office as asylum support	0	0	0
Other reasons/not known	24	30	13

Accommodation at time of application for those owed a Prevention duty			
Accommodation Tenure	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Private Rented Sector	107	126	105
Living with Family	79	62	79
No Fixed Abode	0	0	0
Social Rented Sector	9	8	31
Living with Friends	29	9	23
Homeless on Departure from Institution	1	2	4
Rough Sleeping	0	0	0
Owner Occupier/Shared Ownership	7	6	7
Temporary Accommodation	1	1	1
National Asylum Seeker Support Accommodation	3	0	1
Refuge	5	1	2
Other/not known	3	8	8

Household type of households owed a Prevention duty			
Household Type	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Single parent with dependent children - Male	8	3	7
Single parent with dependent children - Female	66	73	83
Single parent with dependent children - Other	0	0	0
Single adult - Male	69	51	79
Single adult - Female	44	44	48
Single adult - Other	0	0	0
Couple with dependent children	28	29	21

Couple/two adults without dependent children	21	19	17
Three or more adults with dependent children	5	3	3
Three or more adults without dependent children	3	1	3
Other/not known	0	0	0

Ethnicity of main applicants owed a Prevention or a Relief duty

Ethnicity	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
White	302	301	263
Black/African/Caribbean /Black British	21	13	12
Asian/Asian British	6	7	10
Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups	7	14	10
Other ethnic groups	10	9	9
Not known	6	14	20

Support needs of households owed a Prevention or Relief duty

Support Needs	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
History of mental health problems	49	60	60
Physical ill health and disability	23	38	43
At risk of/has experienced domestic abuse	18	8	32
Offending history	15	7	6
History of repeat homelessness	8	0	2
Drug dependency needs	6	2	6
History of rough sleeping	1	2	2
Alcohol dependency needs	13	8	12
Learning disability	15	12	6

Appendix 1 (contained within Appendix A)

Young person aged 18-25 years requiring support to manage independently	14	1	21
Access to education, employment or training	3	0	3
At risk of/has experienced abuse (non-domestic abuse)	3	0	4
At risk of/has experienced sexual abuse/exploitation	2	5	4
Old Age	0	0	4
Care leaver aged 21+ years	4	4	2
Care leaver aged 18-20 years	3	9	2
Care leaver aged 16-17 years	1	0	5
Young parent requiring support to manage independently	0	0	2
Former asylum seeker	1	0	2
Served in HM forces	2	0	0

Age if main applicants owed a Prevention or Relief duty			
Age Band	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
16-17	0	0	5
18-24	83	89	73
25-34	107	117	94
35-44	82	69	67
45-54	49	49	46
55-64	28	21	23
65-74	3	12	8
75+	1	3	8

Accommodation at time of application for those owed a Relief duty			
Accommodation Tenure	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Private Rented Sector	10	9	1
Living with Family	28	32	8
No Fixed Abode	41	57	27
Social Rented Sector	5	4	4
Living with Friends	6	15	3
Homeless on Departure from Institution	6	1	2
Rough Sleeping	4	4	5
Owner Occupier/Shared Ownership	0	2	0
Temporary Accommodation	3	1	3
National Asylum Seeker Support Accommodation	0	0	0
Refuge	5	3	7
Other/not known	1	9	3

Household type of households owed a Relief duty			
Household Type	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Single parent with dependent children - Male	5	2	2
Single parent with dependent children - Female	22	43	20
Single parent with dependent children - Other	0	0	0
Single adult - Male	52	52	26
Single adult - Female	17	29	10
Single adult - Other	0	0	0
Couple with dependent children	9	5	2

Couple/two adults without dependent children	4	4	2
Three or more adults with dependent children	0	2	1
Three or more adults without dependent children	0	0	0
Other/not known	0	0	0

Employment status of main applicants owed a duty

Employment Status	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Registered Unemployed	101	82	26
Not working due to illness/disability	41	61	86
Full time work	63	47	63
Part time work	52	55	50
Not seeking work/at home	57	55	40
Not registered unemployed but seeking work	16	14	20
Retired	2	16	15
Student/training	5	2	5
Other	12	16	6
Not known	4	12	16

Homelessness Statistics in South Nottinghamshire 19-20

Homelessness summary by Borough in 19-20

Indicator	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Households Assessed	327	382	301
Households owed a duty	323	364	285
Households owed the prevention duty	257	241	235
Households owed the relief duty	66	123	50
Households owed no duty	4	18	16

Reason for loss of last settled home for household owed a Prevention duty			
Accommodation Tenure	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate	70	50	56
End of private rented tenancy – assured shorthold	78	76	50
Domestic Abuse	18	19	18
Non-violent relationship breakdown with partner	34	25	43
End of social rented tenancy	4	4	10
Eviction from supported housing	5	5	1
End of private rented tenancy – not assured shorthold	0	0	7
Other violence and harassment	4	4	8
Left institution with no accommodation available	0	0	0
Required to leave accommodation provided by home office as asylum support	2	0	1
Other reasons/not known	42	58	41

Reason for loss of last settled home for household owed a Relief duty			
Accommodation Tenure	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate	12	30	14

End of private rented tenancy – assured shorthold	7	13	6
Domestic Abuse	13	33	11
Non-violent relationship breakdown with partner	8	10	5
End of social rented tenancy	6	2	2
Eviction from supported housing	5	3	3
End of private rented tenancy – not assured shorthold	0	0	0
Other violence and harassment	1	3	4
Left institution with no accommodation available	0	1	0
Required to leave accommodation provided by home office as asylum support	1	1	0
Other reasons/not known	13	27	5

Accommodation at time of application for those owed a Prevention duty			
Accommodation Tenure	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Private Rented Sector	72	113	75
Living with Family	103	73	74
No Fixed Abode	0	0	0
Social Rented Sector	12	23	24
Living with Friends	45	15	35
Homeless on Departure from Institution	6	0	6
Rough Sleeping	0	0	0
Owner Occupier/Shared Ownership	4	5	6

Temporary Accommodation	2	0	1
National Asylum Seeker Support Accommodation	1	0	0
Refuge	0	0	1
Other/not known	12	12	13

Household type of households owed a Prevention duty			
Household Type	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Single parent with dependent children - Male	10	7	8
Single parent with dependent children - Female	66	79	62
Single parent with dependent children - Other	0	0	0
Single adult - Male	90	55	78
Single adult - Female	51	48	46
Single adult - Other	0	0	0
Couple with dependent children	18	27	13
Couple/two adults without dependent children	16	15	23
Three or more adults with dependent children	4	3	2
Three or more adults without dependent children	2	7	3
Other/not known	0	0	0

Ethnicity of main applicants owed a Prevention or a Relief duty			
Ethnicity	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
White	280	312	245
Black/African/Caribbean /Black British	13	10	6
Asian/Asian British	8	10	10
Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups	10	15	4
Other ethnic groups	4	9	3
Not known	6	8	16

Support needs of households owed a Prevention or Relief duty			
Support Needs	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
History of mental health problems	65	81	70
Physical ill health and disability	33	34	26
At risk of/has experienced domestic abuse	27	32	29
Offending history	8	6	11
History of repeat homelessness	3	2	5
Drug dependency needs	15	4	9
History of rough sleeping	3	2	4
Alcohol dependency needs	13	4	7
Learning disability	14	12	11
Young person aged 18-25 years requiring support to manage independently	22	3	11
Access to education, employment or training	5	0	0
At risk of/has experienced abuse (non-domestic abuse)	5	6	6

At risk of/has experienced sexual abuse/exploitation	3	1	5
Old Age	4	0	3
Care leaver aged 21+ years	1	6	1
Care leaver aged 18-20 years	5	4	2
Care leaver aged 16-17 years	1	0	3
Young parent requiring support to manage independently	6	1	2
Former asylum seeker	2	1	0
Served in HM forces	2	2	1

Age if main applicants owed a Prevention or Relief duty

Age Band	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
16-17	0	0	3
18-24	75	99	66
25-34	94	114	88
35-44	93	64	48
45-54	41	45	40
55-64	15	30	23
65-74	2	7	11
75+	3	5	6

Accommodation at time of application for those owed a Relief duty

Accommodation Tenure	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Private Rented Sector	1	8	1
Living with Family	12	33	10
No Fixed Abode	18	24	20
Social Rented Sector	5	11	3
Living with Friends	7	13	1
Homeless on Departure from Institution	8	4	1

Rough Sleeping	7	5	4
Owner Occupier/Shared Ownership	0	3	2
Temporary Accommodation	4	1	1
National Asylum Seeker Support Accommodation	1	1	0
Refuge	2	9	5
Other/not known	1	11	2

Household type of households owed a Relief duty			
Household Type	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Single parent with dependent children - Male	0	3	0
Single parent with dependent children - Female	16	47	13
Single parent with dependent children - Other	0	0	0
Single adult - Male	29	33	21
Single adult - Female	17	30	8
Single adult - Other	0	0	0
Couple with dependent children	0	5	3
Couple/two adults without dependent children	2	4	5
Three or more adults with dependent children	2	1	0
Three or more adults without dependent children	0	0	0
Other/not known	0	0	0

Employment status of main applicants owed a duty			
Employment Status	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Registered Unemployed	144	86	36
Not working due to illness/disability	15	51	48
Full time work	59	60	59
Part time work	37	45	42
Not seeking work/at home	43	44	54
Not registered unemployed but seeking work	4	13	7
Retired	5	13	14
Student/training	3	2	3
Other	8	13	12
Not known	5	37	10

Homelessness Statistics in South Nottinghamshire 20-21

Homelessness summary by Borough in 20-21			
Indicator	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Households Assessed	219	220	169
Households owed a duty	206208	201	160
Households owed the prevention duty	145	101	93
Households owed the relief duty	63	100	67
Households owed no duty	11	19	9

Reason for loss of last settled home for household owed a Prevention duty			
Accommodation Tenure	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate	62	29	22

End of private rented tenancy – assured shorthold	34	28	23
Domestic Abuse	12	1	7
Non-violent relationship breakdown with partner	17	13	15
End of social rented tenancy	1	1	1
Eviction from supported housing	1	2	2
End of private rented tenancy – not assured shorthold	0	2	0
Other violence and harassment	0	2	7
Left institution with no accommodation available	2	0	0
Required to leave accommodation provided by home office as asylum support	0	0	0
Other reasons/not known	16	23	16

Reason for loss of last settled home for household owed a Relief duty			
Accommodation Tenure	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate	16	37	18
End of private rented tenancy – assured shorthold	8	4	4
Domestic Abuse	9	16	10
Non-violent relationship breakdown with partner	4	10	10
End of social rented tenancy	2	2	1

Appendix 1 (contained within Appendix A)

Eviction from supported housing	2	5	2
End of private rented tenancy – not assured shorthold	0	2	2
Other violence and harassment	2	2	4
Left institution with no accommodation available	4	0	0
Required to leave accommodation provided by home office as asylum support	0	0	0
Other reasons/not known	16	23	16

Accommodation at time of application for those owed a Prevention duty			
Accommodation Tenure	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Private Rented Sector	23	37	25
Living with Family	55	30	29
No Fixed Abode	0	0	0
Social Rented Sector	2	8	7
Living with Friends	20	4	8
Homeless on Departure from Institution	4	1	2
Rough Sleeping	0	0	0
Owner Occupier/Shared Ownership	2	0	1
Temporary Accommodation	1	0	1
National Asylum Seeker Support Accommodation	3	0	0
Refuge	3	0	0
Other/not known	4	7	3

*No data for 20-21 Quarter 1

Household type of households owed a Prevention duty			
Household Type	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Single parent with dependent children - Male	5	2	4
Single parent with dependent children - Female	39	30	25
Single parent with dependent children - Other	0	0	0
Single adult - Male	48	30	30
Single adult - Female	32	19	15
Single adult - Other	5	5	4
Couple with dependent children	10	6	10
Couple/two adults without dependent children	5	8	5
Three or more adults with dependent children	1	1	0
Three or more adults without dependent children	0	0	0
Other/not known	0	0	0

Ethnicity of main applicants owed a Prevention or a Relief duty			
Ethnicity	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
White	138	124	111
Black/African/Caribbean /Black British	2	3	6
Asian/Asian British	3	3	3
Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups	5	7	3
Other ethnic groups	3	4	1
Not known	7	20	2

*No data for 20-21 Quarter 1

Support needs of households owed a Prevention or Relief duty			
Support Needs	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
History of mental health problems	56	38	50
Physical ill health and disability	21	18	20
At risk of/has experienced domestic abuse	20	13	24
Offending history	15	4	8
History of repeat homelessness	10	0	6
Drug dependency needs	16	3	3
History of rough sleeping	6	0	8
Alcohol dependency needs	9	3	8
Learning disability	6	8	8
Young person aged 18-25 years requiring support to manage independently	23	5	3
Access to education, employment or training	7	0	1
At risk of/has experienced abuse (non-domestic abuse)	0	1	2
At risk of/has experienced sexual abuse/exploitation	4	2	4
Old Age	0	1	1
Care leaver aged 21+ years	3	4	1
Care leaver aged 18-20 years	5	5	1
Care leaver aged 16-17 years	0	2	0
Young parent requiring support to manage independently	3	0	0

Former asylum seeker	2	0	1
Served in HM forces	0	0	2

Age if main applicants owed a Prevention or Relief duty			
Age Band	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
16-17	0	0	0
18-24	47	54	34
25-34	46	45	38
35-44	36	29	26
45-54	17	16	13
55-64	9	12	10
65-74	2	3	2
75+	0	1	0

*No data for 20-21 Quarter 1

Accommodation at time of application for those owed a Relief duty			
Accommodation Tenure	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Private Rented Sector	1	10	2
Living with Family	8	29	11
No Fixed Abode	4	10	15
Social Rented Sector	4	8	0
Living with Friends	3	1	2
Homeless on Departure from Institution	3	2	3
Rough Sleeping	9	5	11
Owner Occupier/Shared Ownership	1	0	0
Temporary Accommodation	4	1	1
National Asylum Seeker Support Accommodation	0	0	0
Refuge	1	1	4
Other/not known	2	3	1

*No data for 20-21 Quarter 1

Household type of households owed a Relief duty			
Household Type	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Single parent with dependent children - Male	2	3	1
Single parent with dependent children - Female	7	26	9
Single parent with dependent children - Other	0	0	0
Single adult - Male	38	44	42
Single adult - Female	9	18	9
Single adult - Other	0	0	0
Couple with dependent children	5	7	3
Couple/two adults without dependent children	2	2	3
Three or more adults with dependent children	0	0	0
Three or more adults without dependent children	0	0	0
Other/not known	0	0	0

Employment status of main applicants owed a duty			
Employment Status	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
Registered Unemployed	44	55	33
Not working due to illness/disability	16	18	26
Full time work	19	21	21
Part time work	21	17	11
Not seeking work/at home	35	17	21

Not registered unemployed but seeking work	8	3	1
Retired	4	2	3
Student/training	5	1	1
Other	3	5	2
Not known	3	22	7

*No data for 20-21 Quarter 1

Rough Sleeper Statistics

Rough Sleeper Snapshot 2018	
South Nottinghamshire Borough	Count
Broxtowe	3
Gedling	0
Rushcliffe	2

Rough Sleeper Snapshot 2019	
South Nottinghamshire Borough	Count
Broxtowe	1
Gedling	0
Rushcliffe	2

Rough Sleeper Snapshot 2020	
South Nottinghamshire Borough	Count
Broxtowe	2
Gedling	0
Rushcliffe	3

Housing Register Data

Number of Applicants on the Waiting List for Social Housing by Borough			
Year	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
20-21	2151	596	594

Number of Lets through Choice Based Lettings by Borough

Year	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
18-19	400	308	376
19-20	307	193	303
20-21	343	207	212

Number of Units of Social Housing by Borough

Year	Broxtowe	Gedling	Rushcliffe
20-21	5596	4864	4038

Rough Sleeper Initiative (RSI) Funding

South Nottinghamshire has been part of successful bids to access the MHCLG's Rough Sleeper Initiative funding. The Council's access this as part of a wider Nottinghamshire Council's bid including Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Mansfield and Newark and Sherwood. This funding was first announced in 2018 and in the most recent year, the Nottinghamshire Councils were awarded around £1.2 million. The RSI Funding has provided a number of important interventions for the Prevention, Intervention and Recovery approach to rough sleeping.

RSI Services		
RSI Service	Key operating area	Delivered in partnership with
<i>Rough Sleeper Coordinator</i>	Coordination of the RSI services and link between Borough Councils and RSI services	Framework Housing Association/Ashfield DC
<i>Street Outreach Service</i>	Outreach support for rough sleepers across Nottinghamshire	Framework Housing Association
<i>Nursing Outreach</i>	Wound care and tissues viability support and treatment	Sherwood Forest Hospital Trust
<i>CPN Assertive Outreach</i>	On the street mental health support	Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust
<i>Landlord Liaison Officers</i>	Assistance in finding and creating successful tenancies within the private sector and registered social landlords	Newark & Sherwood DC, Nottinghamshire Community Housing Association
<i>"Call Before you Serve"</i>	Specialist advice service for landlords who are having difficulties with their tenants and who are considering serving a notice to bring their tenancy to an end	Derby City Council
<i>Multiple Complex Needs Accommodation</i>	Supported accommodation for single homeless individuals with multiple complex needs	YMCA

<i>(Ashfield/Mansfield supported housing</i>		
<i>Substance misuse outreach</i>	Assertive outreach on the street substance misuse/treatment service	CGL (Change, Grow, Live)
<i>Prevention and Resettlement Team</i>	Provides tenancy related support to individuals and households to overcome housing and money related difficulties to maintain accommodation and prevent homelessness and those who need to obtain accommodation to end their homelessness.	Framework Housing Association
<i>No Recourse to Public funds service</i>	To work with those individuals who have eligibility issues that can create barriers to accessing accommodation and who are rough sleeping or at risk of rough sleeping	Tumtum
<i>1st Steps Accommodation (Mansfield)</i>	Housing first model supported accommodation in Mansfield	Action Housing