

REPORT TO COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 3 JUNE 2021

Aberdeenshire Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP) Update

1 Reason for Report/Summary

- 1.1 To update Committee on the progress being made by the Housing Service on the actions identified in the Aberdeenshire Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan 2019-2024.

2 Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Discuss and acknowledge the activities being undertaken jointly by Aberdeenshire Council Housing Service and partners to deliver the actions identified within the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan 2019-24**
- 2.2 Agree to a further update on progress in twelve months**

3 Purpose and Decision-Making Route

- 3.1 On 21 February 2019 Communities Committee agreed the submission of the Aberdeenshire Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan 2019-2024 to the Scottish Government.

Previously, on the 6 September 2018, Communities Committee had been briefed on the work of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Group (HARSAG), and the requirement to prepare a 5year costed Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan. On the 20 December 2019, they considered an update on the work of the RRTP Member Officer Working Group.

On 5 September 2019, members were advised of the progress that had been made during the first six months of the RRTP and requested that a further update be provided in six months. The report to have been provided in March 2020 was delayed due to the impact of Covid 19.

On 3 September 2020, members were provided with an update on the implementation of Year 1 of the Aberdeenshire Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan 2019-2024 and agreed to receive a further update in twelve months

This report provides an update on the implementation of Year 2 of the Aberdeenshire Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan 2019-2024, in terms of developing a rapid rehousing approach to meeting the needs of homeless households and those at risk of homelessness. It addresses the impact of Covid 19 on the delivery of Year 2 actions and the homelessness service.

4 Discussion

- 4.1 The requirement to produce an RRTP arose from the work of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Group (HARSAG), set up by the Scottish Government in October 2017 to produce both short and long term solutions to end homelessness and rough sleeping. The recommendations of the group provided a vision of a whole system approach with prevention of homelessness paramount and responsibility lying with all parts of the public sector. Their recommendations together with the outcomes of an inquiry into homelessness undertaken by the Local Government and Communities Committee of the Scottish Parliament resulted in the development of the [Ending Homelessness Together high level action plan](#) published in November 2018 and updated in October 2020, following HARSAG having been reconvened to provide further recommendations on action needed during the global pandemic and in the future to end homelessness.
- 4.2 Rapid Rehousing requires that where homelessness cannot be prevented it should be brief, with households accessing settled accommodation quickly and stays in temporary accommodation minimised. Move on accommodation should be sustainable to ensure that homelessness does not recur and that the cycle of homelessness is ended.
- 4.3 In the Aberdeenshire RRTP and Action Plan agreed by Communities Committee in February 2019 and submitted to the Scottish Government, a wide range of actions were identified across four main areas including homeless prevention, supply and access to permanent accommodation, temporary accommodation and support.
- 4.4 In July 2019, as part of the distribution of the £24M Ending Homelessness Together Fund we received £261,000 to enable delivery of Year 1 actions identified. £259,000 was awarded in 2020/21 to continue delivery of Year 2 actions, with a further £150,000 received in March 2021 as part of our allocation of £5M additional RRTP funding. Our award of RRTP funding for 2021/22 has been confirmed as £252,000
- 4.5 In June 2021 we will submit our second monitoring report to the Scottish Government outlining spend of the RRTP funding and to give an update on progress made in Year 2 of the RRTP.

The monitoring report, attached as **Appendix 1**, provides detail on the range of activities carried out during 2020/21 and illustrates spend of the funding provided.

The RRTP member officer group met on 10 May 2021 and having received an update on activity agreed the content of the report.

- 4.6 Despite the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic on delivery of services, very good progress continued to be made in relation to a number of RRTP monitoring indicators and building on the strong start made in the previous year.

Some key points include:

- Homeless presentations reduced during 2020/21 by 30%
- Homeless backlog reduced by 47% during 2020/21 from 340 to 162
- Homeless journey time reduced by 15 days on average
- 119 fewer households in temporary accommodation in March 2021 compared with April 2020
- Average number of days spent in all temporary accommodation during 2020/21 reduced by 19 days to 91 compared with previous year.
- 116 temporary tenancies flipped during 2020/1, with occupants given secure tenancies, and taking total to 229
- No use of Bed & Breakfast within Aberdeenshire during 2020/21
- No breach of the Unsuitable Accommodation Order
- Repeat homelessness reduced
- Homeless presentations made by those aged 16/17yrs reduced from 5.5% of all homeless presentations to 4.8%
- 43.1% of all lets to households with homeless priority - an increase of 1.6% on previous year.

We anticipate an increase in homeless demand when the current eviction guidance expires and as the social and economic impacts of the pandemic continue to be felt. We are monitoring this and continuing to build on existing partnership working to ensure that we work together to prevent homelessness or to identify appropriate sustainable housing options.

- 4.7 On 5 May 2020 legislation was brought forward to extend the Unsuitable Accommodation Order (UAO), with the effect of reducing the maximum number of days that local authorities can use unsuitable accommodation for any homeless person to 7 days and ensuring a move away from use of hotels and B&Bs.

Coronavirus exemptions put in place allowing use of accommodation that would otherwise be unsuitable have been extended to 30 June 2021. The exemptions do not apply to households containing children or pregnant women. Since 31 March 2020 no households have been placed in B&B accommodation within Aberdeenshire and temporary accommodation use has been reviewed to prevent breach of the Unsuitable Accommodation Order.

- 4.8 On 22 March 2021 a ministerial statement set out the circumstances and criteria relating to the exercise of the power to modify the operation of local connection referrals. The introduction of legislation has been delayed to the next session

of parliament as a consequence of the coronavirus pandemic, and in order to allow the opportunity for further discussion of the issues raised during the consultation period.

- 4.9 The Prevention Review Group, set up to take forward work on preventing homelessness identified by HARSAG and in the Ending Homelessness Together Action Plan published its [report](#) in February 2021 and outlined recommendations for legal duties to prevent homelessness. These are aimed at reforming the homeless system and bringing together a wide range of public bodies with a focus on homeless prevention, including a duty to “ask” and “act” where there is a risk of homelessness.

5 Council Priorities, Implications and Risk

- 5.1 This Report highlights activities to deliver the Council Priority within the pillar “Our People” and the principle which underpins this priority of “right people, right places, right time”
It also helps to deliver the Council Priority within the pillar “Our Environment” and the principle tackling poverty and inequalities.

5.2 Implications

Subject	Yes	No	N/A
Financial		X	
Staffing		X	
Equalities	X		
Fairer Scotland Duty	X		
Town Centre First		X	
Sustainability		X	
Children and Young People`s Rights and Wellbeing		X	

- 5.3 An Equalities Impact Assessment is included as Appendix 2

6 Scheme of Governance

- 6.1 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and their comments are incorporated within the report and are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.

- 6.2 The committee is able to consider this item in terms of Section D 7.1 of the List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance as this relates to a decision on policy and resource matters.

Alan Wood, Director Infrastructure Services

Report prepared by Allan Jones Housing Manager (Options and Homelessness) and Lorraine Stewart Project Manager (RRTP)

DATE : 11 May 2021

List of Appendices

- Appendix 1 – RRTP Monitoring Report
- Appendix 2 – Equalities Impact Assessment

Appendix 1 - RRTP Monitoring Report

RAPID REHOUSING TRANSITION PLAN

Monitoring Report - activity and funding
(RRTP funding - part of the Ending Homelessness Together
Fund)



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

Scottish Government Ending Homelessness Fund Monitoring of Implementation of Rapid Rehousing Transition Plans

As part of the Scottish Government's Ending Homelessness Together Fund, funding of £8m was agreed with COSLA for 2020/21 and additional funding of £5m was provided to local authorities from the Winter Support for Social Protection fund to all local authorities to support the implementation of Rapid Rehousing Transition Plans (RRTPs). We are asking all local authorities to provide a written report on how they have spent their allocation of funding and progress to date. We would ask local authorities to remember to include funding carried over from 2019/20.

We would ask that all local authorities complete this report and include it with their amended RRTP for 2021/22 or latest version available which should be submitted to the Scottish Government by **30 June 2021**. We realise this may be subject to final accounts being cleared by Audit.

Included is a template to provide detail on specific activities which should be replicated for each activity you have taken forward in implementing your Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan. For example we are looking for information on specific activities such as prevention; recruitment of staff; temporary accommodation; shared tenancies; Housing First; or mediation.

We have also included a template for reporting on RRTP funding which has not been spent during 2020/21 and how local authorities plan to spend it during 2021/22.

Please submit this report, RRTP, an updated EQIA and any accompanying documents to:
RapidRehousingTransitionPlansMailbox@gov.scot

If there are any questions then please send them to the mailbox and a member of the team will contact you to discuss.

Local Engagement and Rapid Rehousing Team

Details of funding recipient

Local Authority	ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL		
Reporting Period	01/04/2020 <small>DD/MM/YYYY</small>	to	31/03/2021 <small>DD/MM/YYYY</small>
Reporting Officer	Lorraine Stewart		
Position	Project Manager (RRTP)		
Date Completed			
RRTP Funding carried over from 2019/20	£ nil		
RRTP Funding received for 2020/21 <small>£8m RRTP Funding confirmed 17/08/20</small>	£ 259,000		
Winter Support Fund received for 2020/21 <small>£5m Funding confirmed on 18/12/20</small>	£150,000		

Spend on RRTP activities 2020/21 = £502,148

2020/21 Activity

Activity Name:	INCREASE ACCESS TO SETTLED ACCOMMODATION OUTCOMES								
Activity Description: Provide a short overview of the aims and the transformative nature of this activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement new void procedure and reduce average days to relet based on new void categories • Ensure targets for proportion of allocations of Social Rented Housing to homeless households is met, including where Choice Based Lettings (CBL) scheme is in place • Reduce the overall homeless journey time • Reduce the number of open homeless cases (homeless backlog) with a focus on any cases open longer than 9 months • Facilitate rapid take up of permanent accommodation through improved access to CCG funding • Promote Private Sector Access through the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme (RDGS) and advertising of vacancies and use opportunities to discharge homeless duty into the Private Rented Sector • Complete one-off review of existing temporary tenancies through use of Insight (now known as Tenancy Analytics) 								
Allocation Spent on activity:	£	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 33%;">SG RRTP funding</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Local Authority funding</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Other</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Staffing to implement RRTP actions £173,780</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Staffing to implement RRTP actions £28,000</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	SG RRTP funding	Local Authority funding	Other	Staffing to implement RRTP actions £173,780	Staffing to implement RRTP actions £28,000		
SG RRTP funding	Local Authority funding	Other							
Staffing to implement RRTP actions £173,780	Staffing to implement RRTP actions £28,000								
Overview of progress made to date: Provide a short summary of the work undertaken in the past year, progress made and challenges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The homeless backlog has been reduced by 50%. The number of open homeless cases (without an offer of permanent accommodation) at the end of March 2021 was 162 compared with 340 at the same time in 2020 • 90% of open homeless cases have been open for less than 9 months. Cases open for longer periods of time are regularly reviewed • Homeless journey (time taken to close a case) has been further reduced to 139 days from 157 days in 2018/19 and 142 days in 2019/20 								

- New void procedure showing impact, with increased number of void properties being let within 28 days. Monitoring over a longer period required
- Together with Crisis, Aberdeen City and Angus Councils we developed and carried out surveys of private landlords and staff to develop understanding of their attitudes, knowledge and willingness to promote private sector outcomes for homeless households.
- A market and affordability analysis of the Private Rented Sector in Aberdeenshire has been undertaken and a series of recommendations identified to support increased use as a housing option. This included the recruitment of a landlord-facing member of staff to develop relationships with landlords/agents to promote access and to prevent homelessness by providing support to landlords and tenants to address issues at an early stage.
- Allocation Policy reviewed and agreement to develop CBL
- Apply4Homes partnership ended– move to Housing Online
- Restructuring of the Options & Homelessness service has begun – Housing Support and staff within Hostels initially
- The roles of additional staff required to promote Rapid Rehousing have been reviewed and, excluding the Project Manager (RRTP), have been incorporated within the structure from 1.4.21. The scheduler post within the tech hub has ended.
- Recruitment of specialist roles – Housing Officers (CCG and PRS) – has been completed on a fixed term basis using additional RRTP funding provided

Future spend planned on this activity in 2021/22:

£

SG RRTP Funding	Local Authority funding	Other
Insight £10000		
Project Manager (RRTP) £27,000		
Housing Officer (CCG) £32,000		
Housing Officer (PRS) £32,000		
Advertising of PR properties £10,000		

<p>Implementation in 2021/22:</p> <p>Provide a short summary of the aims and targets for this activity during 2021/22.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on continuing progress to reduce homeless backlog • Build on improved void process to reduce average days to relet and incorporating advertising of vacancies through CBL • Increase access to other housing options including Private Rented Sector. • Monitor and review impact of fixed term CCG and PRS Officers • Promote discharge of homeless duty into PRS • Ensure access by homeless households to properties in Social Rented Sector including where CBL in place • Complete fraud check – use of insight
<p>Plans for mainstreaming this activity:</p> <p>Provide detail of the timescale and plans to mainstream / when this activity will end:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialist Housing Officers roles funded until 31.3.22 • Project Manager (RRTP) role included within new Options & Homelessness structure from September 2021

2020/21 Activity				
<p>Activity Name:</p>	<p>REVIEW TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION STOCK AND ITS USE</p>			
<p>Activity Description:</p> <p>Provide a short overview of the aims and the transformative nature of this activity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to review temporary accommodation stock (TAU) and convert to SST (flip) as appropriate • Reduce length of stay in all temporary accommodation • Review use of current hostel provision • Review TAU stock, including the Shared Temporary Accommodation model – to prevent use of B&B and breach of the Unsuitable Accommodation Order • Consider how the needs of homeless households who have no recourse to public funds (NRPF) could be addressed • Consider Community Hosting Models • Promote travel warrants to customers temporarily located away from existing support networks 			
<p>Allocation Spent on activity:</p>	<p>£</p>	<p>SG RRTP funding</p>	<p>Local Authority funding</p>	<p>Other</p>

		<p>Additional Temp units as part of covid response £150,000 (Claim made against covid funding but TBC)</p> <p>Flipping/furnishing costs £12,000</p> <p>Travel costs – clients £250</p>	<p>Flipping/furnishing costs £12,000</p>	
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Overview of progress made to date:

Provide a short summary of the work undertaken in the past year, progress made and challenges.

- Temporary Accommodation stock was reduced from 350 to 284 during 2019/20 but increased in March 2020 in anticipation of potential demand due to the Coronavirus pandemic. During 2020/21 this was reduced again and at the end of March 2021 we held 225 mainstream furnished and part furnished individual properties taken from our own stock or leased from RSL partners and dispersed in or near to major settlements across Aberdeenshire
- We have aligned the profile of the temp stock more closely with the demand from homeless households, reducing the number of larger properties held and developing one and two bed properties.
- A further 116 properties were flipped bringing the total to date to 229. This allowed us to meet the needs of the existing occupants and reduce the homeless backlog and refresh our stock in terms of size and location.
- 184 households occupied temporary accommodation at the end of March 2021 compared with 303 at March 2020. The number of households with dependent children has been reduced by 44%
- The average number of days spent in all types of temporary accommodation during 2020/21 was 91.6 days compared with 110.3 days in 2019/20
- The stock of shared properties remained static, with use limited to single occupancy during 2020/21 to reflect public health guidance. This has been reviewed and shared occupation resumed with additional cleaning measures in place.
- Use of B&B ended in March 2020 and no placements have been made within Aberdeenshire during 2020/21
- No breach of the Unsuitable Accommodation Order during 2020/21

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of residential units has been completed. Use of all three had been adapted during 2020/21 to provide short term emergency accommodation. Outcome of review was to close King Street, Peterhead which was supported temporary accommodation for 16-24yr olds and regulated by the Care Commission, and to retain Stonefield in Inverurie (8 rooms) and Katteburn Court, Peterhead (12 rooms) for short term and Out of Hours placements. • Turning Point Scotland in partnership with Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire were awarded funding from the Wellbeing fund to support single adults assessed as NRPF. This was a response to the pandemic and SG guidelines 								
<p>Future spend planned on this activity in 2021/22:</p>	£	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">SG RRTP Funding</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Local Authority funding</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Community Hosting - £25,000</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	SG RRTP Funding	Local Authority funding	Community Hosting - £25,000		<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">Other</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Other	
SG RRTP Funding	Local Authority funding								
Community Hosting - £25,000									
Other									
<p>Implementation in 2021/22:</p> <p>Provide a short summary of the aims and targets for this activity during 2021/22.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review stock, including shared tenancies, in line with reduced homeless presentations and demographic of homeless backlog • Continue progress being made to reduce number of placements in temp and time spent • O&H staffing structure – changing role of Accommodation Officers and case management approach • Review community hosting study outcomes and assess how to implement alongside Aberdeen City. 								
<p>Plans for mainstreaming this activity:</p> <p>Provide detail of the timescale and plans to mainstream / when this activity will end:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During 2021/22 we will work with Aberdeen City Council and relevant partners to evaluate the role of community hosting within our temporary accommodation provision. This will determine if it will be mainstreamed or how it will be funded. 								
<p>2020/21 Activity</p>									

<p>Activity Name:</p>	<p>HOMELESS PREVENTION ACTIVITIES</p>			
<p>Activity Description:</p> <p>Provide a short overview of the aims and the transformative nature of this activity.</p>	<p>Early intervention is key to identifying sustainable solutions to housing problems. We recognise that homelessness, and households presenting in crisis, represent a failure to anticipate or address issues effectively at an early stage.</p> <p>Working with partners we can increase knowledge of what can be done to prevent homelessness promoting prevention activities and achieving better outcomes for individuals and households.</p> <p>This includes identifying appropriate pathways that focus on the needs of young people, including those leaving care, survivors of gender-based abuse or domestic violence, veterans and those released from prison.</p>			
<p>Allocation Spent on activity:</p>	<p>£</p>	<p>SG RRTP funding</p>	<p>Local Authority funding</p>	<p>Other</p>
		<p>£20,000 Prevention fund</p>	<p>£25,752 Prevention Fund</p> <p>£26,792.52 Housing Officer (New Scots Support)</p>	
<p>Overview of progress made to date:</p> <p>Provide a short summary of the work undertaken in the past year, progress made and challenges.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During 2020/21 homeless prevention was highlighted and promoted nationally in line with the legal protections put in place in response to the Coronavirus pandemic and which extended notice periods and prevented eviction enforcement action taking place. • We continued to monitor the effectiveness of the Care Leavers Housing Protocol and input to the operation of the Youth Housing Forum to ensure no young person presented as homeless direct from care. We have been actively involved in the Corporate Parenting Group and multi-agency work to develop a holistic approach to family support based on The Promise and implementing the recommendations of the Independent Care Review 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We represented the North & Islands Housing Options Hub as members of the A Way Home Scotland coalition to end youth homelessness and the development of the Youth Homeless Prevention Pathway. • We recruited a Housing Officer (mediation) to work directly with young people and their families to resolve conflict and prevent homelessness, to develop and share resources promoting youth homeless prevention activities and to provide a point of contact between education settings and housing. • Homeless presentations from those aged 16/17yrs were reduced from 67 to 43 during 2020/21 • LGBTQ+ silver charter work undertaken in recognition of the high number of young people who identify as LGBTQ+ that are impacted by homelessness. Awarded in March 2021 and resulted in increased awareness and commitment to mandatory training for all housing staff. • Continued joint working and communication with Community Justice Social Work, Scottish Prison Service and social landlords to ensure that accommodation and support was available to prisoners on release (SHORE) or to retain existing properties where possible. Measures put in place to access accommodation taking account of Covid restrictions. Early release programme dealt with effectively. • Continued to facilitate access to Homeless Prevention Fund to promote flexible and innovative responses to resolve homelessness or threat of homelessness • Identified pathway for survivors of domestic abuse to access accommodation and support in partnership with Grampian Women’s Aid and FearFree and ensured that these services continued to be accessible despite lockdown or restrictions to previous service delivery methods • Housing Options toolkit continues to be developed nationally and we have participated in a number of workshops as subject matter experts and provided practice examples 								
<p>Future spend planned on this activity in 2021/22:</p>	£	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">SG RRTP Funding</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Local Authority funding</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Other</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Housing Officer (mediation) £32,000</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	SG RRTP Funding	Local Authority funding	Other	Housing Officer (mediation) £32,000			
SG RRTP Funding	Local Authority funding	Other							
Housing Officer (mediation) £32,000									
<p>Implementation in 2021/22:</p> <p>Provide a short summary of the aims and targets for this activity during 2021/22.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the role of the Housing Officer (Mediation) and monitor outcomes and effectiveness. • Domestic Abuse policy for housing being developed 								

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With Aberdeenshire H&SC Partnership, review hospital discharge arrangements to ensure a patients housing needs are identified and dealt with during time in hospital or on discharge. • Participate in ongoing review of SHORE standards delayed by the pandemic and discussion of potential development of a national prison-based housing options service.
<p>Plans for mainstreaming this activity:</p> <p>Provide detail of the timescale and plans to mainstream / when this activity will end:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Officer(mediation) fixed term ending 31.3.22

2020/21 Activity				
Activity Name:	REVIEW HOUSING SUPPORT PROVISION AND COMMISSIONED PROJECTS INCLUDING RURAL HF PROJECT AND CONSORTIUM			
Activity Description:	<p>Housing Support provision has been reviewed in line with the legal duty to provide outcomes focused housing support to those at risk of homelessness. The review ensures that the service is fit for purpose now and in the future, incorporating learning around Housing First and service user and stakeholder feedback.</p>			
Allocation Spent on activity:		SG RRTP funding	Local Authority funding	Other
	£	Team leader secondment £53,573.42		ADP funding £31,000
Overview of progress made to date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed in house housing support provision including the Rural Housing First project. New structure developed for implementation from 1 October 2021 ending contracting out housing support and increasing Housing First provision 			
	<p>Provide a short summary of the work undertaken in the past year, progress made and challenges.</p>			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed externally funded support projects and worked with Turning Point Scotland re supported accommodation closure in February 2021 including resettlement and ongoing support. Worked with partners in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Housing First Consortium to identify and refer clients, to evaluate the project/funding and prepare to mainstream Aberdeenshire clients if required New Scots support integrated within new housing support structure Discussion re development of mental health support or access to services linked to drug deaths/non-fatal suicides 			
<p>Future spend planned on this activity in 2021/22:</p>	£	<p>SG RRTP Funding</p>	<p>Local Authority funding</p>	<p>Other</p>
<p>Implementation in 2021/22:</p> <p>Provide a short summary of the aims and targets for this activity during 2021/22.</p>		<p>HO (support) Mental Health - fixed £32,000</p>		<p>ADP Funding £31,000</p>
<p>Plans for mainstreaming this activity:</p> <p>Provide detail of the timescale and plans to mainstream / when this activity will end:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HO (support) Mental health – fixed until 31.3.22 Team Leader (Support) mainstreamed from 1st April 2021. 			

Unspent 2020/21 RRTP Funding

<p>Please provide the total of 2020/21 funding provided by the Scottish Government for the implementation of the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan in your area that has <u>not</u> been spent in 2020/21.</p>	£	NIL
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Provide detail of how this funding will be spent on implementing the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan in 2021/22 detailing the area that it will be used in. Please make clear the individual amounts

ACTIVITY	FUNDING TO BE CARRIED FORWARD	
	£	
	£	
	£	
	£	
	£	
	£	
	£	

Appendix 2 - EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

EIA Version	Date	Author	Changes
	11/05/21	Lorraine Stewart / Allan Jones	

Stage 1: Title and aims of the activity (“activity” is an umbrella term covering policies, procedures, guidance and decisions including those that affect services the council delivers).	
Service	Infrastructure Services
Section	Housing
Title of the activity etc.	Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan – Update on Year 2 activity
Aims and desired outcomes of the activity	<p>Aberdeenshire Council was required to develop a Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP) and submit it to the Scottish Government in 2019. The 5-year plan (2019/20 to 2023/24) outlined how we would move to a Rapid Rehousing approach. We provide yearly updates to Communities Committee and the Scottish Government outlining spend of RRTP funding and progress with RRTP activity</p> <p>Rapid Rehousing means working with individuals at risk of, or experiencing homelessness, to resolve their housing issues and identify solutions that best meet their particular needs and requirements ensuring that they reach a settled housing option quickly and that any stay in temporary accommodation, if required, is for as short a period as possible.</p>
Author(s) & Title(s)	Allan Jones, Housing Manager (Options & Homelessness), Lorraine Stewart, Project Manager (Rapid Rehousing)

Stage 2: List the evidence that has been used in this assessment and explain what it means in relation to the activity you are assessing.		
Evidence	What does it say?	What does it mean?
Data collection in relation to homeless statistical returns, consultation with partners, staff and 3 rd sector organisations that work with those who have experienced/or are experiencing homelessness, reports and high-level action plans and reports.	Identified the extent of homelessness within Aberdeenshire and nationally. Highlighted the actions required to move to a rapid rehousing approach and a baseline to measure progress against key performance information	Being able to access housing quickly, with the right level of support and security is key to moving on from being homeless. In moving to a rapid rehousing approach we have to work in partnership to re-assess priorities and shift resources, to develop a shared understanding of the causes of homelessness and how to work together to resolve it or to prevent it from happening.

Stage 3: Evidence Gaps.	
Are there any gaps in the information you currently hold?	<p>We have had limited direct input from those with lived experience of homelessness however the recommendations that inform the Ending Homelessness Together Action Plan, the work of the Homeless and Rough Sleeping action Group and the RRTP guidance were informed by, and developed with, those with lived experience.</p> <p>We engage with customers at various stages throughout questionnaires and this is useful but could be enhanced</p>

Stage 4: Measures to fill the evidence gaps.		
What measures will be taken to fill the information gaps before the activity is implemented? These should be included in the action plan at the back of this form.	Measures:	Timescale:
	Within Housing First there is opportunity to benefit from experience of peer workers. We will work with appropriate agencies and workers to ensure that there is input from those with lived experience of homelessness	

Stage 5: What steps can be taken to promote good relations between various groups/areas?	
These should be included in the action plan.	<p>The development and implementation of the RRTP relies on successful partnership working and engagement with a wide range of stakeholders. As implementation continues there is potential to engage further and establish and build new relationships including those with lived experience.</p>

Stage 6: How does the policy/activity create opportunities for advancing equality of opportunity?	
<p>Any prolonged period of homelessness could have a negative effect on an individual or a household, and their future life chances and opportunities. It is vital that risk of homelessness is identified at an early stage and prevented where possible. Where it cannot be prevented then the time taken to secure a sustainable and settled housing outcome with appropriate support will be kept to a minimum.</p>	

Stage 7a:

Are there potential impacts on protected groups?

The protected groups covered by the equality duty are: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

Who is affected by the activity or who is intended to benefit from the proposed activity and how?

Complete the table below for each protected group by inserting “yes” in the applicable box/boxes below.

	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unknown
Age – Younger	YES			
Age - Older	YES	YES		
Disability	YES			
Race – (includes Gypsy Travellers)	YES			
Religion or Belief			YES	
Sex	YES			
Pregnancy and maternity			YES	
Sexual orientation – (includes Lesbian/ Gay/Bisexual)	YES			
Gender reassignment – (includes Transgender)	YES			
Marriage and Civil Partnership	YES			

Stage 7b: Do you have evidence or reason to believe that this policy, activity etc. will or may impact on socio-economic inequalities?

This is about trying to be fair to everyone. Part of that is realising that not everyone may be starting at the same place. Some individuals and families may have low income, may have very little or no savings which means they are living from month to month therefore changes to council policies/services may have a greater adverse impact on them.

On this basis you should consider potential impacts on individuals/families by:

- Place: on specific vulnerable areas or communities (SIMD, regeneration, rural) e.g. housing, transport.
- Pockets: household resources, (Income, benefits, outgoings) ability to access a service
- Prospects: peoples life chances e.g. Access to, or ability to access: employment, training, services (such as council or health) or support.

Groups of people who may be impacted include, but not limited to:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unemployed • Single parents and vulnerable families • People on benefits • Those involved in the criminal justice system • People in the most deprived communities • People who live in rural areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pensioners • Looked after children • Carers including young carers • Veterans • Students • Single adult households • People who have experienced the asylum system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those leaving the care setting including children and young people and those with illness • Homeless people • People with low literacy/numeracy • People with lower educational qualifications • People I low paid work • People with one or more protected characteristic
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Please complete by inserting “yes” in the applicable box/boxes below.

Socio-economic disadvantage	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unknown
Pockets: Low income/income poverty – cannot afford to maintain regular payments such as bills, food, clothing	YES			
Pockets: Low and/or no wealth – enough money to meet basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provision for the future			YES	

Pockets: Material deprivation – being unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure and hobbies			YES	
Place: Area deprivation – where you live, where you work	YES			
Prospects: Socioeconomic background – social class i.e. parents education, employment and income , educational achievement.			YES	

Stage 8: What are the positive and negative impacts?		
Impacts.	Positive (describe the impact for each of the protected characteristics affected)	Negative (describe the impact for each of the protected characteristics affected)
Please detail the potential positive and/or negative impacts you have highlighted above. Detail the impacts and describe those affected.	The activities within the RRTP positively impact on homeless peoples' access to housing in Aberdeenshire. A higher proportion of homeless households are aged 16-24yrs and require one bed property which is limited.	Older, non-homeless households who require one bed property may experience a longer wait to have housing needs met in mainstream property.
	The RRTP seeks to address the needs of specific vulnerable groups including those with multiple and/or complex needs, those experiencing domestic abuse, care experienced young people, those released from prison. It advances equality of opportunity between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not.	
	Inequalities are tackled by ensuring that those most vulnerable in communities are protected and supported this includes identifying suitable, sustainable and affordable housing solutions with the support they need to prevent homelessness from recurring.	

	Work undertaken to achieve silver charter with LGBT Youth Scotland has promoted awareness of equality, diversity and inclusiveness	

Stage 9: Have any of the affected groups/areas been involved, engaged with or consulted?

If yes, please give details of how this was done and what the results were. If no, how have you ensured that you can make an informed decision about mitigating steps?	Work plan to achieve Silver Charter status with LGBT Youth Scotland involved engaging with a group of LGBTQ+ young people and a charitable organisation providing services to the LGBTQ+ community in Aberdeenshire.
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Stage 10: What mitigating steps will be taken to remove or reduce negative impacts?

	Mitigating Steps	Timescale
These should be included in any action plan at the back of this form.	Continue to ensure access to Housing Options advice for all customers that is tenure neutral and based on the needs of the individual	Ongoing

Stage 11: What monitoring arrangements will be put in place? How the EIA will be used to monitor the proposal

These should be included in any action plan (for example customer satisfaction questionnaires).	Progress towards Rapid Rehousing is monitored through yearly returns to Scottish Government and includes an updated EIA
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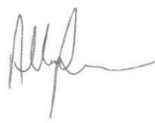
Stage 12: What is the outcome of the Assessment?

Please complete the appropriate box/boxes	1	No negative impacts have been identified –please explain.

	2	Negative Impacts have been identified; these can be mitigated - please explain. * Please fill in Stage 13 if this option is chosen.
	YES	
	3	The activity will have negative impacts which cannot be mitigated fully – please explain. * Please fill in Stage 13 if this option is chosen

* Stage 13: Set out the justification that the activity can and should go ahead despite the negative impact.

Older people with a housing need may be negatively impacted in relation to access to mainstream one bed property however they are able to access opportunities within sheltered housing or other housing options that young people cannot. Older homeless households will be positively impacted through quicker access to settled housing outcome

Stage 14: Sign off and authorisation.			
Sign off and authorisation.	1) Service and Team	Infrastructure Services - Housing	
	2) Title of Policy/Activity	Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan – Update on Year 2 activity	
	3) Authors: I/We have completed the equality impact assessment for this policy/ activity.	Name: Lorraine Stewart Position: Project Manager (Rapid Rehousing) Date: 11/05/2021 Signature:	Name: Position: Date: Signature:
		Name: Allan Jones Position: Housing Manager Date: 11/05/2021  Signature:	Name: Position: Date: Signature:
	4) Consultation with Service Manager	Name: Date:	

	5) Authorisation by Director or Head of Service	Name: Position: Date:	Name: Position: Date:
	6) If the EIA relates to a matter that has to go before a Committee, Committee report author sends the Committee Report and this form, and any supporting assessment documents, to the Officers responsible for monitoring and the Committee Officer of the relevant Committee.		Date:
	7) EIA author sends a copy of the finalised form to: equalities@aberdeenshire.gov.uk		Date:

Action Plan					
Action	Start	Complete	Lead Officer	Expected Outcome	Resource Implications
Ensure access to Housing Options advice for all customers that is tenure neutral and based on the needs of the individual	April 2019		Housing Manager	Customers are assisted to explore all housing options and to make decisions that meet their particular requirements	Within existing resources