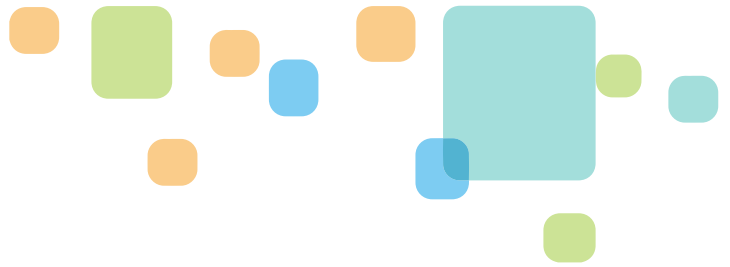


Ending Homelessness Together

Homeless To Home

Strategic Action Plan for
Temporary Accommodation 2022-27
Year 2 Actions





Year 2

This document sets out the Year 2 actions of the Housing Executive’s Strategic Action Plan for Temporary Accommodation 2022-27. These actions should be read together with the original Action Plan, which is available to view on the Housing Executive website.

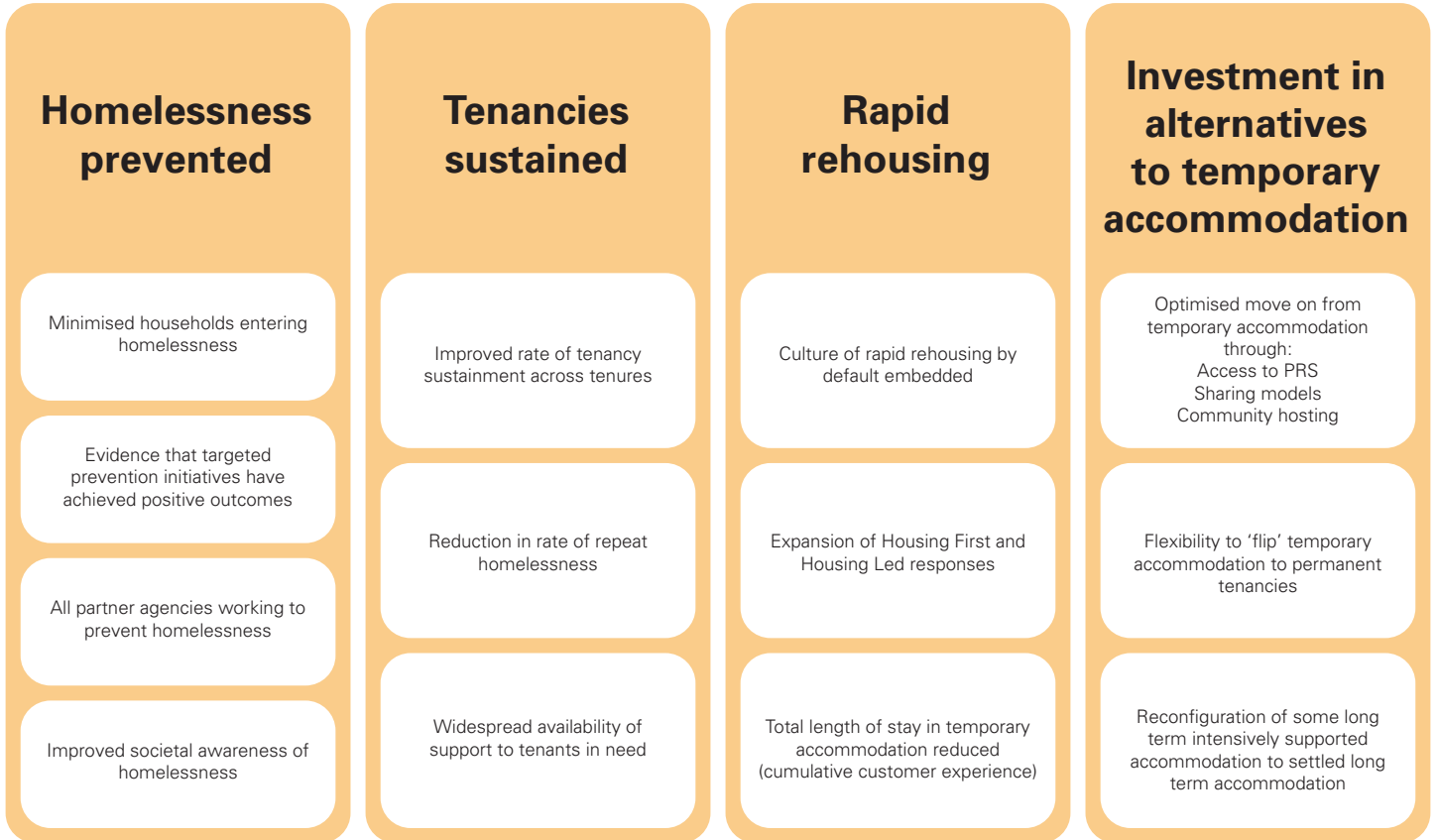
Several of the actions included for Year 2 are multi-year. Others carry forward from Year 1 due to the challenging funding context and significant pressures associated with the sustained, high demand for temporary accommodation. Some actions have been paused to prioritise those that will have a greater overall impact and will be considered as actions for subsequent years.

We operate within a dynamic environment marked by constant change. As noted in the original Action Plan, an iterative approach is required so that how we work to transform our temporary accommodation responses can evolve based on experiential evidence and emerging pressures and priorities. In collaboration with our partners in the sector, we will continue to review the influencing factors affecting the homelessness system and respond accordingly, as we focus on meeting the needs of our customers.



MINIMISED NEED FOR TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

Indicators of Success

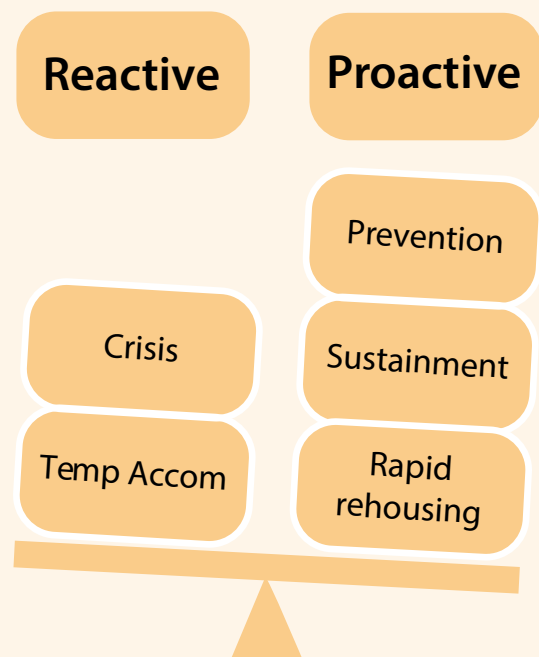


Year 2 Actions

Target homelessness prevention initiatives to those at most risk and prioritise funding to projects most strategically aligned.

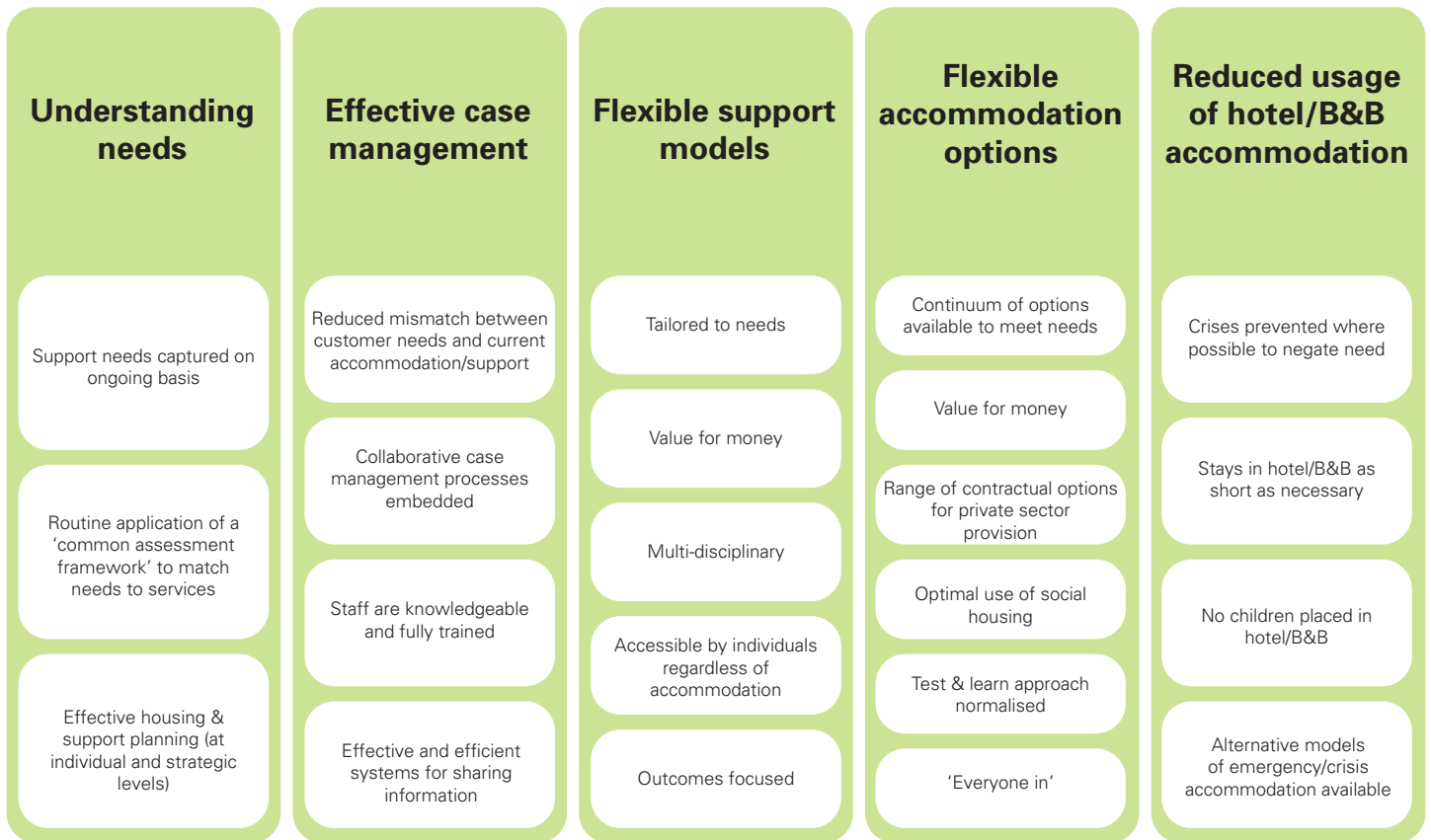
Work with health and social care partners to develop and deliver mental health and addiction support initiatives aimed at homelessness prevention.

Increase engagement with housing associations and other key stakeholders to raise awareness, improve understanding and maximise their potential to better meet the needs of households experiencing homelessness.



CUSTOMER RECEIVES APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATION AND SUPPORT AT THE POINT OF NEED

Indicators of Success



Year 2 Actions

Continue to embed Common Assessment Framework as the main tool to assess and record needs on an ongoing basis and work with the homelessness sector to further refine understanding and terminology in relation to customer support needs.

Maximise the capacity of temporary accommodation portfolio by ensuring effective case management and void management practices; review and develop routine reporting of occupancy across temporary accommodation types.

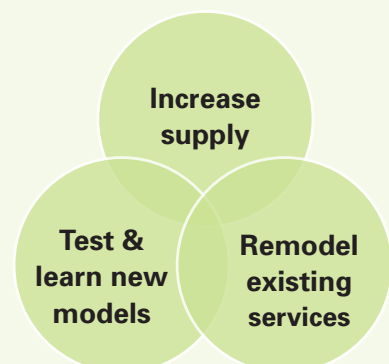
Continue the redesign of Housing Executive-owned temporary accommodation. Keep number of units under review based on the level of supply and demand.

Increase provision of dispersed self-contained accommodation units with wraparound support as required.

Conduct 'emergency accommodation for families' pilot and use findings to take forward longer term response to ensure children are not housed in hotel/B&Bs, as applicable.

Continue roll out of Shared Tenancies for young people.

Test new models of emergency accommodation for young people to cater for the full continuum of support needs, subject to funding availability.



A SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY OF GOOD QUALITY, AFFORDABLE TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION WHICH IS SAFE, WARM AND WELL-MANAGED

Indicators of Success



Year 2 Actions

Enhance existing and develop additional strategic partnerships with a range of accommodation providers to deliver a sustainable supply of temporary accommodation to match identified need.

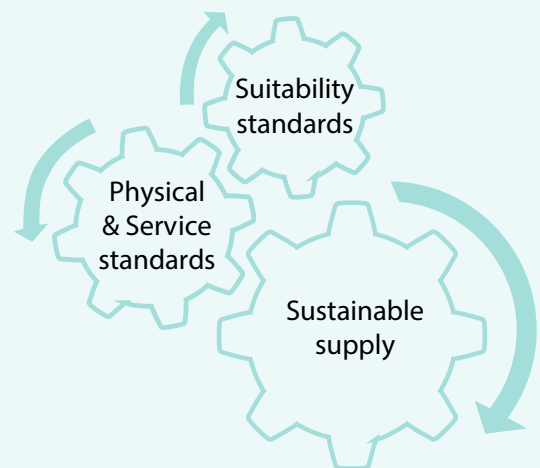
Introduce new contractual arrangements for private sector temporary accommodation, such as short and long-term leasing models. Ideally a range of options will allow us to balance risk and flexibility.

Continue to explore potential for Housing Executive to purchase properties for temporary accommodation.

Commission work with customers and providers to agree a temporary accommodation standards framework for Northern Ireland. This should include physical standards, suitability standards and service standards for all types of temporary accommodation.

Progress the reconfiguration of accommodation based services with shared rooms.

Work with providers and Supporting People on a remodeling programme for large scale congregate hostels.



CUSTOMERS MOVING ON FROM TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION SUSTAIN THEIR TENANCIES

Indicators of Success

Enabled customers

Reduced levels of repeat homelessness

Customers with skills for independent living

Continued availability of support as required in long term housing

Enabled staff

Flexible, empowered and responsive staff

Knowledgeable and well trained frontline staff

Staff apply psychologically informed approaches

Enabled communities

Widespread availability of community based supports

Expansion of community volunteering programmes

Local ownership of outcomes within local action plans to end homelessness

Year 2 Actions

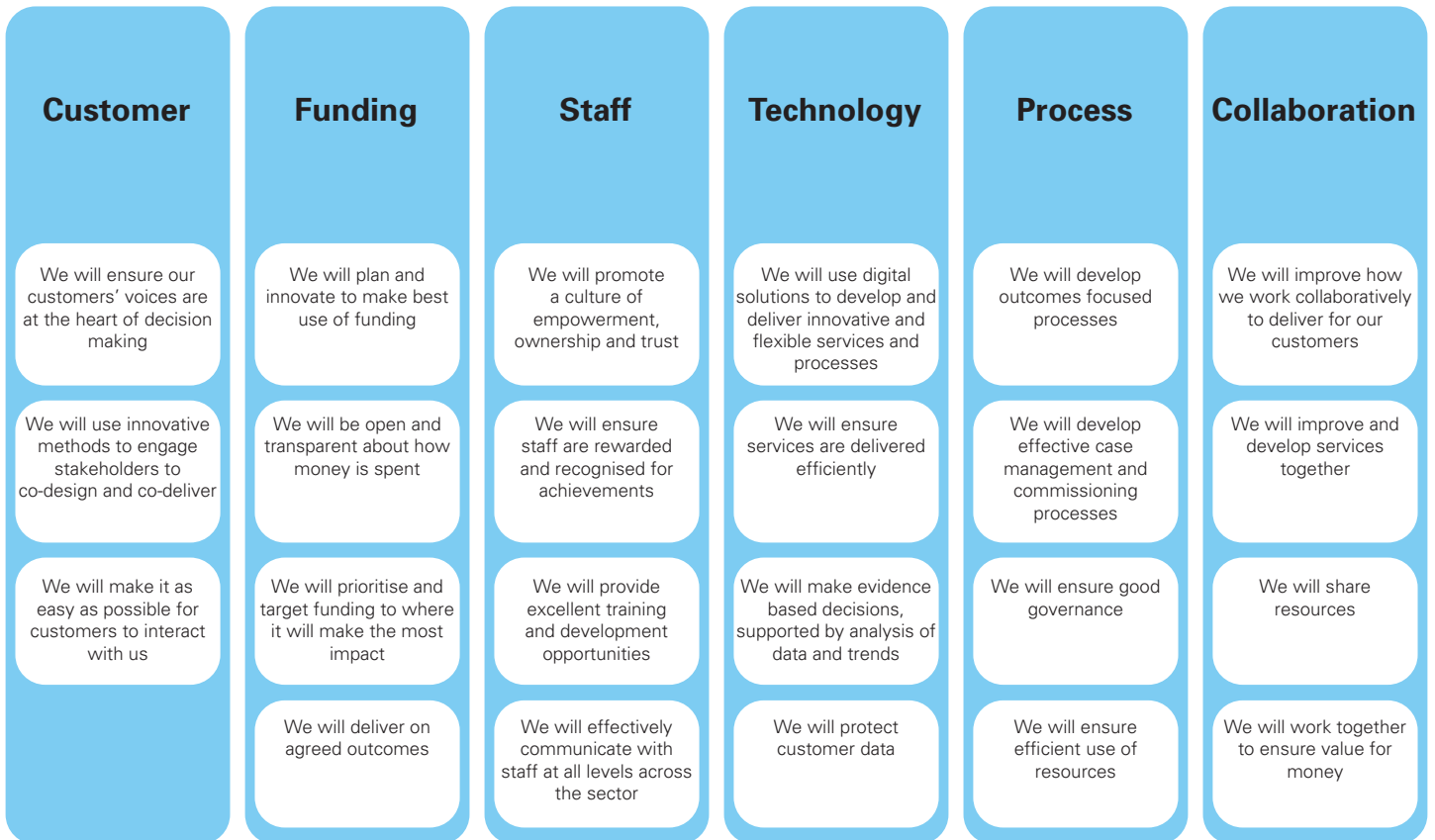
Continue to test and develop flexible support models both within temporary accommodation and once customer has moved to their permanent housing option.

Continue to build Housing First services across Northern Ireland, including via the offer of Housing Executive Housing First tenancies

Support projects which build community capacity to prevent homelessness and sustain tenancies, and help to promote community volunteering programmes aimed at supporting independent living and tenancy sustainment.



Enablers



Year 2 Actions

Ensure customer voices are at the heart of service design and delivery through a Lived Experience programme.

Ensure effective commissioning structures are in place to prioritise funding.

Explore options to deliver a rolling training programme for staff across the sector to equip staff to deliver psychologically informed responses.

Continue to develop specification for digital solutions to support implementation of the common assessment framework, provision of bed availability information, producing meaningful measures and data analysis. Routinely communicate performance, budgetary, and trend information to stakeholders in user-friendly formats.

Commission research to understand the impact of homelessness and temporary accommodation stays on children.

Build upon the collaborative co-location of services and case management approach developed through projects such as the Belfast Complex Lives project.



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Homelessness Strategy **2022-27**



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