Isle of Anglesey County Council		
Report to:	Executive	
Date:	21 March,2022	
Subject:	Housing Support Grant Programme Strategy 2022- 26	
Portfolio Holder(s):	CII. Alun Mummery	
Head of Service / Director:	Ned Michael	
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Local Members:		

The Executive is requested:

R1 to approve the Housing Support Grant Programme Strategy 2022-26 and Delivery Plan

R2 to agree to the proposed Spend Plan in accordance with Welsh Government HSG Guidance and requirement (included as Annex 3 within the Delivery Plan)

R3 to approve the Rapid Rehousing Transition Work Plan April 2022- March 2027

1. Reasons

a) Role of the Housing Support Grant Programme Strategy

The Housing Support Grant is a Welsh Government funded programme led and managed by Local Authorities in partnership with Health and Probation. It provides housing support services for people from a range of client groups. The programme aims to provide housing support to people to be able to maximise, maintain and sustain their independence through the provision of a range of innovative housing support services and projects that helps prevent homelessness. It incorporates the previous Welsh Government funded programme of:

- Supporting People
- Homelessness Prevention
- Rent Smart Wales Programmes

This Strategy is a requirement on Housing Services by Welsh Government and provides the strategic direction for homeless prevention and housing support services in Anglesey. The Strategy also satisfies the statutory requirements for a Homelessness Strategy under Part 2 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014. This Strategy will be place for the next four years with a mid-point review within 2 years and complements the Welsh Governments following key documents:

- Homelessness Action Plan 2021-26
- Housing Support Programme Strategy Template document
- Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan Guidance (October 2021)
- Housing Support Grant Guidance (March 2021)

As part of the Housing Support Grant Guidance, Welsh Government require all Local Authorities to produce a 4 yearly detailed Needs Assessment (with a light touch review, every 2 years) which underpins our HSG Strategy and 3 Yearly Cyclical Housing Support Delivery Plan, which has to be reviewed annually.

The Delivery Plan outlines how we propose to spend our revenue allocation of £3,571,720.50, for 2022-23 which we have allocated as follows:

•	Housing Support (previously Supporting People)	£3	,417,363.49
•	Homeless Prevention	£	140,000.00
•	Rent Smart Wales	£	6,209.00
•	Uncommitted	£	8,148.01
•	Total Allocation	£3	3.571,720.50

It is forecasted that the above allocation will enable us to provide housing support for up to 834 of our most vulnerable citizens and families. These include:

- victims / survivors of domestic abuse,
- people with mental health needs,
- learning disabilities,
- people with substance misuse,
- people leaving prison, young and vulnerable between
- 16-24 yrs old.
- people aged 55+
- vulnerable families and
- Single people aged 25-54 years.

Support shall be delivered across all tenures for those presenting as homeless or at risk of homelessness.

b) Current Position

The Strategy will supersede the current Regional North Wales Homeless Strategy 2018-22 as WG have directed Councils to adopt a Housing Support Grant Programe Strategy by 31 March,2022. The current Homelessness Strategy situation report was presented at the Scrutiny Committee in June 2021 as part of the Covid response and Homelessness report.

The HSG Programme Strategy sits within the wider Preventative Work Plan of the Early Intervention and Prevention Board.

The number of presentations to the Homelessness Service and Housing Support has increased. During 2020-21, 782 households approach Housing Services for advice and assistance, compared to 652 in 2019-20. Of this, the majority of

presentations (66%) were single adult households and 27% being households with children. There have been 550 presentations up to the middle of February, 2022.

The increase in households presenting coupled with the increase in numbers that require emergency accommodation has meant an increase in caseload for officers. Officers carry a higher number of caseload due to not being able to end the homeless duty as accommodation has not been available, or a duty has come to an end but the household is unable to move on for example, no private or social rented units are available and clients continue to need housing support.

The Assessment Team (Homelessness) and Support Services have seen an increase in people with mental health issues, substance misuse, older people, households experiencing domestic violence and young people being excluded from their family or friends. Referrals to the Housing Support Grant support this data information with mental health issues, domestic abuse and relationship breakdowns being the main reasons for accessing support. Often people present in a very vulnerable state with provisions being made for food, tenancy starter packs, basic furniture and packs to assist if there is a need to self isolate due to Covid.

2. Key Objectives

The Housing Strategy,2022-27, vision is that the residents of Anglesey

have a place to call home, are empowered and supported to contribute to their local community

This Strategy details how we will address the following themes as included in our Housing Strategy under:

- Theme 3 Preventing housing crisis and increasing housing options
- Theme 4 Support to promote housing independence

Based on the above vision the Housing Support Grant Strategy 2022-26 recognises the five key Pillars of Prevention as follows:-

- **1.Universal Prevention** whereby preventing or minimising the risk of homelessness across the population at large. This includes increasing the supply of affordable housing and other key themes as identified within our Housing Strategy 2022-27.
- 2. Targeted Prevention which focuses on high risk groups or most excluded clients and will include targeted pathways and transition pathways to housing and support for young people, complex cases, including people with mental health needs.
- **3.Crisis Prevention** which aims to prevent homelessness within 56 days which could include multi agency case reviews and access to our Homeless Prevention Fund and other available funds.

- **4. Emergency Prevention** whereby an immediate response is required such as support or emergency accommodation for those who are at risk of immediate risk of homelessness.
- **5. Recovery Prevention** whereby support is provided to assist with tenancy support and to reduce the likelihood of repeat homelessness.

Based on the Welsh Government High Level Homelessness Action Plan and the 5 Pillars of Prevention the following will be our priorities.

- Priority Area 1 Rare ensuring that homelessness is rare means preventing people becoming homeless in the first place
- Priority Area 2 Brief our focus on rapid rehousing will mean homelessness is brief
- Priority Area 3 **Unrepeated** ensuring we have a system which places the right people in the right homes in the right communities with the right support, in order for people to succeed and thrive.
- The Strategy also acknowledges the partnership working required to achieve this

3. Consultation

The Strategy was placed on the Council's website for consultation for comments during a 5 January and 1 February, 2022. 17 responses were received through the consultation questions, with responses received from a variety of stakeholders. The majority of respondents were members of the public living on Anglesey. The consultation asked:

- Has the Housing Support Programme Strategy 2022 to 2026 identified the most important issues and priorities that need to be addressed by Isle of Anglesey County Council during the period of the strategy?
- Are there any other issues that need to be addressed by the Isle of Anglesey County Council?
- The Housing Support Programme Strategy 2022 to 2026 identifies the actions we need to take during the short, medium and long term. Do you agree with these?

With the majority, 88%, agreeing that the Housing Support Programme Strategy has identified the most important issues and priorities with no comments from the 2 that did not agree.

Comments received in the free text responses have been reviewed and all applicable comments have been incorporated into the revised version of the final Housing Support Grant Strategy 2022-26.

82% respondents answered yes on the short, medium and long term actions and 3 comments that were identified and have been incorporated, where applicable, within the revised version.

Online consultation sessions where held with 35 stakeholders attending across the sessions with an opportunity to complete a poll, the questions asked were;

- Do you agree with the 5 pillars of prevention?
- Do you agree with the 3 themes for the action plan?
- Do you feel confident in responding to the consultation?
- It will not be me who will be responding

The poll results concluded that of those who responded 100% agreed with the 5 Pillars of Prevention and the three themes for the action plan.

- 17 (61%) felt confident in responding to the consultation;
- 0 (0%) did not feel confident in responding to the consultation;
- (21%) were unsure whether they were able to respond;

4. Communication Plan

The aim of the Communication Plan was to maximise the opportunities for feedback from various stakeholders and is summarised below.

A presentation on the draft HSG Strategy was provided at the following meetings:

8th October 2021	Anglesey Housing Partnership
11 th January 2022	HSG Provider Forum
24 th January 2022	Private Landlord drop in Session
24 th January 2022	Housing Services Staff Information
	Session
25 th January 2022	Housing Assessment Team

A draft copy of the Strategy was a requirement of WG by 31.12.21 with comments made and incorporated into the final draft.

The consultation was published on the Council's corporate website, with a link to complete the consultation questionnaire on 'Smart Survey'. The consultation was promoted through the following methods:

- Corporate social media
- Y Ddolen (weekly staff newsletter)
- Monthly housing staff email

The questionnaire was promoted regularly to members of the public through the Council's social media platforms, throughout the consultation period.

The consultation was included in Anglesey Council's weekly staff newsletter (Medra Môn).

A link to the online questionnaire was sent to:

- Local Members
- o Town and Community Councils
- HSG Providers
- Anglesey Housing Partnership (includes Housing Associations, BCUHB, JPPSU, NWP, NRLA)

- Medrwn Mon
- Private Landlords
- HSG Providers
- Probation
- Health
- Social Services
- Citizens Advise (CAB)
- Mon Community Link
- Mental Health Pathway

Furthermore, there have been numerous other methods of engagement in relation to the HSG Services including:

- Ongoing on line questionnaire Your Service, Your Say.
- Anglesey Rapid Rehousing Consultation Questionnaire
- · Regional Provider Questionnaire
- Regional Service user Questionnaire
- Anglesey Service user response
- Service user Involvement Outcomes

B – What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?

This Strategy is a requirement on Housing Services by Welsh Government and provides the strategic direction for homeless prevention and housing support services in Anglesey. The Strategy also satisfies the statutory requirements for a Homelessness Strategy under Part 2 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014.

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

As above

Ch – Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?

yes

D – Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?

yes

Do	Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):			
1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	The Strategy sets the direction to respond to and prevent homelessness		
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?	The main purpose of the Housing Support Grant is to prevent a person from entering an emergency situation or to deal with an emergency situation by providing accommodation and support		
თ	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom.	Each prevention column and priority can only be achieved in co-operation with key partners within Housing to reach the indented vision. It includes Housing Associations, Support Providers, Third Sector and other Council Services and external Services		
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how.	Consultation happens at each stage to gather views. See summary in sections 3 and 4 above		
5	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	See Impact Assessment which demonstrates a positive impact		
6	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.	See Impact Assessment which takes into account those who may be vulnerable		
7	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.	No negative impact identified within the impact assessment		

E-	- Who did you consult?	What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Senior Leadership	Supportive of recommendation
	Team (SLT)	
	(mandatory)	
2	Finance / Section 151	Supportive of recommendation
	(mandatory)	
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer	Supportive of recommendation
	(mandatory)	
4	Human Resources (HR)	n/a
5	Property	n/a
6	Information Communication	Na/
	Technology (ICT)	

E-	- Who did you consult?	What did they say?
7	Procurement	n/a
8	Scrutiny	During the Committee held 7.3.22 it was recommend that approval should be given by the Executive
9	Local Members	

F - Appendices:

Appendix 1 Housing Support Grant Programme Strategy 2022-26

Appendix 2 Delivery Plan 2022-23

Appendix 3 Spend Plan 2022-23

Appendix 4 Rapid Rehousing Transition Work Plan 2022-27

Appendix 5 Statement of Need

Appendix 6 Equality Impact Assessment

Appendix 6 Welsh Language Impact Assessment

Ff - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further
information):

Ynys Môn Housing Support Programme Strategy 2022-26

1. Aim of the Strategy

The purpose of this document is to:

- Relate the themes of the Housing Strategy 2022-27 to this Strategy
- Provide an overview of the issues on homelessness and prevention of homelessness
- How the Strategy is going to prevent homelessness and provide housing support
- What needs to be done within the short, medium and long term course of the Strategy's cycle
- Provide a basis to develop an Action Plan with our key partners

Our Housing Strategy 2022-27 states that our aim is to

To ensure that the people of Anglesey have a place to call home, are empowered and supported to contribute to their local community

This Strategy will help prevent homeless and provide housing support to support this.

2. Who is the Strategy for?

For any person who might be or become homeless who needs support and or accommodation to prevent this from happening. This can include single people, families, people with housing support needs, people with medical needs and client groups who have housing support needs.

3. How are we going to achieve this?

Whilst it is accepted that any person can become homeless this Strategy is based on providing universal and targeted services under two themes which are included in the Housing Strategy. These are

- Theme 3 Preventing housing crisis and increasing housing options
- Theme 4 Support to promote housing independence

These two themes provide a basis for identifying what the issues are and how the Strategy intends to address these issues in the short term of 1 to 2 years, medium term to long term over the course of the Strategy.

This Strategy is a requirement on Housing Services by Welsh Government and provides the strategic direction for homeless prevention and housing support services in Anglesey. The Strategy also satisfies the statutory requirements for a Homelessness Strategy under Part 2 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014. This Strategy will be place for the next four years with a mid-point review within 2 years and complements the Welsh Governments following key documents:

- Homelessness Action Plan 2021-26
- Housing Support Programme Strategy Template document
- Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan Guidance (October 2021)
- Housing Support Grant Guidance (March 2021)

It is important to state that Housing Service cannot achieve this alone and requires that we

work in partnership with service users and other stakeholders so that we can enhance quality of life, maximise choice and ensure value for money

This Strategy is based on an evidence base of:

- A comprehensive needs assessment which has been highlighted as key issues within the Statement of Need
- A review of the Regional Homelessness Strategy 2017-2021 achievements and action points to be carried over
- A review of the Homelessness Service
- Feedback from stakeholders and clients

4. National and Local Context

The <u>Council's Plan</u> provides a framework for all services to work and has housing as a prominent enabler of achieving this. This document also provides a framework for services to work together to achieve a common goal. This Plan will be reviewed for the next period 2022 onwards.

The Strategy is underpinned by the following Legislation, National Strategies and Frameworks that will impact on Homelessness Services and the Housing Support Grant programme:

- Housing (Wales) Act 2014
- Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
- Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016
- Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014
- Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015
- Equality Act 2010
- Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, and the Welsh Language Standards regulations
- Housing Support Grant Guidance 2020
 - o Housing Support Ministerial Advisory Board
 - Housing Support Network
 - o Homelessness Action Group

Housing (Wales) Act 2014

This Act sets to improve the supply, quality and standards of housing in Wales and includes a strengthened duty on Local Authorities to prevent homelessness. The Housing Support Grant makes a significant contribution to the implementation of Part 2 of this Act as its focus is to prevent homelessness, it also reduces or prevents the need for, often more costly, intervention to other public services.

The Housing Wales Act places a statutory duty on Local Authorities in Wales to carry out a homeless review and formulate a Homelessness Strategy. The Needs Assessment includes information on the review as required under the legislation and includes action points to move forward.

Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

This Act aims to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of Wales, by placing the sustainable development principle at the heart of all decision making.

One key element of the sustainable development principle is a focus on prevention, which aligns closely with the central aims of the Housing Support Grant.

This Act requires Local Authorities to think about the long-term impact of their decisions, work better with people, communities and each other and to prevent persistent problems such as poverty, health inequalities and climate change.

The Act requires public bodies by law to do what they do in a more sustainable way. It requires them to think more about the long term, work better with people and communities and each other, look to prevent problems and take a more joined-up approach. Public bodies need to make sure that when making their decisions they take into account the impact they could have on people living their lives in Wales in the future.

Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016

This Act will make it simpler and easier to rent a home, replacing various and complex pieces of existing legislation with one clear legal framework.

People who find themselves in difficult circumstances will also benefit from the Act. It will help to prevent current homelessness situations where a joint tenant leaves the tenancy, thereby ending the tenancy for everyone else. Inequalities in how someone can succeed to a tenancy are also addressed, with a new succession right for carers created.

Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014

Aims to improve the wellbeing of people who need care and support, and carers who need support.

Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 ("the Act") requires Local Authorities to make arrangements to promote co-operation with their relevant partners and others, in relation to adults with needs for care and support, carers and children. It places a duty on relevant partners to co-operate with, and provide information to, the Local Authorities for the purpose of their social services functions.

Part 9 of the Act also provides for partnership arrangements between local authorities and Local Health Boards (Local Health Boards) for the discharge of their functions. It also provides Welsh Ministers with regulation making powers in relation to formal partnership arrangements, resources for partnership arrangements (including pooled funds) and partnership boards.

The Act requires local authorities and local health boards to jointly undertake population assessment of care and support needs for adults, children and carers. More information on the population assessment can be accessed via North Wales Collaborative and is referenced within our Needs Assessment.

Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015

This Act aims to improve the response within the public sector in Wales to all forms of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence. It places a responsibility on public bodies to improve arrangements to promote awareness of, and prevent, protect and support victims of gender-based violence, domestic abuse, sexual violence and modern slavery.

The Equality Act 2010

This Act requires all pubic bodies including the council to tackle discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and promote good relations. An equality impact assessment was undertaken to identify any potential inequalities arising from the development and delivery of this Strategy.

Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, and the Welsh Language Standards regulations

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 places the Welsh language on the same equal legal status with English and must not be treated less favourably. In turn, the Welsh Language Standards 2015 replaced the Council's Welsh Language Scheme. An impact assessment is appended as part of this consultation.

The Human Rights Act 1998

The Human Rights Act 1998 sets out the basic rights we all have because we are human. It helps protect people by giving public services, including health and social care services, a legal duty to treat people with fairness, equality, dignity, respect and autonomy.

Housing Support Grant Guidance (HSG)

The Housing Support Grant Guidance was published in April 2020. The grant is distributed to local authorities to deliver, administer and to commission services to meet the vision and core purpose of the grant.

HSG is a grant mechanism which funds part of an overall Housing Support Programme that encompasses both the statutory homelessness duty funded through the revenue settlement and the non-statutory housing support preventative services funded through the HSG. Viewing both as a whole allows Wales to take a systematic approach to reducing homelessness and the impact of homelessness and unstable housing.

HSG is an early intervention grant programme to support activity, which prevents people from becoming homeless, stabilises their housing situation, or helps potentially homeless people to find and keep accommodation.

HSG supports vulnerable people to address the, sometimes, multiple, problems they face, such as debt, employment, tenancy management, substance misuse, violent against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence, and mental health issues which is highlighted within our Needs Assessment.

5. Vision and Principles

This Strategy details how we will address the following themes as included in our Housing Strategy under:

- Theme 3 Preventing housing crisis and increasing housing options
- Theme 4 Support to promote housing independence

Based on the above themes the following 5 Pillars provides an overview of the services which we offer:-



- 1. ⁱUniversal Prevention whereby preventing or minimising the risk of homelessness across the population at large. This includes increasing the supply of affordable housing and other key themes as identified within our Housing Strategy 2022-27
- 2. **Targeted Prevention** which focuses on high risk groups or most excluded clients and will include targeted pathways and transition pathways to housing and support for young people, complex cases, people with mental health issues
- 3. **Crisis Prevention** which aims to prevention homelessness within 56 days which could include multi agency case reviews and access to Prevention Fund and other funds
- 4. **Emergency Prevention** whereby an immediate response is required such as support or emergency accommodation for those who are at risk of immediate risk of home lessness
- **5. Recovery Prevention** whereby support is provided to assist with tenancy support and to reduce the likelihood of repeat homelessness

See *Appendix 1* for a current overview of the provision of services under the 5 pillars of prevention which are integral to the delivery of this Strategy.

6. Needs Assessment

The Needs Assessment has utilised national and local information and data sets, this has informed our Statement of Need (appendix 2) which addresses the following:

- The current and future demands
- Regional needs
- How statutory needs will be met

7. Priorities and Implementing the Strategy

Based on the Welsh Government High Level Homelessness Action Plan and the 5 Pillars of Prevention the following will be our priorities. Each action will be addressed over a short term of 1 year, medium term of 2 years and long term over the course of the Strategy.

Rare – ensuring that homelessness is rare means preventing people becoming homeless in the first place

Why is this important?	What are we going to do?	How are we going to do this?
Assisting people who are at risk of homelessness is key to preventing crisis point	Offer universal advice and assistance to anyone who contacts us for housing options advice Clients stated that they were not sure how to access services	Our range of services through our housing services and identify people who are most risk via our triage service This is an ongoing action
Identifying people who are at risk of homelessness with early intervention with help with making homelessness rare	Offer a range of services and pathways for client groups who are at risk of homelessness	Implement and develop our pathways to accommodation for specific client groups This is an ongoing action
As the Prevention Grant provided directly to support providers comes under the HSG (which assists with providing support to make homelessness rare) we will need to work on a sustainable model moving forward	Work with the three support providers over the next two years	Look at amalgamating and agreeing what elements need to funded via the HSG going forward This is an action which will be achieved over the a long period

Brief-focus on rapid rehousing will mean homelessness is brief

Why is this important?	What are we going to do?	How are we going to do this?
Developing a Rapid Rehousing	By September 2022 a Rapid	Developing the plan in
Plan will assist with making	Rehousing Plan will be in	accordance with WG guidance
homelessness brief	adopted	
		This is a short term action
As support needs change we	Roll out our low/ medium and	Currently two support
must be able to respond	high support needs	providers have been testing
appropriately	assessment	this model prior to full roll out
		during 2022-23

		This is a short term action
There is a gap in the provision for victims of sexual abuse	To consider whether or not there is a need to commission a separate housing support services for people who experience sexual abuse, who currently access all VAWDASV interventions via one aggregated service	This will be considered within our HSG team. We will engage in meaningful discussions with, Gorwel, our designated VAWDASV provider and the North Wales Rape and Sexual Abuse Service, and North Wales Police to establish and quantify the gaps in provision and to inform the decision making process, as to whether we need a separate service from the Generic VAWDASV provision.
Dealing with clients in a PIE informed way with help address the root cause of homelessness	Staff and support providers will be offered specialist training	This is a short term action Mental Health and LGBTQ+ training will be delivered in 2021-22 This is a short term action
To facilitate where possible quicker access to move-on arrangements from supported accommodation and prevent service silting	We will ensure closer working between service providers the Housing Services in general (including SPoA, Housing Solutions and Commissioners) in general to facilitate quicker move-on where possible and where there is access to available and affordable properties	This is a short term action We will closely monitor periods of stay in supported accommodation taking into account outcomes reached and level of support required. as per our recently developed assessment tool We will engage in regular contact with service providers in addition to twice annual monitoring exercises and we will utilise the Rapid Rehousing Hub Resource including the Move- On Officer and the Private Rented Sector Liaison Officer
To facilitate quicker access to targeted support by designated service providers for those placed in emergency accommodation and floating support	Ensure agreed referral timelines are adhered to by all commissioned providers	To prioritise referrals within emergency accommodation ensuring providers have made initial contact with service user within 48hrs and have undertaken an assessment of need and risk within of 5 days of placement, with targeted support having started within 7 working days, replacing the intervention previously

		provided by the Rapid Response Officer
		This is an ongoing action
		Provide same timeline for
		those requiring housing
		support, albeit this will not
		include intervention by the
		rapid response officer
		This is an ongoing action
To reduce the number of	To consider provision of a	To work in partnership with
people re-presenting for	range of accommodation and	the private sector and registered social landlords to
support and accommodation	support options for complex cases with a particular focus	address the number of
	on prison leavers in order to	available properties via a
	reduce the numbers	range of initiatives including
	representing as part of a	leasehold arrangements etc
	revolving door process	Utilise our rapid rehousing
		staff to facilitate quicker
		access to support and
		accommodation
		This is a medium term action
Determine needs and	We will undertake a detailed	We will work closely with
accommodation options amongst the 55+ age group	analysis of the needs of the 55+ population in terms of	colleagues from Adult Services, designated Housing Support
amongst the 331 age group	support requirements and	Provider for Older People, key
	range of accommodation	stakeholders and the wider
	required for short medium and	community to establish a
	longer terms for the next	range of housing options
	decade. This will inform the	which will include sheltered
	basis of an Older People	age designated
	Accommodation Strategy and	accommodation, Extra Care
	will be key to the tender process for this particular	and other viable models, delivering Housing Support to
	service user group to be held	those with assessed needs
	during Quarter 2 of 2022/23	those with assessed needs
		This is a longer term action
		The current Housing Support
		Peripatetic Service for people
		aged 55+ will be retendered
		during 2022 and the service
		will need to consider demographic changes and
		expectations until 2028
		This is a short term action
	I .	This is a short term action

Unrepeated – ensuing we have a system which places the right people in the right homes in the right communities with the right support, in order for people to succeed and thrive

Why is this important?	What are we going to do?	How are we going to do this?
Current trends and forecasting	Present a business case to	Additional staff will mean
shows that homelessness will	increase staffing levels within	increase in staff budget and
continue to rise over the next	the Assessment Team	the need for additional funds
two years and will continue at		from Welsh Government
a higher level than current		
figures		This is a short term action
Supply of affordable housing is	Provide social homes	Our Social Housing Grant and
a key theme in our Housing		Prospectus shows the planned
Strategy 2022-27		and need accommodation on
		the Island
		This is an ongoing action
Access to the Private Rented	Increase the options to Private	Offer incentives to private
Sector assists with preventing	Sector Landlords	landlords to work with us
homelessness		This is an ongoing action
		And take part in the National
		Private Leasing Scheme
		and the second s
		This is an ongoing action
To review the provision of	We will ensure consistency	We will work in partnership
housing support hours for	with all other service user	with Adult Social Care
people with learning	groups and also consider	(Learning Disabilities) and the
disabilities	provision for people with	designated Housing Support
	learning difficulties who do not	Providers for this service user
	meet the statutory threshold	group to consider the
	for intervention e.g. high	feasibility of reducing the 15
	functioning autism	hour maximum support cap
		per week on all cases, thus
		releasing additional funding to
		be spread across more eligible
		units of learning disabilities or
		to be utilised for other service
		usergroups
		This is a medium term action
		We will engage with all
		providers and the adult social
		care service to establish the
		number of people with
		learning difficulties currently
		receiving support across
		various eligible service user
		groups and determine the
		viability of establishing a
		bespoke service

This is a medium term action To aim to reduce the number Work in partnership with our To closely monitor the recent of people accessing or reincrease in the number of Mental Health floating support presenting for housing support cases of people with mental service to ensure timely access with high end needs health needs who require high to support by increasing associated with mental health levels of intervention of awareness and undertaking housing support, (in excess of marketing and promotional 3hrs per week) with the aim of activities through providing promoting earlier intervention timely information advice and and a downward shift towards assistance and appropriately medium and lower levels of signposting to specialist services. This could include support to promote independence leaflets, flyers, local radio etc. We will also work in partnership with other services such as Môn Community Link to ensure quick and timely access to a range of support, information, advice and assistance This is a medium term action

To work in partnership with all our providers and stakeholders to ensure homelessness is rare, brief and unrepeated universally across all recognised service user groups, eligible for housing support

Why is this important?

The Housing Support Grant is founded on the principle of working in partnership with service users and stakeholders so that we can enhance quality of life, maximise choice and ensure value for money

What are we going to do?

To work in partnership with all our commissioned providers and key stakeholders to ensure the successful implementation of the assessment of housing support needs process to determine throughput of low, medium and high end need and thus inform current and future commissioning priorities.

To commission and deliver housing support as an integral core part of our corporate approach to prevention and early intervention services, including partnership working with colleagues from the statutory and voluntary sector.

Work with WG to promote the Housing Support Services as career opportunity.

This is an ongoing action.

We will work with the following:

The Housing Support National Advisory Board

The Housing Support National Advisory Board provides advice to the Minister on policy development in relation to the Homelessness Prevention and Housing Support sector and how the sector views the effectiveness of homelessness prevention related grant funding in delivering against their objectives.

Housing Support Network

The work of the Housing Support Network is supported by the Welsh Government. Its main purpose is to enable local authorities in developing and implementing effective responses to homelessness and housing support as well as supporting the implementation of the HSG to effectively tackle local, regional and national needs and objectives.

Homelessness Action Group

This group is a Welsh Government task group, which will report to Welsh Ministers. The group will work independently of Welsh Government to provide policy recommendations on the action and solutions required to address what framework, policies and approaches are required to ending homelessness in Wales.

North Wales Homelessness Strategy

A Regional Strategy was adopted by North Wales Local Authorities with the aim of reducing homelessness across North Wales under the headings of People, Homes and Services which identified common themes to each Local Authority within their individual reviews. A regional and a local action would then incorporate the key issues and actions required. The Action Plan for 2020-21 was our response to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Regional Working / Landscape

The regional arrangements established through the Regional Housing Support Collaborative Group have helped raise the profile of the Housing Support Grant Programme across many of the regional forums, boards and initiatives that are established in North Wales.

Regional Housing Support Collaborative Group

The North Wales Regional Housing Support Collaborative Group acts as the overarching group that brings key stakeholders together to provide a forum for regional collaborative working across North Wales which meets quarterly.

The RHSCG is responsible for producing an annual statement, this is the work plan for the RHSCG outlining what the regional priorities are for that year. The RHSCG has a key sub group; the HSG Regional Leads group which have the responsibility of progressing the priorities outlined in the annual statement, supported via the Regional Development Coordinator.

Regional Housing Support Grant Leads Group

The HSG Leads meeting is the fundamental group for commissioning regional arrangements for the HSG programme across North Wales. The group have developed on several priorities outlined within the RHSCG annual statement; this can be accessed via RHSCG group's objectives for 2021-22 (conwy.gov.uk)

This group are the forum instructed by the RHSCG to develop services where there is not a critical mass locally, develop regional services where justified by economies of scale and continue to develop and improve service delivery of the Housing Support Grant across North Wales.

Regional Partnership Board

The NW Regional Partnership Board was established to meet Part 9 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014. The North Wales Social Care and Well-being Improvement Collaborative includes the six Local Authorities in North Wales, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and other partners. The aim is to improve services, make the most of the resources available, reduce duplication and make services more consistent across North Wales.

The annual statement is presented to the Regional Partnership Board (RPB) annually. The RPB is the board that can provide the mechanism through which collaborative working, between Health, Social Care and Housing can be developed. The North Wales RHSCG has robust membership links to the RPB, two former Regional Collaborative Committee members are the housing representatives on the RPB and the local heads of Housing representative is the RHSCG vice chair and member of the North Wales Heads of Housing.

North Wales Cell Leads Group

The North Wales Cells Leads meeting was an action from Welsh Government during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic to set up centralised coordinated cell meetings per region. North Wales Cell Leads continue to meet and feed into the RHSCG. Issues regarding current themes and trends are shared with the RHSCG for local authorities and external stakeholders to participate and collectively discuss where delivery of improvements can be achieved in collaboration for issues raised.

North Wales Regional Homelessness Group

The Regional Homelessness Group in June 2017 together with the Chartered Institute of Housing Cymru undertook a commitment to develop a regional homelessness strategy which was published December 2018 with its action till 2022. Much of the key issues outlined within this 2018-22 strategy; youth homelessness, complex needs, prison leavers and rough sleepers remain a high priority. We have worked extremely hard in the pandemic to ensure everyone is provided with accommodation, therefore though our rough sleepers numbers may not be as high the priority is still to ensure we can support them out of emergency accommodation and into supported accommodation.

Prevention and intervention is at the heart of the Regional Homelessness Strategy and is a key underpinning component within our Strategy and is the 5 main pillars of prevention which will be elaborated within this consultation document.

Improved access to accommodation and alternative delivery models highlighted in the Regional Homelessness Strategy will all continue to be a priority within this Strategy and our Rapid Rehousing Plan. The Regional Homelessness Strategy has focused its resources this year on highlighting the impact the Covid-19 pandemic has had on our Housing and Homelessness services.

Public Service Boards (PSB)

There are four Public Service Boards in North Wales established by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The purpose of the Public Service Boards is to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in their area by strengthening joint working across all public services in North Wales. Each PSB prepared a well-being assessment in parallel with the population assessment for the RPB.

North Wales Vulnerability and Exploitation Board

The purpose of the Vulnerability and Exploitation Board in North Wales is to provide leadership, governance and strategic direction to meet nationally and regionally driven priorities relating to

vulnerability and exploitation. Ensure the effective delivery of national, regional and local priorities for protecting and preventing vulnerability and exploitation.

This Board also seeks to identify opportunities to align activity with other partnership arrangements across North Wales in order to provide a joint approach to the efficient use of resources and effective delivery of priorities. Regionally via the Housing Support Grant Leads group the HSG programme provides regional funding for the IDVA service and target hardening equipment.

This Board has the priority of developing a strategic overview of exploitation, supporting a proactive partnership where those at risk are identified and safeguarded and offenders are disrupted and prosecuted, and enabling an efficient and effective response to domestic abuse, sexual violence and serious harm caused by violence against women.

North Wales Area Planning Board for Substance Misuse

The Board acts as a forum bringing together all agencies involved in the planning, commissioning and delivery of substance misuse issues at a regional level. It provides a regional decision making framework to assess need across all communities, pool expertise and resources, monitor the impact of the national strategy and improve and strengthen planning, commissioning and performance management of substance misuse.

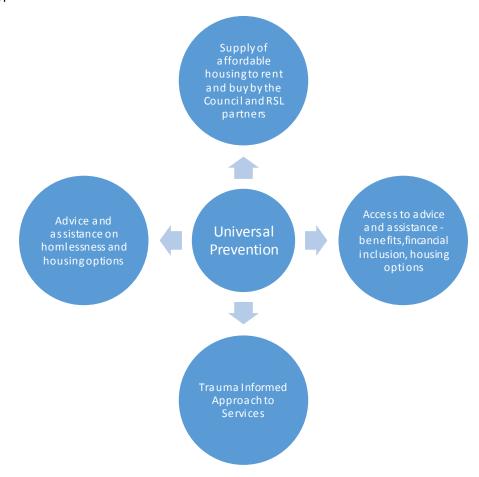
The Housing Support Grant contributes to assisting people with substance misuse issues in North Wales through the provision of supported housing schemes and floating support services. Regionally through the Housing Support Grant leads group the grant provides funding for the Are a Planning Board's Assertive Outreach Project.

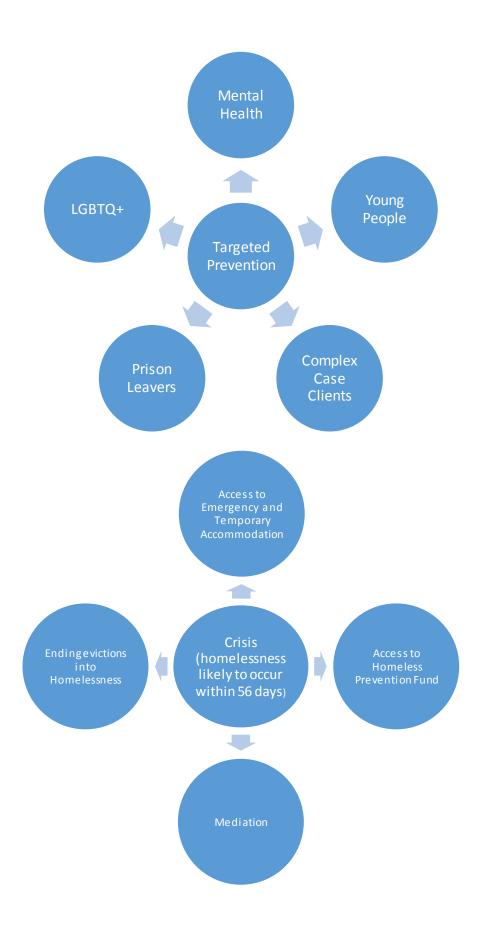
North Wales Regional Homelessness Prevention Taskforce group

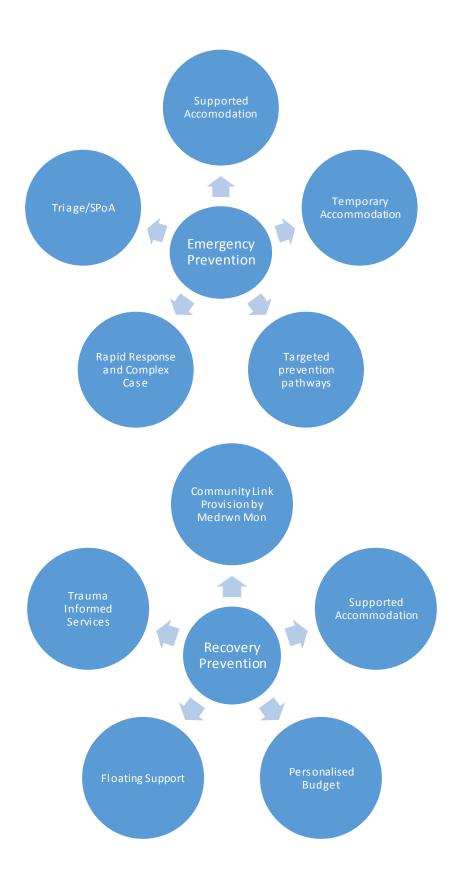
Through the HMPPS a Homelessness Prevention Taskforce (HPT) has been established in each probation division to identify standard release prison at risk of being homeless by working with the through the gate teams to prevent homelessness and support them into settled accommodation.

The Taskforce also identifies move on difficulties from approved premises (APs) and Bail Accommodation and Support (BASS) during COVID and support APs with their engagement with Local Authorities and the homelessness prevention pathways. The Taskforce will further ensure a strategic approach to homeless prevention and ensure a co-ordinated approach.

Appendix 1The following provides further information on what services are included under each of the 5 Pillars:







Appendix 2

1. Universal Prevention whereby preventing or minimising the risk of homelessness across the population at large. This includes increasing the supply of affordable housing and other key themes as identified within our Housing Strategy 2022-27.

Supply of affordable housing to rent and buy by the Council and RSL partners

The Housing Prospectus provides information on the level of affordable housing need identified on the Island



Isle of Anglesey Prospectus 2021 dra

Information for **Private Rented** Tenants



Private-Rented-Sect or-Tenants-Informat



Taflen-Wybodaeth-Tenantiaid-Sector-R

Housing Assessments and Housing Options Teams are able to offer advice or access in the following

- Landlord Forums (co-ordinated in conjunction with our Environmental Health Officers
- Access to deposit and rent in advance schemes
- Houses in Homes loans
- Grants for Landlords wanting to work with Housing Services
- Financial Inclusion for Tenants
- Access and referrals to tenancy support for tenants
- Access to Mediation Services
- Access to advice on Illegal Eviction
- Homelessness and homeless prevention
- Common Allocations Policy
- General tenancy advice for Landlord and Tenant
- Early intervention to try and resolve disputes and tenancy disputes
- Landlord incentive schemes for landlords

Access to advice and assistance - benefits, financial inclusion, housing options

Access to advice and assistance on financial matter can be accessed here:

JE O' Toole Centre

<u>Citizens Advice Bureau</u>

The Money Advice Service

Shelter Cymru

	Financial inclusion for Council Tenants can be accessed by emailing:	
	financialinclusion@ynysmon.gov.uk	
Trauma Informed	HSG Service Specifications include Psychologically Informed Environments (PIE)	
Approach to Services	principles as well as training provided to Housing Assessment Officers	
	A revised support plan has been developed for Rapid Response and HSG Providers Housing Related Housing Related Support Outcomes ! Support Outcomes !	
	A revised homelessness assessment and safety plan assessment has been developed for the Housing Assessment Team based on the PIE principles	

2. Targeted prevention which focuses on high risk groups or most excluded clients and will include targeted pathways and transition pathways to housing and support for young people, complex cases, people with mental health issues and prison leavers.

Mental Health	IoACC has a Mental Health Pathway to ensure that people with mental health needs who are accessing services either through Primary or Secondary Care are supported in finding and maintaining accommodation.
Young People	IoACC has a young person's accommodation and support pathway to ensure that people who are homelessness or leaving care are supported in finding and
	maintaining suitable accommodation.
Complex Case	The Complex case coordinator leads the provision of housing support to vulnerable complex cases who are at risk of becoming homeless or have been placed in emergency and / or temporary accommodation, having the need for enhance support identified by the RAG rating process.

Prison Leavers	There is a National Pathway for Homelssness Services to children, young people	
	and Adults in the secure Estate.	
	Anglesey Council have two Prison Resettlemnt Officers	
	https://www.anglesey.gov.uk/en/Residents/Housing/Homeless-or-at-risk/Housing- Support-Grant-preventing-homelessness/Housing-support-service.aspx	
	Support-Grant-preventing-nomeressness/ nousing-support-service.aspx	
LGBTQ+	Training for Housing Staff and Support Providers will be provided during 2021-22	
Tenancy Hardship Fund	<u>Tenancy Hardship Grant</u> for Private rented sector tenants	
Housing Support Grant	Housing Support Grant Services information can be accessed here	
Housing Support Grant Providers	Tiousing Support Grant Services information can be accessed field	
1 TOVIGETS	IoAcc Housing Support Grant Directory of Services can be accessed here	
	out to describe the second of	

3. Crisis prevention which aims to prevent homelessness within 56 days which could include multi agency case reviews and access to Prevention Fund and other funds.

Access to Emergency	Access to Homeless advice		
and Temporary Accommodation	Please contact (01248) 750 057 or email housing@anglesey.gov.uk if you are at risk or are homeless		
Accommodation	in you are acrisk of are nomeress		
Access to Homeless	The Homelessness Prevention Fund is available to those who are deemed as		
Prevention Fund	being homeless or threatened with homelessness as per Part 2 of the Housing		
	(Wales) Act 2014.		
	Please contact housing@anglesey.gov.uk for further information		
Mediation	Digartref receive funding from Welsh Government via the Homeless Prevention		
	Fund. However, this is predominantly for vulnerable young people aged 16-24,		
	but can be utilised for vulnerable applicants aged 25 or over. All referrals for		
	the provision of mediation services, should initially be made directly to		
	Digartref, who will subsequently assess and offer their services for cases		
	deemed eligible.		
	Referrals should be sent electronically to mediation@digartref.co.uk		
Ending evictions into Homelessness	We work with Grwp Cynefin, North Wales Housing and Clwyd Alyn on evictions		
	that would make a household homeless		

4. Emergency Prevention whereby an immediate response is required such as support or emergency accommodation for those who are at risk of immediate risk of homelessness.

Triage/SPoA	Triage is offered at the first point of contact and initial information is gathered
	from the applicant.
	If housing support needs are identified the SPoA will refer the applicant to a
	support service
	Please contact (01248) 750 057 or email housing@anglesey.gov.uk if you are at risk or are homeless
	Any enquiry for support services should be sent to SPOA@ynysmon.gov.uk
Rapid Response Officer	For every person placed in temporary accommodation the Rapid Response Officer
	will complete immediate intervention support until the SpoA support provider
	takes over. The Officer will work with a HRS Outcomes support plan and will
	identify rapid work around housing needs.
Complex Case Coordinator	If a complex case is identified on triage SPoA will notify the Officer

5. Recovery prevention whereby support is provided to assist with tenancy support and to reduce the likelihood of repeat homelessness

Housing Support	Our <u>Housing Support Grant Providers</u> can be accessed here
Grant Services	
Individual Budget	Individual budgets can be used to assist someone in meeting their housing support
	needs.
Community Link	Môn Community Link runs a Social Prescribing service for people over the age of
Provision	18 and families living on Anglesey.

ⁱ Roadmap to End Youth Homelessness in Wales

Isle of Anglesey Housing Support Grant Annual Delivery Plan

April 2022- March 2025

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1. Introduction

The Housing Support Grant is a Welsh Government funded programme led and managed by Local Authorities in partnership with Health and Probation. It provides housing support services for people from a range of client groups. The programme aims to provide housing support to people to be able to maximise, maintain and sustain their independence through the provision of a range of innovative housing support services and projects that helps prevent homelessness. It incorporates the previous Welsh Government funded programme of:

- Supporting People
- Homelessness Prevention
- Rent Smart Wales Programmes

All Local authorities in Wales are required by Welsh Government to produce a 3 yearly Delivery Plan for the period commencing 1st April 2022 to 31st March 20025. An annual review will also be undertaken as set out in the Welsh Government's Housing Support Guidance Document.

In an indicative letter dated 20th December 2021, the Welsh Government informed the loACC that our allocation for the next 3 years up to and including 31.3.2025 will remain unchanged at £3,571.720.50 per annum.

This document should be read in conjunction with the:

- loACC 4 year Housing Support Strategy 2022 2026
 (https://www.anglesey.gov.uk/documents/Docs-en/Council/Consultations/2022/Housing-Support-Strategy/Consultation-document.pdf
- Homelessness Action Plan 2021-26
- Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan Guidance (October 2021)
- Housing Support Grant Guidance (March 2021)

The purpose and scope of this document is to

- Set out how the HSP strategic priorities and ongoing HSG delivery requirements are going to be delivered via the HSG for the year ahead.
- Provide an overview of the spending and commissioning intentions of the HSG for the year ahead.
- Summarise the needs assessment and stakeholder engagement undertaken and findings which has informed the HSG strategic priorities and ongoing HSG delivery priorities.

2. Needs assessment

A comprehensive Needs Assessment has been undertaken to underpin the 4 year Housing Support Grant Strategy. A Statement of Need condenses the key findings and messages contained within the Needs Assessment and underpins both our strategic direction and commissioning intentions for the next four years. A light touch review of the needs assessment will be undertaken every two years in line with Welsh Government Guidance.

The following contains the key findings from both our Comprehensive Needs Assessment and Statement of Need.

- The years preceding the COVID-19 pandemic saw temporary accommodation placements on a sustained upward trend, with total placements rising by 24% between 2016 and 2020. A much sharper increase seen during 2020/21 reflects the Welsh Government's emergency housing programme to provide safe accommodation for those at risk of sleeping rough during the pandemic
- Local Housing Allowance shortfalls and competition from the demand for holiday lets have been exacerbated by the pandemic
- Crisis interventions by LAs are continuing to increase with a sharp increase in Section 75s as well as an increase in actions to assist applicants under S66 (prevention assistance) and S73 (relief assistance)
- Consistent with the pattern of responses on the changing scale of homelessness demand, many participants reported that the balance between families and single people had significantly shifted in 2020/21
- For most authorities discharging duty via the PRS had become very difficult
- Across Wales, it was less often reported as difficult to access social tenancies for homeless people by comparison with attempting to make placements in private rented housing
- Another longstanding measure of homelessness is the population of homeless people placed in TA by LAs in the course of the homelessness assessment and rehousing process.
- There will be an increase in the Core Homelessness Households until 2023 with a higher level of homelessness presentations than currently from 2023 onwards.

Information from our Statutory Assessments, Homeless Prevention Fund and Support Providers shows that for Housing Support Services:

 It is generally accepted by specialist service providers and the Police as well as being documented by local and national media that the actual level of domestic abuse was under-reported during the lockdown periods. Many families where restricted to their properties and opportunities to report episodes of abuse and repeat incidents were considerably reduced, therefore resulting in increased un-met need

- There is an identified gap in provision for victims of sexual abuse on the Island, and consideration should be given to the provision for funding to the specialist provider in this area, which is independent of the more traditional type of VAWDASV services currently delivered
- There is an increase in high level needs within mental health support services
- There is an increase in the number of people who are at risk of suicide and self-harm.
- Around half the people recognised with Learning Disabilities receive housing Support services (Welsh Government Social Services KPl's and HSG Spend Plan)
- There remains a disproportionate level of support which is capped at a
 maximum of 15 hours per person per week available to people with Learning
 Disabilities. This compares with a maximum of 5-8 hours for those with
 challenging needs who are chaotic, homeless or at risk of homelessness and
 who require the highest level of intervention other than 24/7 support within a
 hostel type environment
- Housing Support Services is currently a high cost low volume within Learning Disabilities client group
- The number of people with a Learning Difficulty who do not meet the statutory definition of Leaning Disability is high on Anglesey. There is therefore a need for continuous housing support to enable this client group to manage their tenancies
- The number of older people requiring housing support services is likely to increase, given the projected demographic profile for the next 10 years
- The demographic profile of the Anglesey population suggests that there is a need to increase the range and supply of specific types of accommodation options available for older people
- There is no specific housing related support provision for people with autistic spectrum disorder associated needs
- There needs to be closer working and improved transition arrangements and planning from adolescence into adulthood with regard given to housing support provision
- The number of prisoners from North Wales is usually between 760 and 850, of which 40-50 are female, 60-70 are young offenders and 50-60 are high security
- The number of people held in prison has been increasing
- The prevalence of mental illness, substance misuse and learning disabilities is higher among the adult prison population than the general population
- The prison population made up of offenders aged 50 years or over has increased proportionately more than any other age group, which has implications for social care

- Children with a parent in prison are twice as likely as other children to experience conduct and mental health issues and three times more likely to offend themselves
- The report published the HM Prison and Probation Service the Accelerator Project Study at Berwyn Prison will be considered as part of the RHSGC priorities going forward
- Re-presentations within Homelessness and Housing Support Services has increased
- Cases presenting for Housing Support Services appear to have increasing multiple complex needs and risk factors



3. Delivery priorities

Our Housing Strategy, 2022-27, vision is that the residents of Anglesey

have a place to call home, are empowered and supported to contribute to their local community

This Strategy details how we will address the following themes as included in our Housing Strategy under:

- Theme 3 Preventing housing crisis and increasing housing options
- Theme 4 Support to promote housing independence

Based on the above vision the following 5 Pillars provides an overview of the type of prevention and early intervention services which we offer:-

The loACC's four year Housing Support Grant Strategy 2022-26 recognises the five key pillars of prevention as follows.

- Universal Prevention whereby preventing or minimising the risk of homelessness across the population at large. This includes increasing the supply of affordable housing and other key themes as identified within our Housing Strategy 2022-27.
- Targeted Prevention which focuses on high risk groups or most excluded clients and will include targeted pathways and transition pathways to housing and support for young people, complex cases, including people with mental health needs.
- 3. **Crisis Prevention** which aims to prevent homelessness within 56 days which could include multi agency case reviews and access to our Homeless Prevention Fund and other available funds.
- 4. **Emergency Prevention** whereby an immediate response is required such as support or emergency accommodation for those who are at risk of immediate risk of homelessness.
- 5. **Recovery Prevention** whereby support is provided to assist with tenancy support and to reduce the likelihood of repeat homelessness.

Based on the Welsh Government High Level Homelessness Action Plan and the 5 Pillars of Prevention the following will be our priorities.

- Priority Area 1 = Rare ensuring that homelessness is rare means preventing people becoming homeless in the first place
- Priority Area 2 = Brief our focus on rapid rehousing will mean homelessness is brief

• Priority Area 3= **Unrepeated** – ensuring we have a system which places the right people in the right homes in the right communities with the right support, in order for people to succeed and thrive.

Corporate Prevention and Early Intervention.

Our corporate Prevention and Early Intervention strategy and Action Plan recognises Housing Support as having an integral role to play in ensuring that we achieve the two following corporate aims of:

- creating the conditions for everyone to achieve their long-term potential
- support vulnerable adults and families and keep them safe, healthy and as independent as possible

We will over the course of the 2022 –2025, further develop our delivery model shown below, and will work very closely with colleagues from within the Council, other statutory bodies and the Third Sector, of whom we have become increasingly reliant for housing support purposes.



In consolidating the above model which commenced during 2021/22, we will further underpin our already strong relationship with Medrwn Mộn (Anglesey's 3rd Sector Umbrella Body) to further develop and improve formal pathway arrangements to enable us to allocate what we consider to be referrals suitable for a housing support (high and medium needs) via our SPoA Officer. In contrast low level support for those who remain vulnerable and unable to cope following the cessation of targeted housing support will continue be signposted into the Mộn Community Link service. This service will provide reassurance to those perhaps isolated or lacking in confidence or the required skills and knowledge to manage their daily living and remain independent e.g those with low level mental health or people who do not meet the statutory requirements for learning disability. Available support will include form filling, explaining contents of correspondence received, signposting to specialist

services and emphasis on increasing social inclusion empowering people to feel part of the community via social prescribing. It is our opinion from experience that a failure to address some of the lower need levels mentioned would lead to an escalation in need to a higher tier of intervention, be it targeted support or even statutory. We anticipate the cost of his service to be £20,622.36 p.a (see page 26). In formalising the above arrangement, it is envisaged that we will:

- Disaggregate cases in accordance with need levels, and refer or signpost to the most appropriate service via the relevant Single Point of Access (SpoA) Gateway.
- Avoid unnecessary duplication, unless concurrent access to both services are required.
- Close relevant cases earlier,
- Reduce number of low level cases within Housing Support Worker caseloads; and
- Commit more time and resources towards targeting medium to high level cases, as seems necessary from the above data.

Housing Support Needs Level Assessment Process - Housing Support Priority Area (1,2,3) / Prevention Area (4,5)

Over recent months, the Isle of Anglesey County Council's (IoACC) Housing Service has worked in partnership with our service providers to develop an assessment of needs level tool, which will deem whether or not someone presenting for housing related support will require a low, medium or high level of intervention.

The process has already been piloted by two providers and we have since held a specific event with all providers in attendance to report back on our findings and how we intend to roll out the system universally from 1.4.2022. We have also since the event held separate meetings with all our providers to discuss our intentions and iron out any barriers such as IT compatibility etc,

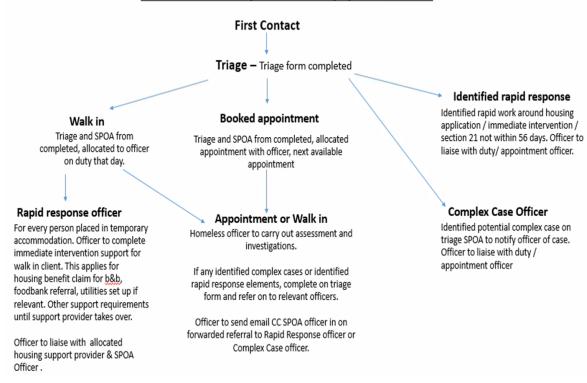
The determining of the level of support and intensity of provision will be based upon the Welsh Government's assessment matrix, initially released in the Phase 2 Planning Guidance for Homelessness Services and Housing Related Support (see matrix below). It is also expected that by applying this assessment process universally across all providers, that it will complement our approach towards Rapid Rehousing and ensure a timely, consistent and quality method of delivery.

Support Matrix - Assessment Template

	Duration			
Intensity	Long term (12m+)	Medium term (3 – 12m)	Short term (<3m)	
V high 24/7	Supported housing	Supported housing	Supported housing	
High 3+ pw	Housing First	сті	CTI (+Rapid re- housing)	
Medium 1 – 2 pw	Housing First	сті	Rapid Re-housing	
Low < 1 pw	Rapid Re-housing (+floating support)	Rapid Re-housing (+floating support)	Rapid Re-housing	

We will also consolidate on progress made during 2021/22 which included additional staff recruitment across the Housing Support Sector and the development processes and procedure to facilitate and deliver our Rapid Rehousing Hub, (see process diagram below).

Process chart for Complex Case and Rapid/Move on Officer



The Housing Support Grant funds the roles of the Private Rented Sector Liaison

Officer SPoA Officer, the Complex Case Officer, the Rapid Response Officer and the Mover on Officer and all of whom are integral components within our Rapid Rehousing Hub, which complements rather than replaces the role of the statutory homelessness officers, allowing them enhanced time to deal with homelessness applications and assessments processes.

The Private Rented Sector Liaison Officer - The post-holder provides, develops and promotes comprehensive advice to private sector landlords. This is particularly in relation to accommodating vulnerable individuals and prevention of homelessness and to support the Council's housing options statutory work. Additional duties include pro-actively increasing the number of landlords working with the Council and to develop ways of supporting the private rented sector through the landlord forum, news updates and the Anglesey housing website. The Private Rented Sector Liaison Officer is responsible for managing the following posts.

The SPoA Officer and Assistant are mainly responsible for

- Receiving, undertaking initial vetting and risk checks and evaluating all
 referrals for housing-related floating support services across Anglesey for the
 whole range of eligible client groups i.e. homelessness, mental health, young
 people, care leavers, substance misuse, older people, learning disabilities
 etc.
- To be the first point of contact for enquires from (from both professionals and members of the public) for the Council's housing-related support services.
- To match the referral to the most appropriate housing-related support provision.
- The SpoA Co-ordinator and Assistant receive and deal with approximately 1,250 referrals annually.

The Complex Case Officer is responsible for co-ordinating services for individuals who are identified as complex needs such as people who represent (more than once) as homeless who have more than one identified need such as substance misuse, and mental health and do not wish to engage with services or show challenging behaviours.

This role of the Complex Needs Officer includes:

- assessing the level of support required, in accordance with our locally developed RAG system,
- assessing the current situation of the individual; and
- taking decisions by liaising with many agencies to ensure that the person is
 offered appropriate housing and support to assist them in either maintaining
 their current accommodation or moving into more appropriate housing.

 Attending panel / pathway meetings for vulnerable young people, prison leavers and those with mental health needs with regards to allocating accommodation for those in greatest need.

The Rapid Response Officer who is responsible for

- Undertaking a more in-depth piece of work with those living in emergency accommodation.
- Chase up/encourage any pre tenancy work that has been carried out by the support provider and keep a log in order to better prepare the client for moving-on.
- Ensure all clients in emergency accommodation has an up to date risk assessment and keep updated with any new actions if applicable.
- Routine visits to emergency accommodation for client welfare checks and deliver any letters from the assessment team such as housing plans and minded/warning letters, prior to them being allocated a designated Housing Support Provider by the SPoA, and receiving a more target specific support package, based upon their lead needs.

Move-on Officer – who predominantly works with vulnerable people who are ready to be moved-on from temporary /emergency accommodation into more settled arrangements. In doing so the post holder shall:

- Work in partnership with designated lead need support agencies to facilitate seamless move-on and access to DHP etc where appropriate.
- Work in conjunction with the Private Rented Sector Liaison Officer to ensure access to suitable affordable and rent compliant properties
- Support accommodation panel for move on purposes
- Coordinate move on from B and B re DHP prompting SPOA to do things sooner.
- Move on from B and B, starter Pack prevention fund completed each time
- Create and update the starter pack database
- Ensure all service users accommodated in emergency accommodation have a housing application within 14 days after their assessment

Direct Provision of Housing Related Support Projects

All funding proposals within this section contain reference to prevention pillar and the priority area identified within the Housing Support Grant Strategy and explained in more detail on pages 6 and 7 above. Also included are the appropriate reference column from the 2022/23 HRS Spend Plan, as per requirement of the Welsh Government Guidance document on formulating the Delivery Plan.

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area -

- 1 = Rare
- 2 = Brief
- 3 = Unrepeated

Prevention Pillar (See Appendix 1 of HSG Strategy)

- 1 = Universal
- 2 = Targeted
- 3 = Crisis
- 4 = Emergency
- 5 = Recovery

HRS Access Schemes Housing Support

a) Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (2) / Prevention Pillar (1)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding				
	2022/23	2024/2025			
Private Rented Sector Liaison Officer Post + Range of Initiatives	£140,000	£140,000	£140,000		
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 12					

The sum of £140,000 covers the cost of the role of the Private Rented Sector Liaison Officer and a rage of homeless prevention initiatives such as deposits and rent in advance payments to enable people at risk of homeless to acquire access to settled accommodation.

b) Rapid Rehousing / Housing Led Services -

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (2,3) / Prevention Pillar (1)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding				
	2022/23	2023/2024	2024/2025		
Housing First (Unverified)	£233,870.58	£233,870.58	£233,870.58		
Stepping Stones	* £43,283.31	Subject to tender 2022/23	Subject to tender 2022/23		
Total	£277153.89				
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 16					

The Housing First (unverified) service has been delivered on Anglesey since 2014, and having started with 10 units, with emphasis on entrenched homelessness and those at greatest risk of losing their home, has evolved into a total of 29 (minimum) to 33 units of support per week, depending on the level of need. A minimum of 5 of these units are targeted specifically for people with mental health needs.

An additional step-down service has been commissioned for people who require short term accommodation e.g. upon discharge from hospital including acute mental health and have no access to alternative housing at that time. The step down service is generally limited for up to 12 weeks support, unless the provision of a more settled form of accommodation is unavailable. The current contract for the stepdown service is due to end in June 2022, and a decision is imminent as to whether or not the service will be recommissioned or possibly merged with the main Housing First Service.

Work also remains ongoing between the Wallich as the designated service provider and Cymorth Cymru to secure verified status for the delivery of Housing First on Anglesey. It is expected that confirmation either way of the Wallich' application will be made by the middle of Qtr 1 during 2022/23.

c) Emergency Accommodation Provision (General)

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (2) / Prevention Pillar (4)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding				
	2022/23	2023/2024	2024/2025		
Complex Case Officer	£42,590.00	£42,590.00	£42,590.00		
Rapid Response Officer	£32,327.00	£32,327.00	£32,327.00		
Move-On Officer	£32,327.00	£32,327.00	£32,327.00		
Total	£107,253.00	£107,253.00	£107,253.00		
	HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 17				

As previously mentioned above, the designated staff posts listed immediately above form a key part of the Rapid Rehousing Hub for Anglesey. The salary costs shown are based upon the pay scales for the current year and any adjustment for annual increases will need to be covered from within the existing uncommitted funds from the 2022 /23 budget or supplemented by an alternative source of funding.

d) Rough Sleeper Assertive Outreach

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (2,3) / Prevention Pillar (2,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding				
	2022/23 2023/2024 2024/2025				
Regional Assertive Outreach	£19,662	£19,662			
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 21					

All 6 North Wales Local Authorities utilise the HSG to equally fund an Assertive Outreach Service for people who present with substance misuse services and are hard to reach and/or at risk of entrenched homelessness. The service itself is commissioned by the Area Planning Board, which acts as a forum, bringing together all agencies involved in the planning, commissioning and delivery of substance misuse issues at a regional level

e) Rent Smart Wales Enforcement and Compliance

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (3) / Prevention Pillar (1)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding				
	2022/23 2023/2024 2024/2025				
Enforcement of Rent Smart Wales	£6,029	£6,029	£6, 029		
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 26					

The sum of £6,029 is used by our colleagues within the Public Protection Unit to cover the cost of issuing and dealing with landlords and managing agents who fail to comply with the requirements of the Rent Smart Wales legislation which form part of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014.

Floating Support

f) VAWDASV

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (3) / Prevention Pillar (2,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding			
	2022/23 2023/2024 2024/2025			
Floating Support	£113,139.68 £113,139.68 £113,139.			
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 28				

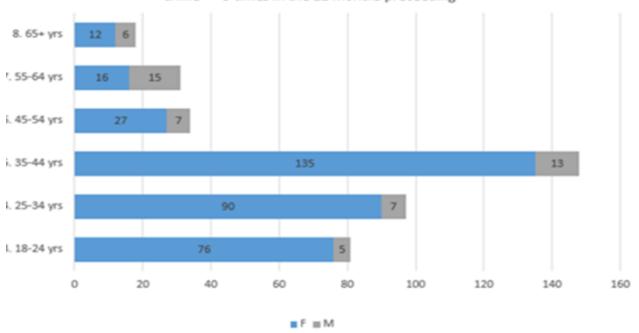
Data gathered from the Single Point of Access Gateway for the 2020/21 financial year recorded 314 (12.4%) cases of need in relation to domestic abuse from a total of 2,541 for all service user groups. In comparison for the period 1.4.2021 to 30.9.2021, the sum of 137 (10.7%) identified need was recorded from a total number of 1,282.

Despite an apparent decrease in the above data, concerns remain across key agencies such as Children and Adult Services, and North Wales Police, that actual incidence of domestic abuse is significantly increasing. According to the needs assessment findings there appears to be a gap of provision made available for cases of sexual abuse, and this is an area we will explore further. A report received from North Wales Police indicated at the halfway point of 2021/22, domestic abuse incidents on Anglesey had increased by 23% compared with the corresponding period for the previous year. See table and graph below. It has also been noted that

the number of open cases held by the designated provider exceeds the expected caseload of 15-18 per support worker on a regular basis.

	Current Week	YTD	LYTD	% Change
Victim of DA	24	662	538	23.0%
Repeat Victim	3	92	93	-1.1%

Age and gender profile for YTD Occurrences where victm has also been a victim of crime >= 3 times in the 12 months preceeding



- 356 Females / 55 Males victims of domestic abuse who have also been a victim of a crime 3 times or more during the previous 12 months.
- 135 (37 %) of Females were aged 35-44, 25.2% aged 25-34 and 21% aged 18-24.
- The 55-64 age category was the highest for male victims with 15 (27.3%) closely followed by 13 (23.6%) in the 35-44 age category. All the other 4 categories were consistent, showing levels of 5-7 (9-13%).

The Housing Support Commissioning Team continues to participate in the Once Front Door Project which brings together, relevant agencies such as Children Services, Housing, Education, Gorwel, Health (SMS) North Wales Police (PVPU), SMS on a weekly basis, via a virtual electronic link, to discuss cases referred into the panel, to agree the best possible solution in terms of required intervention. The project is co-ordinated by the Housing Support Single Point of Access Officer and is an example of good practice in both joint working and the alignment of funding of both the Housing Support Grant and Children and Communities Grant.

We are currently awaiting an audit report undertaken by the Safe Lives Charity who sponsor the One Front Door Process across England and Wales.

We do not at present foresee any change in housing support funding for people with VAWDASV. However due to the concerns noted around sexual abuse cases, we may following further discussions with key partners and stakeholders need to explore alternative funding arrangements such as the Integrated Care Grant, or Children and Communities Grant, should we have insufficient funding to address unmet need for both sexual and more prevalent forms of domestic abuse such as violence and coercion.

g) Mental Health

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (3) / Prevention Pillar (2,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding					
	2022/23 2023/2024 2024/2025					
Floating Support	£179,561.01	£179,831.81	£179,831.81			
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 31						

Mental Health remains the most cross cutting areas of all needs as is clearly highlighted in the Single Point of Access Data. It was also identified as a key priority area in the 2017-22 North Wales Local Needs Assessment In 2020/21, 507 people from a total of 2541 (20%) recorded needs, noted mental health as a reason to seek housing related support. In comparison, the corresponding figure between 1.4.2021 and 30.9.2021 was 284 (22%) people from a total of 1,284 recorded needs. It remains the highest of all recorded support needs, with only the generic category comparing in terms of overall numbers. It could also be argued that some if not many of the generic cases also have mental health needs. In addition to an increase in total number of cases citing mental health as a support need, there has been a considerable shift the numbers within each of the low, medium and high categories. There are also reported concerns around the increase in attempted and actual suicides as well as incidences self-harm.

At the half yearly point, the number of people claiming to have high level mental health needs has already exceeded the total number during the previous full year by 14. The number presenting with high level mental health support needs is projected to account for 46.2% of the total presenting. This compares with 24% during 2020/21

A new Mental Health Service Contract for both Floating Support and Supported Housing will commence from 1.5.2022, having been put out to tender in October 2021. Due to the current contract not expiring until 30.4.2022, there will be a split rate during 20022, with the increased amount being payable for 11 months from May onwards. The full amount will be payable for the following two years, with 60 people receiving floating support services, and 9 accommodation based units of supported accommodation made available under this contract delivered by the Councils Internal Mental Health Services which is part of the Community Mental Health Team jointly managed with the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board.

H) Substance Misuse Services

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (3) / Prevention Pillar (2,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding				
	2022/23 2023/2024 2024/2025				
Floating Support	£90,581.73	£88,149.83			
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 32					

According to our SPoA data, 123 cases from a total of 2,541 (4.9%) during 2020/21, were drugs related with 94/2,541 (3.7%) alcohol related. Corresponding data for the first 6 months of 2021/22 showed decreases in both areas with drugs accounting for 46/1,282 (3.6%) recorded needs and alcohol 29/1282 (2.3%).

The housing support element for people with substance misuse needs was tendered in October 2021, which will see the service being delivered by an alternative provider from 1st May 2022. The cost of the floating support element of the contract will in accordance with the agreed tender submission decrease from 1st May, with the number of units increasing from 33 to 35 per week. The opportunity to utilise units of support flexibly in accordance with demand, across substance misuse, offending and generic services within one contract will however remain

i) Offending History

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (3) / Prevention Pillar (2,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding					
	2022/23	2023/2024	2024/2025			
Floating Support	£47,951.49	£50,371.33	£50,371.33			
Prisoner Resettlement Post	£38,058.98	£38,058.98	£38,058.98			
Total	£86,010.47	£88,430.31	£88,430.31			
	HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 33					

The provision of housing support services for people with an offending history is two pronged. Following release from prison, referrals are generally dealt with by the Internal Housing Services Prison Resettlement Officer, who will generally deliver support, for between 8-12 weeks. This service will commence prior to release or for short sentences of less than 8 weeks, may start at the point of sentencing or continue uninterrupted. This service includes working in conjunction with the Private Rented Sector Liaison Officer to seek suitable and affordable accommodation for those requiring intervention

In the longer term, where prison leavers or those with an offending history, remain vulnerable and require such support in the community, the referral will be sent to the designated support provider to deliver targeted intervention for up to a period of two years where appropriate, whether it be within designated supported accommodation or floating support.

Our SPoA data recorded 88 (3.5%) cases from the total of 2541 in 2020/21 and 45 from 1282 from 1.4.2021 to 30.9.2022, thus remaining unchanged. However, anecdotal information from housing colleagues and key partners such as the Probation Service does seem to indicate that the numbers representing are higher and the levels of need more complex and challenging, and in particular the 50 years and over age cohort seems to be rising at a more disproportionate rate than other groups at present, which may have implications for social care.

As previously mentioned, housing support services for people with offending histories are delivered within a contract which also includes provision for people with substance misuse or generic needs. The cost of delivering floating support for people with offending histories will increase from 1.5.2022, following the tender exercise in Oct 2021. The number of units within this contract will also increase from 21 to 35, per week which includes 15 units delivered by the Prison Resettlement Officer.

j) Vulnerable Young People

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (3) / Prevention Pillar (2,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding				
	2022/23 2023/2024 2024/2025				
Floating Support	£115,348.03 £115,348.03 £115,348.03				
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 34					

The floating support service for young and vulnerable young people is split geographically into two and is managed by the respective managers of the two hostels in Holyhead in Llangefni. In total there are 24 units of floating support services delivered for young people, split equally.

Presentations received by SPoA form vulnerable young people over the past 18 months, have remained consistent. 172 (6.8%) from 2541 were recorded in 2020/21 and a further 84 needs (6.6%) out 1282 have been recorded in respect of vulnerable young people aged 16-24 between 1.4.21 and 30.9.21.

With exception to a small allocation for individual budgets purposes to enable the young people to achieve positive outcomes as per their support plans, it is unlikely that the annual allocation will change of the course of the next three years. Any unspent allocation for individual budgets are adjusted from the following year's payment allocation.

See temporary supported accommodation section for reference to Llety Pontio and S180 funded which complement Housing Related Support Services, but are funded from separate grants.

k) Older People

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (3) / Prevention Pillar (2,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding			
	2022/23 2023/2024 2024/2025			
Floating Support	£384,090.70	To be confirmed	To be confirmed	
	subject to tender subject to tender			
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 36				

The provision of housing support for older people is delivered via a tenure neutral peripatetic model which requires a minimum of 150 people aged 55 and over to be supported each week with 30 additional hours to be used flexibly to meet their needs. Since the outset of this contract in Sept 2016, when it replaced the previously dated and no longer eligible sheltered warden service, added value has been achieved. Without exception week upon week in excess of 175 service users have been supported, with many requiring short term support, whereas under the previous system, service users would continuously be supported in a more care and befriending type service.

An independent review of this service was commissioned by the provider during 2020. The report since published was extremely complementary of the support provided and highlighted the excellent relationship held between provider and commissioner as is the case across all services.

The current contract is due to expire in August 2022, and the service will therefore need to be tendered during quarter 1 of 2022/23. It is not currently anticipated that there will be any significant changes to either costs or units delivered when tender details will be shared.

I) Generic Services

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (3) / Prevention Pillar (2,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding		
	2022/23	2023/2024	2024/2025
Internal	£421,330.29	£421,330.29	£421,330.29
External	£113,964.88	£113,335.50	£113,335.50
Total	£535,295.17	£534,665.79	£534,665.79
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 38			

The increase in recent years of referrals with multiple needs at point of presentation to SPoA has significantly increased over recent years. Hence, it is often difficult to determine the lead need at this point and it may not become apparent in certain

complex cases until the relationship between support worker and service user develops and mutual trust and respect are achieved.

In 2020/21 500 (19.7%) out of the 2,541 were recorded as having generic needs. A further 267 (20.4%) out of the 1,282 have been recorded with generic needs for the period 1.4.2021 to 30.9.2021. This category contains the second highest number of support needs by some margin, with the next highest being homelessness at 385 (15.2%) for 2020/21 and 208 (16.2%) between 1st April and 30th Sept 2021.

As indicated above, generic provision is delivered by both the internal housing support provider with 187 units per week and the current external provider with 34 units. The external provision which as part of the same tender for substance misuse and offending history and which will see a new provider delivering from 1st May 2022 will at this point increase to 45 a week with a small decrease in cost. Both services are expected to remain unchanged in terms of both cost and units for the duration of this Plan.

m) Vulnerable Families

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (3) / Prevention Pillar (2,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding		
	2022/23 2023/2024 2024/2025		
Floating Support	£97,323.43	£97,323.43	£97,323.43
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 39			

A total of 172 (6.8%) out of all the 2,541 supported needs were recorded for vulnerable families during 2020/21, with a further 84 from the sum of 1,282 (6.6%) categorised within this group between April 2021 and Sept 2021.

A total of 45 units per week is delivered as part of the floating support provision, and our weekly monitoring data highlights that the service is constantly full. It is not anticipated that the service will change during the period of this Planning Cycle.

Temporary Supported Accommodation

n) Learning Disabilities

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (2,3) / Prevention Pillar (2,3,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding		
	2022/23	2023/2024	2024/2025
Llawr y Dref	£11,195.11	To be confirmed subject to tender	To be confirmed subject to tender
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 41			

The Llawr Y Dref Project enables people with learning disabilities to be assessed in terms of their ability to live independently in the community with a small amount of support, thus preventing the need for either 24/7 shared supported accommodation or residential care. The project provides 2 units of housing related support delivering an average of 1hour per day. Both current service users are now ready for move-on and it is hoped that suitable and affordable accommodation in their areas of choice can be sourced soon, to enable alternative service users to access the support and accommodation.

o) Mental Health Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (2,3) / Prevention Pillar (2,3,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding		
	2022/23	2023/2024	2024/2025
Heddfan	£38,765.56	£39,101.14	£39,101.14
Cybi Street / RAF Valley	£11,075.86	£11,171.75	£11,171.75
Total	£49,841.42	£50,272.89	£50,272.89
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 43			

Supported Accommodation for people with mental health is delivered across one purpose built scheme (Heddfan) consisting of 6 self-contained units and one bedsit as well as 2 other dispersed properties at Cybi Street and RAF Valley. In total there are 9 fixed site properties for people with mental health needs.

As previously mentioned above, housing support for mental health has recently been tendered and the new contract will commence from 1.5.2022. There will be a small increase in costs when the new contract commences, with both hours of support and numbers supported within fixed site accommodation remaining unchanged for the duration of this plan from 1.5.2022.

p) Substance Misuse

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (2,3,5) / Prevention Pillar (2,3,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding		
	2022/23	2023/2024	2024/2025
Eilianfa	£13,665.47	£13,954.32	£13,954.32
Yr Hen Orsaf	£6,832.73	£6,977.16	£6,977.16
Gilbert Street	£6,832.73	£6,977.16	£6,977.16
Ty'n Parc 1	£6,832.73	£6,977.16	£6,977.16
Ty'n Parc 2	£6,832.73	£6,977.16	£6,977.16
Bron Derwydd	£6,832.73	£6,977.16	£6,977.16
Total	£47,829.12	£47,829.12	£47.829.12
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 44			

There are 7 units of housing support delivered within 6 designated supported accommodation, with Eilianfa a shared property for two people. Length of stay

tend to be between 8 and 14 months and the properties can be used flexibly within the same contract for the purpose of accommodating people with an offending history. Voids are historically low, and there is a continuous demand for the properties

The new contract which will commence from 1.5.2022, will continue with this flexibility, albeit with a small increase in cost, for the remainder of the period of this plan.

q) Offending

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (2/3) / Prevention Pillar (2,3,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding			
	2022/23	2023/2024	2024/2025	
Maes y Brenin x 4	£27,330.92	£27,908.63	£27,908.63	
Ty'n Parc	£6,832.73	£6,977.16	£6,977.16	
Yr Hen Orsaf	£6,832.73	£6,977.16	£6,977.16	
Total	£34,163.65	£34,163.65	£34,163.65	
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 46				

Supported accommodation for people with an offending history is an integral part of community resettlement, especially immediately after a period of imprisonment. However, these properties do tend be invariably full, as those requiring them are supported to acquire the necessary skills and arrangements in place in order to move towards further independence and move-on, primarily within the private sector. There are clear benefits from having a partnership approach between the prison resettlement officer who is located within the internal service and designated provider and this will continue when a new service provider will be delivering housing support for people with an offending history. There are a total of 6 properties each for single occupation, all in the Holyhead area, although as previously mentioned they can be used flexibly with those designated for substance misuse and vice versa.

There is a slight increase in the cost from 1.5.2022, with the number of units remaining unchanged for the duration of this Plan.

r) Young Vulnerable People

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (2,3) / Prevention Pillar (2,3,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding		
	2022/23	2023/2024	2024/2025
Coedlys / Llys Y Gwynt / Gilfach and Dispersed Accomodation x 7	411,733.77	411,733.77	411,733.77
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 47			

The two hostels for young and vulnerable people in Llangefni (Coedlys) and Holyhead (Llys Y Gwynt) accommodate 7 and 9 respectively. In addition there are 4 Units of move-on properties at Y Gilfach, Holyhead which are aligned with the hostel as well as 7 dispersed properties, three of which are in Holyhead, 2 in Llangefni, and 2 in Menai Bridge.

In addition Digartref are commissioned via the Housing Innovation Grant to deliver the Llety Pontio project for young people. Whilst not directly commissioned and delivered via the Housing Support Grant, both programmes complement each other, with the Llety Pontio providing a rapid rehousing (step-down) model for homeless young people for up to 3 months. All young people referred to the Llety Pontio project are deemed ready to manage their own tenancy, unlike some who are supported within Digartref's two hostel sites.

Digartref also receive funding Section 180 Grant funding directly from Welsh Government to provide homeless prevention services such as mediation, Learn for Life Accreditation and the Drop in Centre, all of which complement existing floating support and supported accommodation provision.

As previously mentioned under the floating support section (which forms part of the same contract) with exception to a small allocation for individual budgets purposes to enable the young people to achieve positive outcomes as per their support plans, it is unlikely that the annual allocation will change of the course of the next three years. Any unspent allocation for individual budgets are adjusted from the following year's payment allocation.

s) Vulnerable Families

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (2,3) / Prevention Pillar (2,3,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding		
	2022/23	2023/2024	2024/2025
Supported Accommodation	£45,114.53	£45,114.53	£45,114.53
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 53			

Permanent Supported Accommodation

t) Learning Disabilities

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (2,3) / Prevention Pillar (2,3,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding		
	2022/23	2023/2024	2024/2025
Project 1	£160,038.65	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
		subject to tender	subject to tender
Project 2	£266,637.63	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
		subject to tender	subject to tender
Project 3	£53829.94	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
		subject to tender	subject to tender
Total	£480,506.22		

Unlike all other commissioned Housing Support Services, the level of turnover for people with learning disabilities is minimal. 42 people with needs associated with learning disabilities, currently receive housing related support; although the actual number of people accommodated within supported living environments is significantly higher. Historically, housing support for people with learning disabilities has been low in volume and high in cost. A comprehensive review of our investment in 2015, saw the proportion of the then Supporting People Grant, spent on support for people with learning disabilities, reduce from 33% of the grant funding received to 18%, (currently 13.8% of the HRS Allocation) with all recipients of housing support being capped at a maximum of 15 hours per week. As we await further guidance from Welsh Government, following a national review of the impact and cost of housing support for people with learning disabilities, there may be further reductions in the future. This will present inevitable risks to Adult Services whose costs of supporting this vulnerable group of people would significantly increase as a result, at a time when numbers requiring care and support are increasing, whilst savings have been demanded at local level.

At the time of writing, Adult Services as the lead commissioner for people with needs associated with learning disabilities are awaiting a report from an external consultant recommending options for the delivery of supported accommodation across both its internal and external providers. It is also expected that the final report will include some reference to a lack of disaggregated provision of housing related support provision for people with autistic spectrum disorder associated needs on Anglesey.

The recommendations within the commissioned review could prove far reaching for future provision of housing support for people with learning disabilities and the need to further consider the funding arrangements remains, and it is currently anticipated that the service will be put out to tender approximately October 2022.

As things currently stand, we are not in a position to confirm any funding arrangement, beyond the current agreement, and any adjustment to the Housing Support element of the contract is likely to be a decrease.

u) Refuges Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (2,3) / Prevention Pillar (2,3,5)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding		
	2022/23	2023/2024	2024/2025
Refuge 1	£89,565.51	£89,565.51	£89,565.51
Refuge 2	£18,592.20	£18,592.20	£18,592.20
Total	£108,157.71	£108,157.71	£108,157.71
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 65			

The housing support grant funds the cost of provision of housing related support within two refuges. The first can accommodate up to 4 families (female only apart

from children up to 16yrs) and a dispersed refuge for one person which can be used for either male or female victims / survivors of domestic abuse.

Monitoring data over the past 12 months have shown that both refuge provision have been full the majority of the time, with voids occurring following one person / family leaving and housing management / maintenance functions required prior to next move-in.

As mentioned in the floating support section, which forms part of the same contract we do not at present foresee any change in housing support funding for people with VAWDASV needs over the next three years, but may explore alternative funding arrangements such as the Integrated Care Grant, or Children and Communities Grant should demand increase further.

v) Target Hardening

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (3) / Prevention Pillar (2)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding		
	2022/23	2023/2024	2024/2025
Community Safety Target	£2,066.00	£2,066.00	£2,066.00
Hardening			
HRS Spend Pan 22/23 Row 68			

A contribution of £2,066 is made from the Housing Support Grant budget to enable the Gwynedd and Anglesey Community Safety Partnership to purchase and fit target hardening equipment etc to keep victims and survivors safe in their homes. We do not foresee a change in the sum allocated during the next three years.

X) Non Statutory Funded Posts and Other Funding

Housing Related Support Strategy Priority Area (1,2,3) / Prevention Pillar (1,2,3,4)

Project Name	Proposed Yearly Funding		
	2022/23	2023/2024	2024/2025
SPoA Co-	£38,059	£38,059	£38,059
ordinator Post *			
SPoA Assistant	£32,327	£32,327	£32,327
Post*			
Project	£42,590	£42,590	£42,590
Management and			
Strategic			
Resource*			
Mon Community	£20,622.36	£20,622.36	£20,622.36
Link			
Research*	£21,295	£21,295	£21,295
Regional	£17,859	£17,859	£17,859
Contribution			
(0.5%) **			
IDVA	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000
Contribution **			

Training **	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000
Total	£192,752.64	£192,752.64	£192,752.64
HRS Spend Pan 22/23		Combined Total * Ro	w 69
	HRS Spend Pan 22/23	Combined Total ** Ro	w 72

The table above relates to various other costs which are not directly associated to any designated service user group within the 2022/23 Housing Support Plan. At the time of writing, we are unaware of any increase in costs for both these roles, and have not included any annual uplift. Should any change occur we will review the situation at that point and consideration as to how this is funded will be given at that point, including possible use of any uncommitted HSG funding and other grants and internal funding sources within the Council.

SPoA Co-ordinator and Assistant - A brief description of the SPoA Co-ordinator's role is included on page 6 of this document. The joint cost of these two posts are currently £70,386.

Project Management and Strategic Resource – The decision to extend the initial 12 month period of funding for a further 3 years for project management and Strategic Resources has been welcomed. We look forward to consolidating and further developing the Rapid Rehousing Hub, and Transitional Plan, Service User Needs Assessment process and data management during this period. An officer has been temporarily appointed to this role since April 2021, and it is our intention to fully utilise this funding arrangement within the Housing Support Grant for a further 3 years. Current cost of funding £42,590.00

Regional Contribution (0.5%)- All North Wales Local Authorities have a standing agreement to contribute into a Regional Pot managed by the Regional Housing Support Collaborative Group (RHSG). This group is the forum instructed by the RHSCG to develop services where there is not a critical mass locally, develop regional services where justified by economies of scale and continue to develop and improve service delivery of the Housing Support Grant across North Wales. It has recognised the service areas listed below for development.

- 1. Commission further LGBTQ+ provision for the region
- 2. Bespoke Mental Health and Housing Training to be commissioned
- 3. Explore the commissioning opportunity for further provision for males fleeing domestic abuse
- 4. Commission funding for dual-diagnosis (Mental Health and Substance Misuse) refuge for people fleeing domestic abuse.
 - a. The VAWDASV Board have been awarded funding and this priority has been actioned.
- 5. Part fund a regional hoarding service in collaboration with the Regional Hoarding Group.
- 6. Explore the opportunity to pilot Psychological Informed Environments approach.

Independent Domestic Violence Advisory Service (IDVA) Contribution. An annual contribution of £10,000 is made to the North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner's Office for the purpose of an IDVA service, jointly delivered across Gwynedd and Anglesey. Although commissioned separately, this service is delivered by the same provider who is commissioned for VAWDASV purposes. IDVA's Support victims/survivors and their family, who are experiencing domestic violence and abuse and have been assessed as high risk of serious harm and homicide. The support includes:

Safety planning - undertaking a harm reduction approach within an agreed plan.

Information on Civil options available - part of the plan may look at orders from the civil court to prevent the abuser from making contact with the victim/survivor and/or children.

Information on Criminal options available - support can be provided if the victim/survivor has reported the crime to the police or need help to do so, the IDVA will support through this process, and in court where required.

Sanctuary advice/assessment - This is a scheme to make anyone experiencing VAWDASV, to feel safe in their home by providing addition security - lock change, window locks, chain on the door and more.

Housing options advice - The IDVA will also discuss housing options if the victim/survivor no longer feel safe in their own home.

Home Fire Risk Assessment – including a referral to the fire service,

Further support - The IDVA service can refer to other agencies should the victim/survivor need long term support and education around VAWDASV or emotional support.

Training – We will continue invest in a training programme and therapeutic support of staff and managers funded by the HSG, to enable them to effectively deliver their role. This will include Psychologically Informed Approaches as outlined in Appendix 1 of our HSG Strategy is in keeping with our Priority 2 (brief) model of our universal prevention within the 5 pillar model.

Underspend – At the time of writing, it is estimated that we have a proposed underspend of £8,148.01. It is likely that the surplus underspend will be utilised to fund any posts which do not currently contain uplift amounts for the 2022/23 financial year.

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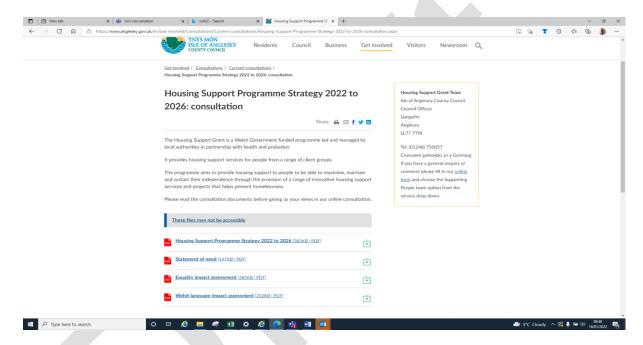
4. Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholder involvement has and will remain a priority, despite the undisputed challenges presented by Covid-19.

We have successfully engaged with all our providers, partners and key stakeholders throughout the year, mostly via the use of virtual meetings on MS Teams and Zoom, and regular sharing of correspondence over email.

We have also consulted on line in relation to our Housing Support Strategy as can be seen from the links below.

Housing Support Programme Strategy 2022 to 2026: consultation (anglesey.gov.uk)



The following consultation exercises can be accessed from the hyperlink icon below.

- Your Service, Your say On Line Questionnaire for Service Users continuous year round survey to gauge opinion on service delivery, quality, gaps and improvement.
- Local loACC Rapid Rehousing Consultation Results Report to gather insight
 to what is important to our service users when faced with homelessness. The
 questionnaire was for tenants who have been homeless within the last 12
 months, current service user's in temporary accommodation and service users
 in supported accommodation.
- Regional Feedback on Service Provider Questionnaire on HSG Services.
- Regional Feedback on Service User Questionnaire on HSG Services
- Anglesey HSG Case Studies



Name of Stakeholder	Function	Type of Engagement Undertaken
Service Users		Receipt of support, service user engagement, and improvement via completion of Your Service Your Say. Representation on tender evaluation panels.
Service Providers Domestic Abuse – Gorwel		Service Reviews,Monitoring, (twice annually per
Learning Disability Cartrefi Cymru- Tyddyn Môn – Môn Care	Service Providers	provider)OutcomesRepresentation on Planning
Substance Misuse and Offending CAIS		Group by Two Providers
Mental Health CSS		 Provider Forum (Every Qtr) Stakeholder Groups for Substance Misuse and
Vulnerable Young People Hafan Cymru		Offending
Single People 25-54 The Wallich		Pathway Panels for Vulnerable Young People, Mental Health, Offending.
Older People Gorwel		
Generic and Prison Resettlement Housing Services		
Adult Services	Service Provider, Joint Commissioners	Service Provider, Referrer into SpOA Mental Health and Learning Disability Manager is member of the HSG Planning Group. Referrals received into SPoA. Contributions made as a stakeholder to Provider Service Reviews. Member of Tender Evaluation Panels for the procurement of HSG Services
loACC Public Protection		Deliver Rent Smart Wales Enforcement Element of Housing Support Grant, Co- ordinate Private Landlord Forum
Children Services		Families First / Prevention and Early Intervention Service Manager and Flying Strart Programme Manager are members of the HSG Planning Group. Referrer into SPoA Member of the One

		F (D D I O I I
		Front Door Panel. Contributions made
		as a stakeholder to Provider Service Reviews.
Duck eties Comisses		
Probation Services		Service Manager is a member of the
		HSG Planning Group. Contributions
		made as a stakeholder to Provider
		Service Reviews. Member of Tender
		Evaluation Panels for the procurement
		of HSG, Mental Health, Substance
		Misuse and Offending Services. Referrer into SPoA
DCI II ID		
BCUHB		Mental Health Supported
		Accommodation Manager and
		Substance Misuse Manager are
		members of HSG Planning Group.
		Contributions made as a stakeholder to
		Provider Service Reviews. Member of
		Tender Evaluation Panels for the procurement of HSG Mental Health,
		Substance Misuse and Offending Services Services. Referrer into SPoA
		via GP's Health Visitor, Flying Start
		Workers, Community Mental Health
		Team SMS etc.
North Wales Police		Member of One Front Door Panel.
(PVPU		Lead on recent ACEs Project of which
(1 11 0		HSG was a key member
Housing Services		Head of Service (Chair) and Policy
l loading betvices		Commissioning and Housing Strategy
		Manager are members of the HSG
		Planning Group, Contributions made as
		a stakeholder to Provider Service
		Reviews. Member of Tender. Close
		working with Private Rented Sector
		Liaison Officer. Evaluation Panels for
		the procurement of HSG Services.
		Referrer into SPoA via Housing
		Options, Housing Solutions
		Officer, Homeless Prevention loACC,
		Estate Management Officers, including
		Arrears and Anti- Social Behaviour
		Officer.
DWP		Work Coaches refer into SPoA
Grŵp Cynefin	Housing	Housing Association Landlord
North Wales Housing	Associations	Housing Association Landlord
Clwyd Alyn		Housing Association Landlord
Citizens Advice Bureau	Partner	Designated Agencey for Specialist
	Organisations	Debt Advice for Service Users.
Hafal		Provider of Mental Health Pathway
		Support
Shelter		Specialist Housing/ Homelessness
		Advice and advocate for Service Users
Medrwn Mộn		Umbrella Third Sector Organisation
		and member of HSG Planning Group.
•		

Deliverer of low level prevention and signposting services for vulnerable citizens. Service Pathway under development between M\u00f3n Community Link and HSG see above. Chief
Executive is a member of the HSG
Planning Group.

As has been the case during previous years, we have continued to undertake twice annual monitoring exercises during the April / May and October /November months, and 3 yearly service reviews. These reports have been produced following the completion of a self-assessment pro-forma, as well as consultation on other issues such as training, safeguarding and outcomes. Detailed reports have been produced, and the Team's two Contracts Review and Development Officers have also sought the opinion of staff, service users and external partner stakeholders in addition to those of managers completing the self-assessment. Once completed the monitoring reports are shared with the designated service managers for further comments and consultation, and the action plan from the initial service review is updated accordingly.

Both the monitoring exercises and service reviews are essential tools for communication and engagement with providers, service users and stakeholder, and supply us with the required evidence and information to make informed decisions in relation to key priorities.



Evidence of partnership working and Stakeholder engagement is clearly evidenced throughout this document e.g development of The Assessment of Need Levels, Working with Môn Community Link to implement the low level intervention, tender evaluation panels, pathway panels etc.

We will continue to emphasise the need to work in partnership as we seek to deliver our delivery priorities within this document and thus meet our strategic aims and objectives within our 4 year HSG Strategy.

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Annexes

Annex A - Impact assessments - Completed



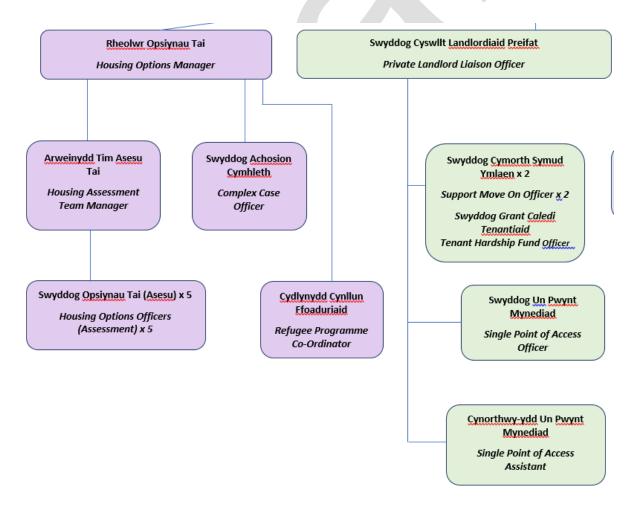
Annex B - Housing Support Grant Spend Plan

Annex C - Commissioning Plan - See Delivery Priorities Section

Annex D- Homelessness Statutory Duties -

The structure of the Assessment Team is shown below which includes the HSG funded roles.

An initial triage is undertaking to establish key issues and the risk of homelessness, this ensures that we targeted services as best as we can to ensure that no one is at risk of sleeping rough. A referral to HSG services is also made at this point to ensure that support is provided as soon as possible.



Officers are able to refer any case there are working on to our arrangement with Shelter Cymru, who are specialise in housing law and policy in Wales, with an indepth and up to date knowledge and understanding of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014, associated regulations and Welsh Government guidance. Shelter provide a closely linked independent advice service and assist the Council in their ambition to improve existing services. They have been delivering the Homelessness Prevention Support Service successfully since September 2018 through the provision of an embedded Independent Homelessness Prevention Advisor. The advisor is able to assist with:

- cases and types of advice offered
- one-to-one mentoring session
- training/briefing sessions
- homelessness reviews

Members of the Assessment Team are also able to approach a Mental Health Assessor, provided by Aderfiad, which will assist with clients who have mental health issues and can be guided and offered advice by the Mental Health Assessor. This services provides officers with additional information and insight into the effects of specific conditions and medication and how best to provide support.

Managers are able to access and refer to Housing Services Professional Mentoring initiative which provide specific coaching and mentoring support on a particular case / matter for Housing Services staff. At times, an officer may require additional support and de-brief on complex matters and / or matters that have had an increased affect on their wellbeing (it is important not to be too prescriptive as officers will be variably affected by different situations & scenarios)

The Line Manager is able to signpost and provided with additional support and mentoring.

The Lighthouse, operated by Digartref, offer to support to individuals who approach their services for support and advice which is in addition to the support offered by the Assessment Team. This can include people who approach their services in the first instance or people who are known to the Assessment Team. Partnership working is key here to offer solutions in assisting in dealing with a range of issues and complexities.

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Return to HOME page click here

Text Project Type Breakdown £ ε Text using Led using First (verified) using First (unverified) I health ance misuse and/or alcohol issues 31 28 .werified) sncy Accommodation provision - General ency Accommodation provision - Specific Steam to HCME case cick here
Certificate of Chief Financial Officer or authorised representative
Summary declaration
Lentify has to the best of my knowledge and best of the Lentify has to the best of my knowledge and best of the Lentify has to what the Lentify has to what has the Lentify has to what has the Lentify has to be best of the Lentification with the estimates and calculations made by my authority to Certificate of the LA Housing Support Grant lead (This should be the agreed lead person identified by the Local Authority for the HSG).

Summary declaration

Locally hat, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information provided on this form is correct and consistent with the estimates and actualisation made by my authority is collable the budge and expenditure of the Housing Support Grant effects of against or fether days from the Certificate of the Summary declaration.

Rapid Rehousing Transition Work Plan April 2022- March 2027

The Rapid Rehousing Transition Work Plan sets out how Anglesey Council will make the transition to a Rapid Rehousing model of homelessness services. This plan will focus on 6 key themes and actions that need to be implemented to achieve the Plan for the duration of 2022-27.

	Key Themes	Transition Plan Actions
1.	Local Housing Market	The tool will identify the gap between demand and
	Assessment, homelessness	supply and the anticipated demand for services both
	data and analysing need	now and the next 5 years.
		An analysis will be undertaken so a clear position can
		be ascertained by September 2022
2.	Assessing Support Needs	An extensive and systematic assessment of need to be
۷.	Assessing Support Needs	undertaken to gather accurate intelligence around
		support requirements as well as supply.
		Support requirements as well as suppry.
		Two things are required:
		A breakdown of the number of current clients
		in each of four categories; and
		An estimation of the ratios of presentations
		likely on an annual basis moving forward.
		This will be continuously reviewed.
		All HSG Support Providers will have identified all service users within a Low/Medium/High assessment tool by April 2022 and will feedback weekly to the HSG SPoA. Training has been carried out with all Providers in 2021.
		The levels of support needs are carefully considered alongside the potential duration of the support.
		IoACC has established a HSG Support Plan Assessment which is used internally and externally for consistency and transparency which identifies the three cohorts (L/M/H) as well as complex cases. This will support the service user who need specialist support.
		Assessments of need will support and assist people to move on and sustain their accommodation in the long term. The below 4 areas of support will be used;
		Practical Spacific/consisting
		Specific/specialist Specialist Specific/specialist Specialist Specialist
		 Engagement and stabilising

Understanding Local Temporary Accommodation Supply	Progression Accommodation requirements will be considered in case they impact the amount of support required. Location Tenure Affordability Equipment Further develop the Anglesey Rapid Rehousing Hub which includes; Rapid Response Officer Complex Case Officer Move on Officer Prisoner resettlement Mental Health support worker Step down Accommodation Young person's Pontio Support Officer The complex case Officer has overall responsibility for coordinating services. This will also include the development of inclusion of Homeless Prevention Grant within HSG provision and Rapid Rehousing Hub. This will need to fully implemented by 2024 An understanding of the scale and quality of temporary accommodation to be undertaken. To provide total and current provision for each of the following settlings: Temporary Accommodation Supported Accommodation Supported Accommodation Gillowing information on: Capacity No of households living in the accommodation at 31 March, and net flows in/out in the year Type of households Level of support provided Average length of stay (for both 2020/21 and 2019/20) within each setting.
	 Average length of stay (for both 2020/21 and 2019/20) within each setting. Weekly charges, including all rent and service charge This will be completed by 31 March 2022
Plan the Temporary Accommodation transformation	The provision of temporary accommodation will be to meet the quality standards and be based around ensuring dignity and respect for the service users. Anglesey Council will look at:
	Planthe Temporary Accommodation

		 Look at existing supply and future supply Develop a Rapid Rehousing Hub
5.	Development of the Plan	The plan will set out the following fundamental key points
6.	Resource Planning	More work needs to be undertaken in the next 12 months to understand how the Rapid Rehousing model will work form a financial point of view. The model of moving people quickly through temporary accommodation into settled accommodation, while more expensive initially, is universally understood to have long-term benefits from a cost savings perspective and the expectation is that the move to Rapid Rehousing can be attained from a cost neutral basis. We currently have 23 units identified under Phase 2 Grant from WG which will adopt the principles of Rapid Rehousing. This will commence in February 2022

Statement of Need

1. Introduction

Welsh Government guidance states that Local Authorities should produce a Statement of Need based on findings from the Needs Assessment. The statement should set out the current and future demands, and should include regional needs where the needs are met by the Local Authority. The statement should also set out how statutory needs identified will be met through the discharge of statutory duties.

2. Key findings

Our Needs Assessment has found the following:

- National research shows that a person is at risk of homelessness due poverty, macro and micro labour and market conditions and personal and social support provision and ability to cope with a crisis will have an impact on homelessness
- Homelessness and trauma are clearly linked with 85% of those in touch with criminal justice, substance misuse and homelessness services have experienced trauma as children
- If a person becomes homeless their physical and mental health will suffer

The recent <u>Crisis Homelessness Monitor for Wales, 2021</u> report shows that homelessness will increase in the short term due to impact of Covid and economic issues. The following issues have been highlighted within our Needs Assessment or Housing Strategy 2022-27:-

- The years preceding the COVID-19 pandemic saw temporary accommodation placements on a sustained upward trend, with total placements rising by 24% between 2016 and 2020. A much sharper increase seen during 2020/21 reflects the Welsh Government's emergency housing programme to provide safe accommodation for those at risk of sleeping rough during the pandemic
- Local Housing Allowance shortfalls and competition from the demand for holiday lets have been exacerbated by the pandemic
- Crisis interventions by LAs are continuing to increase with a sharp increase in Section 75s as well as an increase in actions to assist applicants under S66 (prevention assistance) and S73 (relief assistance)
- Consistent with the pattern of responses on the changing scale of homelessness demand, many participants reported that the balance between families and single people had significantly shifted in 2020/21
- For most authorities discharging duty via the PRS had become very difficult
- Across Wales, it was less often reported as difficult to access social tenancies for homeless people by comparison with attempting to make placements in private rented housing
- Another longstanding measure of homelessness is the population of homeless people placed in TA by LAs in the course of the homelessness assessment and rehousing process.
- There will be an increase in the Core Homelessness Households until 2023 with a higher level of homelessness presentations than currently from 2023 onwards

Information from our Statutory Assessments, Homeless Prevention Fund and Support Providers shows that for Housing Support Services:

It is generally accepted by specialist service providers and the Police as well as being
documented by local and national media that the actual level of domestic abuse was underreported during the lockdown periods. Many families where restricted to their properties
and opportunities to report episodes of abuse and repeat incidents were considerably
reduced, therefore resulting in increased un-met need

- There is an identified gap in provision for victims of sexual abuse on the Island, and consideration should be given to the provision for funding to the specialist provider in this area, which is independent of the more traditional type of VAWDASV services currently delivered
- There is an increase in high level needs within mental health support services
- There is an increase in the number of people who are at risk of suicide and self harm
- Around half the people recognised with Learning Disabilities receive housing Support services (Welsh Government Social Services KPI's and HSG Spend Plan)
- There remains a disproportionate level of support which is capped at a maximum of 15 hours per person per week available to people with Learning Disabilities. This compares with a maximum of 5-8 hours for those with challenging needs who are chaotic, homeless or at risk of homelessness and who require the highest level of intervention other than 24/7 support within a hostel type environment
- Housing Support Services is currently a high cost low volume within Learning Disabilities client group
- The number of people with a Learning Disability who do not meet the statutory definition of Leaning Disability is high on Anglesey. There is therefore a need for continuous housing support to enable this client group to manage their tenancies
- The number of older people requiring housing support services is likely to increase, given the projected demographic profile for the next 10 years
- The demographic profile of the Anglesey population suggests that there is a need to increase the range and supply of specific types of accommodation options available for older people
- There is no specific housing related support provision for people with autistic spectrum disorder associated needs
- There needs to be closer working and improved transition arrangements and planning from adolescence into adulthood with regard given to housing support provision
- The number of prisoners from North Wales is usually between 760 and 850, of which 40-50 are female, 60-70 are young offenders and 50-60 are high security
- The number of people held in prison has been increasing
- The prevalence of mental illness, substance misuse and learning disabilities is higher among the adult prison population than the general population
- The prison population made up of offenders aged 50 years or over has increased proportionately more than any other age group, which has implications for social care
- Children with a parent in prison are twice as likely as other children to experience conduct and mental health issues and three times more likely to offend themselves
- The report published the HM Prison and Probation Service the Accelerator Project Study at Berwyn Prison will be considered as part of the RHSGC priorities going forward
- Re-presentations within Homelessness and Housing Support Services has increased
- Cases presenting for Housing Support Services appear to have increasing multiple complex needs and risk factors

In response to a consultation questionnaire shared across the North Wales Region, service providers noted the following issues on Anglesey:

- There is an increase in people wanting to access counselling and other therapies, which HSG is unable to fund
- Covid-19 has caused increases in isolation and loneliness, less contact with friends and family which has affected both physical and mental wellbeing. Service delivery has had to change, being more innovative in how support is carried out due to social distancing, mask wearing etc, can affect service users

- There is an increase in the number of people accessing Digartref's Lighthouse service with 1/3 more requesting assistance when comparing data from 2019-20 and 2020-21. Many clients have complex needs and require a high level of support in finding accommodation.
- There has been a rise in referrals for Mediation
- Increased episodes of anxiety, increases in self-harm, threats of suicide, isolation and loneliness. Those in own accommodation or self-contained temporary accommodation are more reluctant to engage, possibly due to past social distancing measures, feeling unsafe etc
- Our SPoA analysis shows nearly 2 out of every 3 presentations for Housing Support services are from females
- The number of single, single parent or those with a dependent adult/s households accessing housing support services is extremely high, with the most recent data showing the percentage of all referrals received since 1.4.21 to be 86.1% compared to 82.5% for the full previous financial year
- Presentations from families including single and two parent households have increased since the removal of the embargo upon evictions, previously imposed by Welsh Government.
- Mental Health, Generic, Homelessness, Domestic Abuse and Young Vulnerable People account for 78.89% of all needs upon presentation to SPoA
- There has been a substantial increase in the number of people who claim to have high level mental health needs when presenting via our SPOA/ Triage Gateway.
- Incidents of co-occurring needs or dual diagnosis are on the increase with substance misuse impact on 16-25 yr olds

Information from our Statutory Assessments, Homeless Prevention Fund and Support Providers shows that for Affordability and Supply is an issue:

- Affordability and access within the Private Rented Sector has become increasing difficult
- There continues to be a lack of affordable one bedroom properties
- The lack of available move-on properties silts our supported accommodation services and results in people having to spend longer in more costly temporary accommodation, preventing people from accessing more intensive level of support earlier
- 49.3% of those presenting to SPoA require both support and accommodation
- There is a lack of purpose built appropriate single storey shared accommodation for people with learning disabilities
- People with Learning Disabilities living within supported and shared accommodation will rarely move on into independent living
- Evidence gathered from service reviews and 6 monthly monitoring reports has highlighted a lack of affordable properties within the private rented sector. This further compounded by affordability issues and shortfall between market rent and Local Housing Allowance rates which determines the allocation of housing benefit.
- A lack of move-on properties which in turn contributes to the silting of hosteland designated supported accommodation for our young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness
- Data provided by Digartref, the designated housing support provider for homeless and vulnerable young people indicates that between 1 in 4 young people who require hostel support are from the LGBTQ+ community. This has, at times, created difficulties for some of these young people residing within hostels. There is a recognised need across North Wales that a gap exists in relation to LGBTQ+ young people who require housing related support and is recognised as a regional priority

Information from our report on various aspects of dealing with Covid shows that:

- Increased caseload due to Covid-19
- Service users who previously had their duty discharged for intentionally losing their interim accommodation were able to reapply for help. These cases were often more challenging and therefore remained open for longer periods having a further impact on rising caseloads.
- 62.4% of staff said the nature of most cases they deal with had changed over past 18 months increase in complexity of cases, particularly in relation to serious mental health conditions and substance misuse.
- Caseload Management
 - ➤ 53.7% staff saying their caseload was manageable support within their teams and from managers a big part of this.
 - Moving from face-to-face interviews to phone call applications enabled staff to manage a larger caseload.
 - Staff who felt their caseloads were not manageable only able to complete reactive or crisis management work rather than working preventatively and offering advice and solutions
 - ➤ Most staff noted a caseload between 10-40 cases would be ideal
- Providing an effective service
 - > 53.4% of staff felt they were able to deliver an effective service
 - > Support from colleagues, managers and teams played a big role
 - ➤ Good training and experience of housing legislation
 - Additional funding from Welsh Government providing extra homelessness officer, triage officer and move on officer
 - ➤ Barriers include high caseload, lack of PRS accommodation and temporary accommodation.
- Staff Wellbeing
 - ➤ 88.9% of staff surveyed said that they were able to access support, with 71% saying that the support was sufficient.

Information from clients showed that:

- Housing Support Services had made a real difference to their lives
- Clients were not aware how to access support from Council and Housing Support Services
- The number of clients able to afford current rental prices was low



Equality Impact Assessment Template (including the Welsh language and the Socio-Economic Duty) Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd argael yn Gymraeg / This document is also available in Welsh.

Version	Date	Summary of changes
V.1	December 2021	
V0.2	January 2022	Step 2 a 3

Step 1: Background		
1 - What are you assessing?	Housing Support Programme Strategy 2022-26	
2 - Is this a new or existing proposal?	New	
3 - What are the aims and purpose of this proposal?	This Strategy is a requirement on Housing Services by Welsh Government, which provides the strategic direction for homeless prevention and housing support services. The Strategy also satisfies the statutory requirements for a Homelessness Strategy under Part 2 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 for the next four years with a mid-point review within 2 years.	

Step 1: Background		
4 - Who is responsible for the proposal you are assessing?	Housing Services- Strategy, Policy and Commissioning Unit	
5 - Who is the lead officer for this assessment?	Housing Strategy, Policy and Commissioning Manager	
6 - Who else is involved in undertaking this assessment?	Elliw Llŷr - Strategy, Policy and Commissioning Manger Arwel Jones – HSG Lead principle Caron Jones – Housing Strategy Officer Lesley Thomas – HSG Development Officer	
7 - Is the proposal related to other areas of work? For example, are there other proposals of policies that should be taken into consideration as part of this assessment? Draft Housing Strategy 2022-27 Rapid Rehousing Transitional Plan The Housing Strategy helps deliver the aims of the Corporate Plan.		
8 - Is the proposal relevant to how the Authority complies with the public sector general duty relating to people who are protected by the Equality Act 2010?	The elimination of discrimination and harassment The advancement of equality of opportunity	yes yes
As a general rule, any policy that affects people is likely to be relevant across all protected groups.	The fostering of good relations The protection and promotion of human rights	yes

Step 1: Background	
9 – Is the proposal a strategic decision? If so, the Socio-Economic Duty is relevant - see appendix 1.	
10 - Who would be affected by the proposal(s) (adversely or positively, directly or indirectly)?	Anglesey citizens but particularly those who are vulnerable and / or who struggle to meet their housing needs to have access to housing support services
If this is a strategic proposal, ensure that you give specific consideration to whether the proposal would affect more on people living in less favourable social and economic circumstances than others in the same society (see appendix 1)	The strategy will support people living in less favourable social and economic circumstances. Key Partners in delivering improved housing support services would include housing providers (housing associations, private landlords), organisations providing housing support services and assisting the homeless, Police, Probation Service and the local Health Board.

11 - Does this proposal ensure that the Welsh language is treated no less favourably than the English language, in accordance with the Council's Welsh Language Policy?	It encourages people to stay within their communities and on the Island
12 - Is there an opportunity here to offer more opportunities for people to learn and / or use the Welsh language on a day-to-day basis?	We believe there will be
13 – Will this area of work proactively offer services in Welsh for users?	Yes

Step 2.1: Information Gathering – Welsh Language Standards and the Welsh Language Measure (Wales) 2011

14 – Is this proposal likely to protect and promote the Welsh language within communities?

It will offer people the opportunity to stay and contribute to their local communities

To help you to answer the questions above, the corporate **Impact Assessment Guidance** lists a series of questions which should be considered when assessing how proposals impact on the Welsh language in general. The extent to which these questions are relevant will depend on the proposal in question. However:

- If you are looking at how the implementation of the Council's key policies, strategies or guidance would affect the Welsh language; or
- If your initial response to the above questions raises any concerns or evidence to suggest that the proposal would treat the Welsh language less favourably than the English language, or would have a detrimental impact on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language;

a more comprehensive impact assessment on the Welsh language should be carried out. A separate template is available on MonITor. The Welsh Language Commissioner's good practice advice document is also available on MonITor to assist you further.

Step 2.2: Information Gathering – Human Rights Act 1998

15 - Are there any Human Rights issues? If so, what are they? For example, could this proposal result in the failure to safeguard the right to privacy?

(The 16 basic rights are listed at Appendix 2).

The strategy would not negatively impact on Human rights.

Step 2.3: Information Gathering – Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 201516 – Does this proposal meet any of the seven national well-being goals outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015?A prosperous Walesyes(Descriptions of the wellbeing goals are listed at Appendix 3)A healthier Walesyes A more equal Wales Yes

A Wales of cohesive communities	yes
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	yes
A globally responsible Wales	yes

Please see the pre-consultation and pre-engager	Step 2.4: Information Gathering – Engagement / Consultation / Evidence / Filling gaps in information Please see the pre-consultation and pre-engagement checklist, which is available on MonlTor		
17 - What has been done to date in terms of involvement and consultation with regard to this proposal?	The development of the HSG Programme Strategy was taken forward through discussions and questionnaires with service users, providers and Housing Staff and key stakeholders.		
18 – What other information have you used to inform your assessment? Please list any reports, websites, links used etc here and include the relevant evidence in the table in Step 3 below	Statement of Need is based on a Needs Assessment		
19 - Are there any gaps in the information collected to date? If so, how will these be addressed?			

Step 3: Considering the potential impact and identifying mitigating action

20 – Note below any likely impact on equality for each individual group, and identify what action could be taken to reduce or improve the impact. *For determining potential impact, please choose from the following: **Negative / Positive / No impact**

Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of the impact (including evidence to support the findings)	Actions to mitigate negative impact
Age	Positive	See Needs Assessment Census 2011 data. Stats Wales – especially population change projections	
Disability	Positive	Census data 2011	
Sex	Positive	Census 2011 StatsWales There is no indication of negative impact on this group. The focus on identifying and responding to need should ensure equality of opportunity	
Gender Reassignment	Positive	Information specific to this group for the Anglesey area is not currently available. There is no indication of negative impact on this group. The focus on identifying and responding to need should ensure equality of opportunity.	
Pregnancy & Maternity	Positive	Although there is no specific information is available for this group	
Race / Ethnicity / Nationality	Positive	Data used: Census 2011 StatsWales Only 1.8% of the population at the time of the 2011 from a non-white ethnic background. This number had grown since the 2001 census.	
Religion or Belief	Positive	Data used : Census 2011 StatsWales	
Sexual Orientation	Positive	Data used : Census 2011 StatsWales	

Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of the impact (including evidence to support the findings)	Actions to mitigate negative impact
Marriage or Civil Partnership	Positive	Data used : Census 2011 StatsWales	
Welsh language	Positive	See Welsh Language Impact Assessment	
Human Rights	Positive	See q15	
Any other relevant issue.			

There are clear links between equality and socio-economic issues. Discrimination against protected groups can be a direct cause of socio-economic disadvantage. If any such issues become apparent when assessing non-strategic matters, they should be given due regard and recorded under the relevant protected group, or under 'any other relevant issue' above.

Please complete this section if the proposal is a strategic matter (see appendix 1)			
The Socio-	Potential impact	Details of the impact (including evidence to	Actions to mitigate negative impact
Economic Duty		support the findings	
Is the proposal likely	Low impact	The Strategy supports the measurement	
to cause any		framework of Living Standards: The capability to	
inequalities of		enjoy a comfortable	
outcome resulting		standard of living, with independence	
from socio-economic		and security, and to be cared for and	
disadvantage?		supported when necessary	

Step 4 – Outcome of the assessment

There are four possible outcomes – bear these in mind when completing the next section:

• **No major change -** The assessment demonstrates the proposal is robust; there is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact. All opportunities to promote equality have been taken.

- Adjust the proposal The assessment identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. Adjust the proposal to remove barriers or better promote equality.
- **Continue the proposal -** The assessment identifies the potential for adverse impact or missed opportunities to promote equality. Clearly set out the justifications for continuing with it. The justification should be included in the assessment and must be in line with the duty to have due regard. For the most important relevant proposals, compelling reasons will be needed.
- Stop and remove the proposal The proposal shows actual or potential unlawful discrimination. It must be stopped and removed or changed. (The codes of practice and guidance on each of the public sector duties on the Commission's website provide information about what constitutes unlawful discrimination.)

Step 4: Outcome of the assessment		
21 - Note the impacts identified and how it is intended to mitigate any negative impact in terms of equality, the Welsh language and, if relevant, socio-economic disadvantage (ie a summary of the table/s in step 3)	No major change (as defined above)	
22 - Describe any actions taken to maximise the opportunity to promote equality and the Welsh language, the goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (sustainability) and, if relevant, ensure better outcomes for those facing economic disadvantage.	No major change (as defined above)	
23 - Would any aspect of the proposal contravene the wellbeing goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015?	No major change (as defined above)	
24 – Is there a need to look at what could be done differently, or to reconsider the entire proposal as a result of conducting this assessment?	No major change (as defined above)	
(Evidence of negative impact could render the proposal or decision unlawful. If you have identified negative impact, you should consider at this stage whether it is possible to proceed with the proposal).		
25 - Is there a strategy for dealing with any unavoidable but not unlawful negative impacts that cannot be mitigated?		

Step 4: Outcome of the assessment	
26 - Will the proposal be adopted / forwarded for approval?	It will be approved by the Housing Support Planning Group and Executive
Who will be the decision-maker?	
27 - Are there monitoring arrangements in place? What are	Review after two years
they?	

Step 5: Action Plan

Please detail any actions that are planned following completion of your assessment. You should include any changes that have been made to reduce or eliminate the effects of potential or actual negative impact, as well as any arrangements to collect data or to carry out further research.

Ref	Proposed actions	Lead officer	Timescale

Appendix 1 – A More Equal Wales – The Socio-Economic Duty (Commencement date of the Duty: 31 March 2021)

What is the Duty?

The general aim of the duty is to ensure better outcomes for those suffering socioeconomic disadvantage. When making strategic decisions such as deciding priorities and setting objectives, due regard must be given to the need to reduce the inequalities of outcome resulting from socio-economic disadvantage.

Who is likely to experience socio-economic disadvantage?

Socio-economic disadvantage can be disproportionate in both 'communities of interest' and 'communities of place', leading to inequality of outcome, which can be further exasperated when considering 'intersectionality':

Communities of interest – groups who share an experience, eg homelessness; or people who share an identity, eg lone parents, carers. Also those who share one or more of the protected characteristics listed in the Equality Act 2010.

Communities of place – people who are linked together because of where they live, work, visit or spend a substantial portion of their time there.

Intersectionality - crucially, this is about understanding the way in which a combination of characteristics such as gender, race or class, can produce unique and often multiple experiences of disadvantage in certain situations. One form of discrimination cannot and should not be understood in isolation from other forms. A truly intersectional approach ensures that this does not happen.

When will the Duty be relevant?

When making **strategic decisions**. The Welsh Government has provided some examples of strategic decisions (this is not an exhaustive list):

- Strategic directive and intent.
- Strategies developed at Regional Partnership Boards and Public Service Boards which impact on public bodies' functions.
- Medium to long term plans (for example, corporate plans, development plans, service delivery and improvement plans).
- Setting objectives (for example, well-being objectives, equality objectives, Welsh language strategy).
- Changes to and development of public services.
- Strategic financial planning.
- Major procurement and commissioning decisions.
- Strategic policy development

Further details can be found in the corporate equality impact assessment guidance.

Appendix 2 – Human Rights

Human rights are rights and freedoms that belong to all individuals, regardless of their nationality and citizenship. There are 16 basic rights in the Human Rights Act – all taken from the European Convention on Human Rights. For the purposes of the Act, they are known as 'the Convention Rights'. They are listed below:

(Article 1 is introductory and is not incorporated into the Human Rights Act)

Article 2: The right to life

Article 3: Prohibition of torture

Article 4: Prohibition of slavery and forced labour

Article 5: Right to liberty and security

Article 6: Right to a fair trial

Article 7: No punishment without law

Article 8: Right to respect for private and family life

Article 9: Freedom of thought, conscience and religion

Article 10: Freedom of expression

Article 11: Freedom of assembly and association

Article 12: Right to marry

Article 14: Prohibition of discrimination

Article 1 of Protocol 1: Protection of property

Article 2 of Protocol 1: Right to education

Article 3 of Protocol 1: Right to free elections

Article 1 of Protocol 13: Abolition of the death penalty

Appendix 3 - Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

This Act is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. Public bodies need to make sure that when making their decisions they take into account the impact they could have on people living their lives in Wales in the future. The Act puts in place seven well-being goals:

A prosperous Wales:

An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.

A resilient Wales:

A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).

A healthier Wales:

A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.

A more equal Wales:

A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).

A Wales of cohesive communities:

Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.

A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language:

A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.

A globally responsible Wales:

A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.

Issues to consider with regard to the Welsh Language

The corporate equality impact assessment template includes specific questions about the impact of decisions on the Welsh language (questions 11-14). The extent to which these questions are relevant will depend on the proposal in question.

However:

- If you are looking at how the implementation of the Council's key policies, strategies or guidance would affect the Welsh language; or
- If your initial response to the above questions raises any concerns or evidence to suggest that the proposal would treat the Welsh language less favourably than the English language, or would have a detrimental impact on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language;

a more comprehensive impact assessment on the Welsh language should be carried out. Please complete this template and attach to your equality impact assessment on the same proposal.

The **Welsh Language Commissioner's good practice advice document** is also available on MonITor to assist you further.

What is being assessed?	Housing Support Programme Grant Strategy 2022-26
Who is carrying out this assessment?	Housing Services – Strategy, Commissioning and Policy
Assessment completion date	December 2021

1 - Compliance with the Welsh Language Policy	
1.1 Is the proposal influential in terms of dealing with the Welsh-speaking public?	Yes
Will activities such as corresponding by letter, communicating by telephone, public meetings and other meetings comply with the language policy?	Housing Services, work with partners who offer a bilingual services which include the commissioning and delivery of a range of housing support services to a diverse range of vulnerable citizens and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
	All communication matters, whether by letter, telephone, public meetings will comply with the Council's Welsh Language Policy as well as with the statutory requirements within the Welsh Language Standards Regulations and the Welsh Language Measure 2011.
Will any new IT development comply with the policy?	Yes.
1.2 Is the proposal likely to impact upon the public image of the organisation?	Yes
 Will all signs comply with the language policy? Will publications and forms be compliant? Will any publicity material or marketing campaigns comply? 	All publications and any other documents which underpin the Housing Support Strategy will be available through the medium of Welsh, including tender documents.
Will staff recruitment advertisements comply?	The consultation process, along with all awareness and publicity raising correspondence will be available through the medium of Welsh in accordance with the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards and Welsh Language

1 - Compliance with the Welsh Language Policy	
	Measure 2011. All staff recruitment advertisements will include reference to Welsh language essential or desirable in accordance with the needs and requirements of the advertised post.
 1.3 Is the proposal likely to have an impact upon the implementation of the language policy? Will the proposal create new jobs? Will the staffing arrangements facilitate the implementation of the language policy? Will the proposal offer training through the medium of Welsh? Will any arrangements with third parties comply with the language policy? Will the proposal include any targets or indicators relating to the language? How will performance be monitored and measured? 	Yes, Existing and new contracts and commissioning of services offer and create new roles and training opportunities. All services are undertaken via a full procurement process, for which all documents are advertised in bilingual format and prospective service providers given the opportunity to submit tenders through the medium of Welsh or English. Service Specifications and legally binding contracts clearly state that there is a legal obligation on the appointed agency to deliver services on behalf of the loACC to do so in both Welsh and English. Service users are without exception expected to receive their housing support service in their preferred language of choice, be it Welsh or English, equally delivered to a high level of quality. The Housing Support Grant currently provides employment opportunities for circa 220 members of staff which includes a mixture of full and part time positions. Given that the service is of a fluid nature and subject to procurement, new posts are created from time to time. All internal posts, funded from the HSG Programme will be subject to a Welsh Language Skills Panel Assessment process in accordance with the Council's Welsh Language Policy. Training is provided in both Welsh and English in most instances. However, some of the services are considered

1 - Compliance with the Welsh Language Policy	
	niche areas and as a result it is not always possible to secure the services of Welsh Language Trainers. This does not inclue specific training which must be provided in Welsh in accordance with operational standards 128 and 129, with Performance Management and Health and Safety amongst others. All service provision is monitored on a twice annual basis, where compliance with the Welsh Language Standards and Measure is reviewed and audited. There are no specific targets or indicators outside of the Welsh Language Standards. compliance requirements. We have also designed a specific Welsh Language Questionnaire which we have been issuing to all service providers at regular intervals in order to specifically monitor compliance, progress and barriers.

2 - Effect on Welsh speaking users	
2.1 Will the proposal offer a language choice for users?	Yes, services will be offered in the language of choice
Will it be possible for users to receive any part of the service in Welsh?	See above – all commissioning and procurement arrangements and subsequent service delivery are delivered in both Welsh and English.

2 - Effect on Welsh speaking users	
2.2 If there a risk for the proposal to discriminate against Welsh speaking service users?	No
Have the needs of Welsh speakers been considered in the proposal?	Yes – all aspects of the commissioning and procurement process allows prospective services providers to communicate in any format via the medium of Welsh or English. Likewise once a service is procured, the appointed organisation is expected to deliver a fully bilingual service on behalf of the Council and in accordance with the Council's Welsh Language Policy and the Welsh Language Standards Regulations and Welsh Language Measure
 Are Welsh speakers likely to receive the same standard of service as provided in English? 	Yes – the same standard of service as provided in both Welsh and English Languages across all formats of communication.
 Are Welsh language arrangements likely to lead to a delay in the service? 	No – any required translation service e.g. for written documents would be factored into the timeframe for publishing and sharing with the general public and key external stakeholders.
2.3 Is the proposal likely to make Welsh more visible?	Yes -
Is it likely to increase use of the language by producing Welsh language materials and signs?	Service Providers are expected to market and promote their services bilingually via various formats. In doing so this increases the visibility of the Welsh Language, via the publication of leaflets, poster, local radio stations, social media sites. Furthermore, some of the services will be delivered via group settings where perhaps occasionally
Is it likely to influence others to make more use of	not all attendees will be fluent or able to understand Welsh.

2 - Effect on Welsh speaking users	
Welsh, for example businesses?	However in accordance with Welsh Language Standards Regulations and Welsh Language Measure compliance, there is still a requirement to meet the needs of Welsh Language speakers and their preferred language of communication. In doing so this will make Welsh more visible. The same will apply to any service user engagement event or public consultation meeting. All commissioned services are expected to comply with the Welsh Language Standards Regulations and Welsh Language Measure, and therefore it would be anticipated that most if not all business would increase the use of Welsh within their respective organisations
2.4 Will the Welsh language service in relation to the proposal be accessible?	Yes
Will the service be as accessible in Welsh as in English?	As mentioned above, anyone seeking a service will receive the same standard of service in both languages.
Will the services be available at the same time?	Accessibility to service in both languages will be continuously available, Failure to do so would result in a breach of contract and would be fully investigated.

3 - Effect on Welsh speaking communities	
3.1 Is the proposal likely to contribute towards safeguarding	Yes
Welsh in communities?	
Is it likely to contribute towards efforts to tackle the	All service providers commissioned to deliver Housing
challenges of demographic change and migration - such	Support have a legal obligation within the service contract
	to ensure that services are delivered in the preferred

3 - Effect on Welsh speaking communities	
as providing opportunities for young people to stay in their communities?	language of choice, be it Welsh or English. In addition to direct individual support there are also specific group sessions held within projects as well as signposting to other services within the community such as Wellbeing Groups and local community hubs which also offer virtual access and a rage of diverse activities which can be delivered in monoglot Welsh or bilingually.
Is it likely to contribute towards the local economy in Welsh speaking areas?	By signposting people into community based hubs and other local services, the project empowers people to take control of their lives, having previously experienced difficulties and sometimes chaos, and in doing so will invariably boost local economies.
Will it provide Welsh medium services - such as child-minding services?	As mentioned above all services delivered whether individually or group based can be delivered in Welsh.
3.2 Does the proposal take steps to promote and facilitate the Welsh language?	Yes
Does the proposal contribute towards Welsh medium community activities?	Yes – see reference above to direct support provided to individuals or a range of activities / sessions within wellbeing groups and community hubs.
Does it offer opportunities for young people to use Welsh outside school hours?	In general. Housing Support is only directly available to people aged 16 or over, and the majority of those accessing provision are aged 25 or older. Although there is a specific service for people aged 16-24, under the vulnerable young people category. Therefore, it is

3 - Effect on Welsh speaking communities reasonable to assume that although there are opportunities for young people to use Welsh outside school hours, they are limited due to the nature of the service provision. Does it offer a new service that will also be available in Welsh – for example leisure or sporting activities and The service will provide opportunities to access leisure and sporting activities, where this is deemed appropriate to

Does it contribute or add value to other activities relating to language, such as the work of the local Welsh
 wellbeing.

sporting activities, where this is deemed appropriate to meet the needs of the service user as part of a person centered support plan e.g to improve physical and mental wellbeing.

There is no direct partnership working with Welsh Language Initiatives such as Menter laith and the Urdd at present. However, this could be explored for future promotion and joint working

4 - Contribution towards Welsh language standards, language policies, strategies and other relevant guidance relating to the Welsh language

4.1 The language policies of partner organisations or nearby public bodies:

language initiative (Menter laith), the Urdd etc.

Is the authority working in partnership on the proposal?

•

provision?

- Which other organisations are likely to be affected by the development?
- Do those organisations have Welsh language standards

All commissioned providers are required to have their own Welsh Language Policies which conform with the legal requirements of the Welsh language standards, the loACC 's Welsh Language policy, strategies and other relevant guidance relating to the Welsh language. This is included in the contract between the Housing Support Planning Group and the designated service providers.

Conformity with the above requirements are monitored

or language policies?	twice annually.
Does the proposal contribute towards these schemes?	The HSG Strategy Document underpins our identified priorities and expectations from all our commissioned providers and in doing so contributes to ensuring compliance with Welsh Language Standards et al.
4.2 Relevant Welsh language strategies:	Yes, it will offer opportunities for people to have access to support services and housing within their chosen communities across the Island in their preferred language of choice.
 Will the proposal contribute towards the Anglesey Welsh Language Strategic Forum's Welsh Language Strategy 2016 – 2021 which was adopted by this Council in September 2016? 	Yes – the Housing Services are members of the Anglesey Welsh Language Strategic Forum's with set annual targets to be achieved and monitored by the forum.
 How does the proposal contribute towards the vision of the Assembly Government for one million Welsh speakers by 2050? 	By ensuring that all housing support services have to be delivered through the medium of Welsh where chosen by the Service User. In doing so, this ensures that the majority of staff within the sector are able to converse in Welsh.

5 - The impacts identified and assessed

5.1 What impacts and effects have you identified (ie summary of the responses to the above questions) together with the probability and likely severity/ significance of impact? How do you plan to address these impacts in order to improve the

5 – The impacts identified and assessed outcomes for the Welsh language? Detail mitigation measures/ alternative options to reduce adverse impacts and increase positive outcomes:	
Positive impact	Continue with robust commissioning arrangements which ensures that current and future service providers of housing support services must comply with contractual obligations and relevant Legislation such as the Welsh Language Standards and Measure. Compliance is monitored twice annually.
Adverse impact	Inability of providers to appoint welsh language speakers into vacant posts. Welsh speakers who receive individual support or attend group sessions not exercising their right to communicate via the medium of Welsh. Lack of available translation services for group sessions and additional cost.
Opportunities to promote the Welsh language e.g. status, use of Welsh language services, use of Welsh in everyday life, Welsh at work increased?	It is hoped by identifying the ability to speak Welsh as an essential requirement to effectively undertake the majority of posts within the sector will ensure that the Welsh language is sufficiently promoted and that service users will continue to be supported in their preferred language of choice.
Evidence / data used to support your assessment:	Equalities data e,g the number of Welsh speaking staff within each service provider and the number of service users from the total supported, who's preferred language of choice is Welsh. Some service users will prefer to speak Welsh, but receive any written correspondence in English.

6 - Consultation	
6.1 During consultation, what questions do you wish to ask about the Welsh Language Impacts?	We have completed an Impact Assessment on the positive and negative impact on Equality and the Welsh Language. We are required to consider and seek views on the impact
Guidance has been included in the pre-consultation and pre-engagement checklist, which is available on MonITor	of our plans on the Welsh language and have conducted an equality and language impact assessment. What effects might the Housing Support Grant Programme Strategy 2022-27 have on the Welsh language, specifically on opportunities for people to use Welsh and on not treating the language less favorably than the English language? How do you think positive effects could be promoted, or negative effects mitigated?
6.2 With whom are you consulting? How are Welsh language interest groups likely to respond?	The consultation will be available on line within the public domain and will invite responses from: • Service User (both current and previous) • All Anglesey households (tenure neutral who have no current or previous engagement with Housing Support Services) • Commissioned Service Providers • Key Stakeholders such as Health and Criminal Justice Staff
6.3 Following consultation, what changes have you made to address language issues raised?	No changes identified

7 - Post consultation, final proposals and ongoing monitoring

7 - Post consultation, final proposals and ongoing monit	oring
7.1 Summarise your final decisions, list the likely effects on the Welsh language and how you will promote/ mitigate these. Record your compliance with the Welsh language standards.	No changes identified
You will need to refer to this summary in the equality impact assessment template (Step 4 – result of the assessment)	
7.2 How will you monitor the ongoing effects during the implementation of the policy?	The action plan at the end of the equality impact assessment template should be used to note any actions planned following completion of the assessment.