

Executive Summary

This is Rossendale Borough Council's second homelessness strategy, its key aims are to prevent homelessness wherever possible, to provide a safety net of accommodation and support to homeless people and to develop effective multi agency working agreements and protocols that both prevent homelessness and ensure that those people who do become homeless receive the best service available.

A thorough review of homelessness in Rossendale has been undertaken comprising a literature review, an examination of statistics produced by the Council, and, where available, partner agencies, followed by a detailed mapping of needs amongst the various groups affected by homelessness and the services available to them.

A strong emphasis is being placed on working with young people, domestic violence victims, those affected by drug and alcohol problems and those with a background of offending behaviour. Agencies such as the Health Authorities, Probation Service and Drug Action Team are formally recognising the need to develop initiatives that address housing issues and ensure appropriate support is provided.

Homelessness acceptances have dropped sharply since the Council began adopting prevention measures in 2004 and the figures for 2006/7 are the lowest for ten years.

A homelessness problem remains however particularly for households with higher support needs who require more than just 'bricks and mortar' to maintain their accommodation.

There is still no emergency accommodation in Rossendale which means that the majority of homeless households are still placed in Bed and Breakfast accommodation or in hostels outside of the Borough. There is also now an acute shortage of available stock in the social housing sector and this, combined with insufficient services for people with high support needs, makes it difficult for some people to move on from temporary accommodation.

There have been improvements in multi-agency working but much work still needs to be done. Protocols have been developed between the Council, Green Vale Homes and key partner agencies but they need to be strengthened and extended.

Rossendale has a strong track record in working with its neighbours to develop initiatives to address homelessness issues. There is now the possibility of developing a sub regional homelessness strategy and Rossendale is supportive of this action

The review has identified a number of actions both general and specific that will be taken forward to the strategy; the most significant is the need to develop more emergency accommodation.

Background

Legislation and Government guidance

The Homelessness Act 2002 states that every local authority must produce a revised, five year homelessness strategy by July 2008; the strategy must be informed by a review of homelessness in the local authority area.

A new code of guidance has been published by the Government that regulates the way in which homelessness must be administered by councils and stock transfer companies.

The Code also contains a section on the development of new homelessness strategies; the strategy must be informed by a review and contain details of:

- a) The levels, and likely future levels, of homelessness in the district
- b) The activities which are carried out for any of the following purposes (or which contribute to achieving any of them):
 - Preventing homelessness
 - Securing accommodation for people who are or may become homeless
 - Providing support for people who are or may become homeless or who have been homeless and need support to prevent them from becoming homeless again
- c) The resources available for the activities (in b) above

Recent Regional and Local Developments

There have been a number of developments, both regionally and locally that have shaped the new Rossendale Homelessness Strategy; a more detailed description of these is provided in the review document but the most significant are briefly described below.

Changes in Supporting People Funding

From October 1st 2007, the delivery of all floating support services in east Lancashire funded by Supporting People, will be coordinated by a single provider – Calico Housing. This is intended to ensure the following outcomes:

- a single point of access / referral
- a more equitable division of provision across the sub region
- an increase in the number of people able to access the service
- easier monitoring of services provided

A review of young peoples' accommodation based services is also currently in progress: a multi agency group is considering the options and will report to the commissioning body in November 2007; services for offenders, people with

drug and alcohol problems and those with mental or physical health problems are also being reviewed. The action plan may need to be updated in early 2008 to take account of any changes in service delivery.

Changes in Rossendale's Housing and Homelessness Services

Following tenant consultation, the Council transferred its housing stock to Green Vale Homes: a Large Scale Voluntary Transfer (LSVT) company. The duty to provide a housing advice and homelessness service, as required by law, has remained with the Council but the Housing Options Service is delivered by Green Vale Homes under a service level agreement.

Possible Development of an East Lancashire Homelessness Strategy

Rossendale has already worked with its neighbours Burnley and Pendle to develop initiatives to address homelessness issues. The possibility now exists that an east Lancashire Homelessness Strategy may be produced to cover all six boroughs in the sub region. This would be achieved by merging the common elements of the local strategies resulting in the development of a two tier action plan.

There are significant advantages in this approach: local actions are implemented locally and common actions are implemented in a wider arena; thus reducing duplication and individual workloads.

Working across borough boundaries would also demonstrate a value for money approach to homelessness.

Achievements of the First Rossendale Homelessness Strategy

Significant successes of the first strategy include:

- A complete overhaul of all leaflets, forms and standard letters
- The development of a nominations procedure between the Council and its Housing Association partners
- The commissioning of a mediation service to help prevent youth homelessness caused by family eviction
- The development of a bond scheme to enable more customers to access private sector housing
- The development of multi agency protocols for young people aged sixteen and seventeen.
- The increased use of appropriate IT systems to speed up procedures between housing providers and to capture data
- The production of a new homelessness procedure manual
- The development of a new homelessness support officer post
- The development of some supported move on accommodation for young people
- An increase in the number of floating support places
- Participation in cross borough initiatives

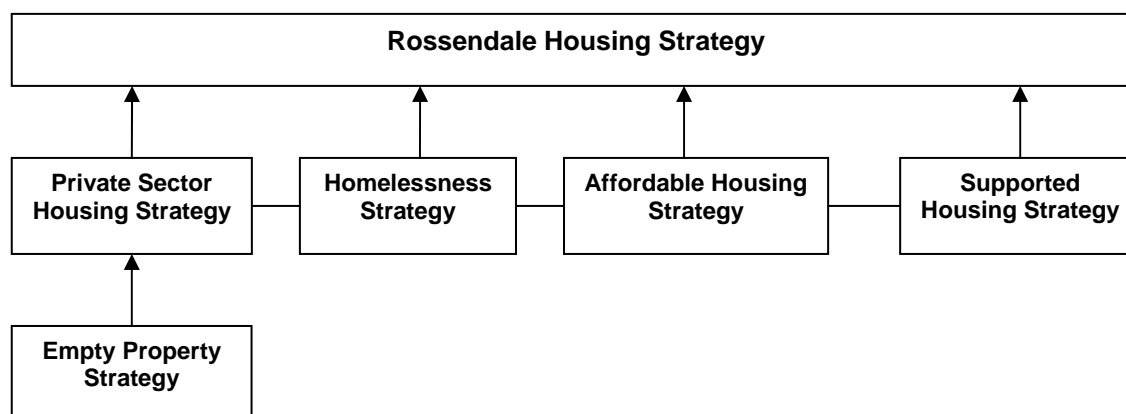
A significant challenge still remains from the action plan:

- The need to provide emergency accommodation

Links to Rossendale Housing Strategies

Figure 1 below shows how the homelessness strategy links to Rossendale's other housing related strategies

Figure 1 the Rossendale Homelessness Strategy and other Rossendale Housing Strategies

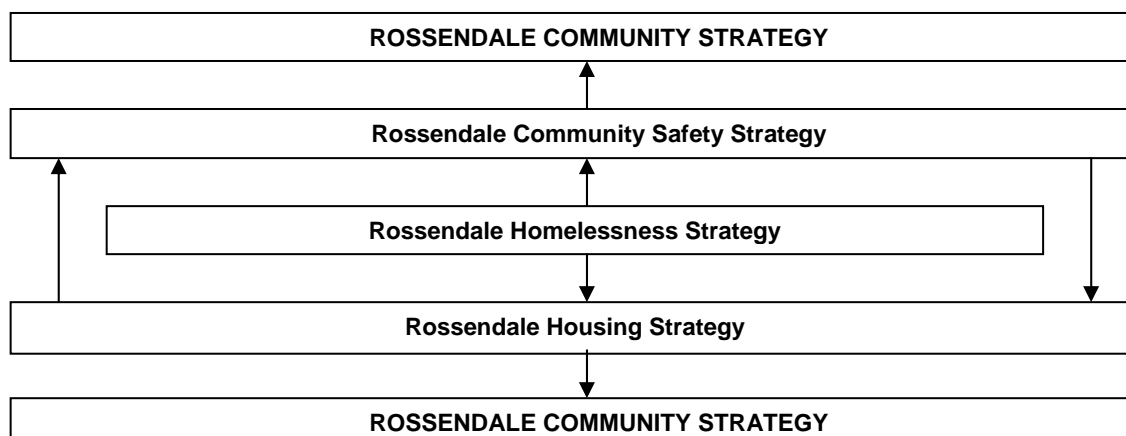


Links to Other Rossendale Strategies

Implementation of the actions in the Rossendale Homelessness Strategy will assist in the achievement of targets in other Rossendale strategies such as the Community Safety Strategy; ultimately it will feed into the Rossendale Community Strategy.

Figure 2 below gives an example of how the various Rossendale strategies are interrelated and support each other.

Figure 2 the Rossendale Homelessness Strategy and its relationship with other Rossendale Strategies



Wider Strategic Links

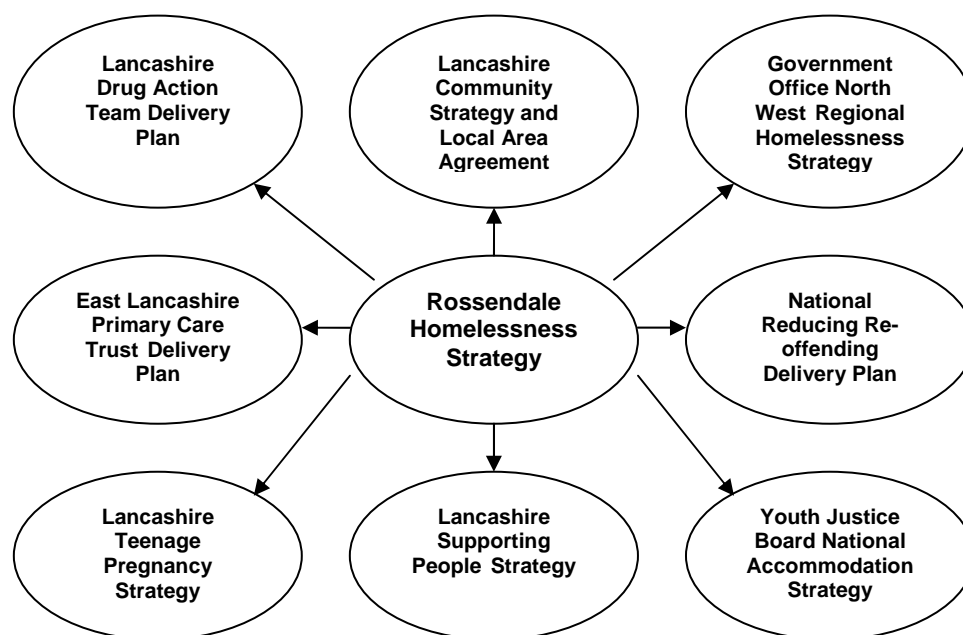
The Rossendale Homelessness Review highlighted the intention of most national and regional agencies to develop initiatives that involve the provision of accommodation. Actions from the homelessness strategy will impact upon the development of services that are recommended in the strategic plans of agencies such as the Drug Action Team, Primary Care Trust, Probation Service, and the Youth Offending Team. Some actions will also help to deliver against the targets set by the Lancashire Supporting People Partnership and those contained in the Lancashire Area Agreement.

The development of an east Lancashire strategy would considerably strengthen cross strategy development and multi agency working at a sub regional level. Each borough or district would retain its local plan but also participate in the delivery of a high level, sub regional, action plan. Good examples of where sub regional actions could be achieved include work with:

- the County Council (Social Care Services);
- the East Lancashire Primary Care Trust;
- the Prison Service;
- the Youth Offending Team;
- the Probation Service
- the Drug Action Team

Figure 3 shows the principle national and regional strategies that could be impacted on by the achievement of relevant actions in the homelessness strategy.

Figure 3 the Rossendale Homelessness Strategy in the wider strategic arena



Key Aims of the Strategy

The key aims of the Rossendale Homelessness Strategy are:

- To prevent homelessness
- To develop multi agency initiatives, agreements and protocols that help to prevent homelessness and minimise its occurrence
- To provide a safety net of accommodation and support to help prevent homeless people from becoming homeless again whilst reducing the use of bed and breakfast as temporary accommodation by:
- To monitor changing needs and add actions as appropriate and to keep partner agencies informed on progress against targets by:

Delivering the Strategy

Rossendale Homelessness Forum and sub groups

The Rossendale Homelessness Forum will meet quarterly and consist of representatives (at all levels) from all agencies interested in the homelessness field.

The purpose of the Rossendale Homelessness Forum is to:

- Raise and maintain the profile of homelessness in Rossendale
- Foster and develop multi agency working

- Provide networking opportunities for agencies
- Ensure that agency consultation continues to inform the Rossendale Homelessness Strategy
- Endorse the prioritisation of initiatives contained in the strategy
- Endorse funding bids where appropriate
- Receive reports from the Service Development Groups

The Rossendale Service Development Groups will meet as often as necessary and consist of:

- Senior representatives from agencies, who able to pledge resources on behalf of their agency, who are interested in developing a particular piece of service provision
- Service users who should, wherever possible, be represented on these groups.

The purpose of the Service Development Groups is to:

- Develop new provision
- Improve existing provision
- Carry out research projects

Each Service Development Group will have a lead officer who will be responsible for arranging meetings, circulating minutes and reporting progress to the forum.

The composition of each Service Development Group is shown in the 'Who will do it' column in the Action Plan.

Action Plan

The action plan shows how the aims of the strategy will be achieved, who will be involved in achieving them and how the achievements will be reported to key stakeholders and the public.

Strategic and Operational Actions

The transfer of the housing advice and homelessness service from Rossendale Borough Council to Green Vale Homes means that there is now a split between strategic and operational responsibilities: the duty to provide a service to the public: the operational responsibility; has passed to Green Vale Homes but the overall strategic responsibility remains with the Council.

For this reason the Action Plan has been divided into two sections according to who will lead on delivery: Overall strategic actions will, in most cases, be led by representatives of the Council and the specific operational actions will, in most cases, be led by Green Vale Homes.

A small number of the actions will be led by partner agencies closely supported by a representative from either the Council or Green Vale Homes.

Prioritisation

Within the action plan, each action has been awarded a priority status according to the urgency of the need and a realistic appraisal of how long it may take to deliver. Prioritisation has been divided into three categories: short term actions are intended to be completed within one year; medium term actions should be complete within three years and long term actions are due for completion within three to five years from the publication of the strategy.

Recommendations for the Action Plan

Those recommendations that meet all of the SMART criteria are summarised below; they have been derived from the research undertaken in the review and will form the basis of the action plan in the new Rossendale Homelessness Strategy.

The action plan will identify links to other regional and local strategies and have multi agency leadership

The actions to prevent homelessness are to:

- Update the housing advice and homelessness section of the Rossendale Borough Council and Green Vale Homes websites
- Update the service directory
- Deliver preventative work in local schools and colleges
- Agree family mediation protocol
- Amend the housing advice database to more accurately reflect the precise nature of the enquiries, responses and outcomes
- Identify resources to provide bonds when Government Homelessness Grant ceases
- Identify resources to enable the Sanctuary scheme to continue when Government Homeless Grant ceases

The actions to promote multi agency working are to:

- Support the development of protocols at a sub regional or regional level for the following groups:
 - ❖ Offenders
 - ❖ Drug and alcohol users

- ❖ People with mental health problems
- ❖ People being discharged from hospital
- ❖ Young people moving on from supported accommodation
- ❖ Care leavers

- Deliver training to Connexions, Youth Service and Initial Assessment Team staff

The actions to provide a safety net are to:

- Develop emergency accommodation for:
 - ❖ Families
 - ❖ Young people
 - ❖ Domestic violence victims

- Identify resources to enable the Rossendale M3 Project to provide up to four supported lodgings placements when current Supporting People funding ceases

The actions to monitor changing conditions and performance are to:

- Repeat the rough sleeper count in 2010

- Monitor the number of homeless acceptances due to mortgage arrears

- Update the action plan quarterly

- Update the strategy annually

Possible Future Actions

The following recommendations are of a more general nature that either: require the Council to support actions in other strategies or to consider possible actions that may in time be added to the action plan.

- Develop an east Lancashire Homelessness Strategy

- Identify a lead officer from east Lancashire to engage with the National Offender Management Service to develop joint actions (If east Lancashire Homelessness Strategy is agreed)

- Identify a lead officer from east Lancashire to engage with the Youth Offending Team to develop joint actions (If east Lancashire Homelessness Strategy is agreed)

- Identify a lead officer from east Lancashire authorities to engage with the Drug Action Team at a senior level to help meet joint targets (if east Lancashire Homelessness Strategy is agreed)

- Ensure Rossendale continues to be represented on Supporting People Development Groups
- Amend homelessness targets in Local Strategic Partnership action plan to achieve consistency with other Rossendale strategy documents
- Support proposals to provide an enhanced supported lodgings service for young people with high support needs (possible action for an east Lancashire strategy)
- Consider developing a common referral form for young people's housing and support services (possible action for an east Lancashire strategy)
- Support the development of a service that will identify accommodation and coordinate support for people with mental health problems currently in residential care
- Consider the development of a 'rent up front' scheme to prevent homelessness caused by release from prison
- Consider developing multi agency panels to assist homeless people with multiple needs
- Re establish a reporting system to enable data on homeless mothers and pregnant women aged sixteen and seventeen to be passed to Teenage Sexual Health Coordinator
- Monitor social sector evictions to ensure that Citizen's Advice Bureau Housing Benefit protocol is being observed
- Set up a mechanism to identify young people at risk of homelessness before the age of sixteen

Resources

The aims of the strategy cannot be realised without resources both in terms of time and finance.

The principle means of funding the implementation of the first homelessness strategy was the Government Homelessness Grant of £40,000.00. This ensured that the majority of actions, that did not require large amounts of capital or revenue funding, in the original action plan, were completed.

The Grant has now been fixed at £40,000.00 for the next three years and this will help ensure that those actions in the new plan that do not require large amounts of funding will be completed on time.

There remain however, some actions that are crucial to the success of the strategy that require significant amounts of funding to be realised: the development of emergency accommodation is a significant example.

It is therefore essential that the lead agencies for each action are up to date with, and wherever possible influencing, funding opportunities being offered from the following sources;

- Department for Communities and Local Government
- Lancashire Area Agreement
- Housing Corporation
- Lancashire Supporting People
- Lancashire Drug and Alcohol Action Team
- Lancashire County Council
- East Lancashire Primary Care Trust

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Strategic action

Preventing homelessness by providing information

Short term priority

Baseline position	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
December 2007			Lead in bold				
Housing advice and homelessness information on Rossendale Borough Council website needs to be updated	Update website	July 2009	Rossendale Borough Council Housing Market Renewal Manager	Website updated	Rossendale Borough Council	Rossendale Housing Strategy	

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Strategic action

Providing a safety net – emergency accommodation

Medium to long term priority

Baseline position	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver Lead in bold	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
December 2007							
There is no emergency accommodation for families in Rossendale	Consider options and develop appropriate provision	July 2012	Rossendale Borough Council Housing Market Renewal Manager Green Vale Homes Deputy Operations Manager	Emergency accommodation for families created in Rossendale or suitable cross borough provision developed	TBC	Rossendale Supported Housing Strategy Lancashire Supporting People Strategy North West Regional Homelessness Strategy	

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Strategic action

Providing a safety net – emergency accommodation

Medium to long term priority

Baseline position December 2007	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver Lead in bold	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made December 2007
There is no emergency accommodation for young people in Rossendale	Develop suitable provision	July 2012	Stonham Housing Association Regional Manager Green Vale Homes Deputy Operations Manager Rossendale Borough Council Housing Research and Strategy Officer Supporting People Contracts Officer Rossendale Borough Council Service Assurance Officer CAPITA Housing Benefit Officer	Two units of emergency accommodation for young people created in Rossendale or suitable cross borough provision developed	Capital: Housing Corporation Grant (TBC) Department for Communities and Local Government Grant 'Places of Change' (TBC) Revenue: Supporting People (TBC) Housing Benefit (TBC)	Rossendale Supported Housing Strategy Lancashire Supporting People Strategy North West Regional Homelessness Strategy	Service development group convened

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Strategic action

Providing a safety net – emergency accommodation

Medium to long term priority

Baseline position	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver Lead in bold	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
December 2007							
There is no emergency accommodation for domestic violence victims in Rossendale	Develop appropriate provision	July 2012	Rossendale Borough Council Housing Market Renewal Manager Rossendale Borough Council Community Safety Manager Rossendale Star Centre Manager	Appropriate number of units of safe (family suitable) emergency accommodation created	TBC	Rossendale Supported Housing Strategy Rossendale Community Safety Strategy Rossendale Domestic Violence Strategy Lancashire Domestic Violence Strategy Lancashire Supporting People Strategy North West Regional Homelessness Strategy	

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Strategic action

Providing a safety net – temporary supported accommodation

Medium to long term priority

Baseline position	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver Lead in bold	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
December 2007							
There is no dedicated supported temporary accommodation for young people with offending backgrounds or teenage mothers in Rossendale	Develop supported lodgings for young offenders and young mothers	July 2012	Rossendale Borough Council Housing Market Renewal Manager Youth Offending Team Accommodation Manager Teenage Sexual Health Coordinator Rossendale M3 Project Manager	Number of new supported lodgings placements created	Supporting People (TBC) Rossendale Borough Council (TBC)	Rossendale Supported Housing Strategy Lancashire Teenage Pregnancy Strategy Lancashire Supporting People Strategy North West Regional Homelessness Strategy North West Regional Supported Housing Strategy Lancashire Youth Offending Team Accommodation Strategy North West Area Prisons Accommodation Strategy	

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Strategic action

Multi agency working to prevent and minimise homelessness

Medium term priority

Baseline position December 2007	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver Lead in bold	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
<p>The current protocols for the following groups need strengthening at a sub regional or regional level</p> <p>Offenders</p> <p>Drug and alcohol users</p> <p>People with mental health problems</p> <p>People being discharged from hospital</p> <p>Care leavers</p>	<p>Support the development of robust multi agency protocols at the appropriate sub regional or regional level</p>	<p>July 2010</p>	<p>Rossendale Borough Council Housing Renewal Manager</p> <p>Rossendale Borough Council Housing Research and Strategy Officer</p>	<p>Protocols agreed and implemented</p>	<p>Rossendale Borough Council</p>	<p>North West Prison Service Accommodation Strategy</p> <p>Youth Justice Board Accommodation Strategy</p> <p>Respect Standard for Housing Management</p> <p>North West Regional Homelessness Strategy</p> <p>Lancashire Drug and Alcohol Team Treatment Plan</p> <p>East Lancashire Mental Health Accommodation Strategy</p> <p>East Lancashire Health Authority Delivery Plan</p> <p>Lancashire Supporting People Strategy</p> <p>Rossendale Supported Housing Strategy</p> <p>Every Child Matters</p>	

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007
Strategic action
Monitoring changing conditions

Medium and long term priority

Baseline position	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
December 2007			Lead in bold				December 2007
Although the last count found no rough sleepers, it is recognised that there is a need to continue to monitor levels of rough sleeping to ensure that if a problem arises, it is addressed.	Repeat Rough Sleeper count on a three yearly basis unless evidence from the Homelessness Forum suggests that a count is needed sooner	Next count in 2010	Rossendale Borough Council Housing Market Renewal Manager	Count completed	Government Homelessness Grant	North West Regional Homelessness Strategy	

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Strategic action

Monitoring performance

Short, medium and long term priority

Baseline position	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
December 2007			Lead in bold				
The Rossendale Homelessness Strategy needs to continue to be an effective working document	Update action plan quarterly Consider recommendations for future actions	First update March 2008 then quarterly	Rossendale Borough Council Housing Market Renewal Manager	Updated action plan presented to homelessness forum and available on website	Rossendale Borough Council Government Homelessness Grant		

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Strategic action

Monitoring performance

Short, medium and long term priority

Baseline position December 2007	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver Lead in bold	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
The Rossendale Homelessness Strategy needs to continue to be an effective working document	Update homelessness review and strategy annually	First annual review in September 2008	Rossendale Borough Council Housing Market Renewal Manager	Updated review and strategy presented to homelessness forum and available on website	Rossendale Borough Council Government Homelessness Grant		

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Operational action

Preventing homelessness by providing information

Short term priority

Baseline position December 2007	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver Lead in bold	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
Housing advice and homelessness information on Green Vale Homes website needs to be updated	Update website	July 2009	Green Vale Homes Deputy Operations Manager	Website updated	Green Vale Homes	Green Vale Homes Housing Options Internal Improvement Plan	

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Operational action

Preventing homelessness by providing information

Short term priority

Baseline position	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
December 2007			Lead in bold				
The service directory is out of date	Update the service directory	July 2009	Green Vale Homes Housing Options Team Leader	New directory published	Green Vale Homes	Green Vale Homes Housing Options Internal Improvement Plan North West Regional Homelessness Strategy	

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Operational action

Preventing homelessness by providing education

Short, medium and long term priority

Baseline position	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
December 2007			Lead in bold				
No homeless prevention work being done in schools and colleges	Deliver three homelessness prevention sessions per year	First session delivered by March 2008 and then quarterly if appropriate	Green Vale Homes Housing Options Team Leader Rossendale M3 Project Support Worker	Feedback forms from participants Reduction in homelessness amongst sixteen and seventeen year olds	Green Vale Homes	Rossendale Borough Council and Green Vale Homes Service Level Agreement Green Vale Homes Housing Options Internal Improvement Plan North West Regional Homelessness Strategy National Youth Homelessness Scheme	

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Operational action

Preventing homelessness by providing family mediation

Short term priority

Baseline position	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver Lead in bold	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
December 2007							
There is a need to maintain the family mediation service but a new agreement on funding must be reached	Agree funding	July 2009 And then annually	Green Vale Homes Housing Options Team Leader Specialist Mediation In Lancashire East Manager	Funding agreed	Government Homelessness Grant	Green Vale Homes Housing Options Internal Improvement Plan North West Regional Homelessness Strategy	

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Operational action

Preventing homelessness by providing family mediation

Short term priority

Baseline position	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver Lead in bold	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
December 2007 There is no formal protocol to cover referrals to and outcome recording from, the family mediation service	Agree a protocol	July 2009	Specialist Mediation In Lancashire East Manager Green Vale Homes Housing Options Team Leader	Protocol agreed and implemented	Specialist Mediation In Lancashire East Green Vale Homes	Green Vale Homes Housing Options Internal Improvement Plan North West Regional Homelessness Strategy	

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Operational action

Preventing homelessness by providing bonds

Medium to long term priority

Baseline position December 2007	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver Lead in bold	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
The private sector bond scheme is dependant on Government Homelessness Grant which is only guaranteed until March 2011	Identify sources of funding to enable the bond scheme to remain in place after 2011	March 2011	Green Vale Homes Deputy Operations Manager Rossendale Borough Council Housing Market Renewal Manager	Funding secured	Government Homelessness Grant until 2011 then TBC	North West Regional Homelessness Strategy	

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Operational action

Preventing homelessness by providing sanctuaries

Medium to long term priority

Baseline position December 2007	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver Lead in bold	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
The domestic violence sanctuary scheme is partly dependent on funding from the Housing Options Team which is in turn dependant on time limited Government Homelessness Grant	Identify sources of funding to replace the current grant	July 2011	Green Vale Homes Deputy Operations Manager Rossendale Borough Council Research and Strategy Officer Star Centre Manager	Funding secured	Government Homelessness Grant until 2011 then TBC	Rossendale Community Safety Strategy Lancashire Domestic Violence Strategy North West Regional Homelessness Strategy	

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Operational Action

Multi agency working to prevent and minimise homelessness

Medium term priority

Baseline position	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
December 2007			Lead in bold				
Evidence from the east Lancashire Mental Health Accommodation Strategy suggests that some people with mental health problems may be able to leave residential accommodation and maintain tenancies if provided with an enhanced support package	Develop protocol to reduce the use of residential accommodation and increase community based tenancy related support	July 2010	East Lancashire Joint Commissioning Manager (Mental Health) Community Mental Health Team Manager Calico Housing Floating Support Manager Green Vale Homes Deputy Operations Manager	Protocol agreed and implemented More people with mental health problems being supported in the community No homelessness caused by bed blocking	Green Vale Homes internal funding Supporting People East Lancashire Primary Care Trust Hospital Trust TBC	East Lancashire Mental Health Accommodation Strategy East Lancashire Health Authority Delivery Plan Lancashire Supporting People Strategy Rossendale Supported Housing Strategy	

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Operational action

Multi agency working to prevent and minimise homelessness

Medium and long term priority

Baseline position	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
<p>December 2007</p> <p>There is considerable evidence to suggest that some young people are experiencing difficulties in moving on from supported accommodation</p> <p>N.B Green Vale Homes has amended its allocation policy to prioritise young people who have been in supported temporary accommodation and demonstrated their readiness to move on</p>	<p>Develop the existing move on mechanism with partner housing providers and support agencies</p>	<p>July 2010</p>	<p>Green Vale Homes Deputy Operations Manager</p> <p>Rossendale M3 Project Manager</p>	<p>Agreement on procedure reached and formal protocol produced.</p> <p>Evidence that young people are successfully moving on from temporary accommodation</p>	<p>Green Vale Homes</p>	<p>North West Regional Homelessness Strategy</p>	

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Operational action

Multi agency working to prevent and minimise homelessness Short medium and long term priority

Baseline position	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
December 2007			Lead in bold				
There is a recognised ongoing need to provide training in homelessness issues to partner agencies – Connexions, the Youth and Community Service, the Initial Assessment Team, Health Visitors etc	Devise, deliver and evaluate training programmes as needed	July 2009 and then quarterly or as appropriate	Green Vale Homes Housing Options Team Leader	Training delivered and feedback received	Green Vale Homes	Green Vale Homes Housing Options Internal Improvement Plan	

Rossendale Homelessness Strategy 2007

Operational action

Monitoring changing conditions

Short medium and long term priority

Baseline position December 2007	What will we do	When will we do it by	Who will deliver Lead in bold	How will we measure success	Where will the resources come from	Which other strategies will this support	What progress have we made
Evidence from the Citizens' Advice Bureau suggest that repossession due to mortgage arrears mat become a significant cause of homelessness	Monitor advice requests and homelessness presentations due to mortgage arrears	Annually from July 2009	Green Vale Homes Housing Options Team Leader	Reports produced and service realigned to address the problem if necessary	Green Vale Homes internal funding		