Homelessness Strategy 2008-2013 Progress Report

As at 30th September 2011



Icon	Name
Sc	Homelessness Strategy 2008-13
Th	Prevention

Icon	Name
Ob	1.1 By April 2010, we will ensure the provision of a comprehensive range of information, advice and assistance to prevent homelessness in West Dunbartonshire

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 1.1.01 We will develop a West Dunbartonshire Housing Options Guide	100%	28-Mar-2009
	Homeless 1.1.02 We will publish on the Councils' website and websites of partners information and advice to prevent homelessness	100%	31-May-2009
	Homeless 1.1.03 We will undertake an assessment and review of current preventative activities in West Dunbartonshire	100%	31-Oct-2008
	Homeless 1.1.04 We will ensure that there is ongoing access to independent advice and information	100%	31-Oct-2008
	Homeless 1.1.05 We will review and update current information material relating to Housing Advice and Homelessness	100%	31-Jul-2009
	Homeless 1.1.06 We will ensure that housing advice and information is in a suitable format and is accessible to everyone	100%	31-Dec-2008
	Homeless 1.1.07 We will establish a Partnership Group which will develop information and advice provision in West Dunbartonshire	100%	31-Mar-2009
	Homeless 1.1.08. We will enhance and further develop protocol to reduce the risk of homelessness for those leaving Armed Forces, Hospital, Care, Prison	100%	31-Mar-2010

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 1.1.09. We will ensure intensive housing management service are in place for tenants who have been identifies as vulnerable	100%	31-Mar-2009
	Homeless 1.1.10 We will develop and produce a Homelessness Information Guide	100%	31-Jul-2009
	Homeless 1.1.11 We will assess the success of the Housing Advice Surgery within Greenock Prison and plan to develop services in other prisons within Scotland	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 1.1.12 We will attain Home point accreditation for standards for housing advice and information for Homeless Services	50%	31-Dec-2012
	Homeless 1.1.13 We will assist all agencies in meeting accredited standards for housing advice and information ensuring people access the highest quality housing advice everywhere in West Dunbartonshire	100%	31-Mar-2010

Icon	Name
Ob	1.2 By November 2009 we will raise awareness of homelessness issues in West Dunbartonshire to assist in the prevention of homelessness

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 1.2.1 we will develop and distribute homelessness fact sheets aimed at raising awareness of homelessness among staff in Health, Education and Employment services	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 1.2.2 We will develop a single homelessness and support service directory that is web based and all services can access	100%	30-Sep-2009
	Homeless 1.2.3. We will publish a Homelessness newsletter and distribute to all WDC and partner agency staff	66%	30-Nov-2011
	Homeless 1.2.4. We will hold an annual homelessness conference in West Dunbartonshire	100%	26-Nov-2009
	Homeless 1.2.5. We will develop and hold a homelessness awareness week	100%	30-Nov-2009
	Homeless 1.2.6. We will distribute posters and leaflets to raise awareness of homelessness services	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 1.2.7. We will develop an awareness/publicity plan to remove the stigmatisation and negative attitudes towards homeless households	100%	31-May-2009
	Homeless 1.2.8. We will develop a training programme for staff working with homeless people including addiction, mental health, domestic abuse and child protection staff	50%	30-Sep-2010

Icon	Name
Ob	1.3 By April 2011, We will have developed support and services to prevent homelessness occurring as a result of relationship breakdown

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
②	Homeless 1.3.1 We will in partnership with the voluntary sector investigate the possibility of establishing a family mediation service to prevent homelessness as a result of parents no longer/willing to accommodate including the provision of 'nightstop' accommodation.	100%	31-Aug-2009
②	Homeless 1.3.2 We will develop in partnership with the SCSH a Parents Guide for West Dunbartonshire to assist in the prevention of homelessness	100%	31-Mar-2009
	Homeless 1.3.3. We will review the extent and nature of relationship breakdown in homelessness	100%	30-Sep-2009

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(C	Ob	1.4 By April 2011, We will have developed support and services to prevent homelessness occurring as a result of domestic abuse

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 1.4.1 We will ensure that the prevention of homelessness is a key aim of domestic abuse strategies in West Dunbartonshire to ensure a co-ordinated approach across West Dunbartonshire	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 1.4.2 We will ensure that homelessness prevention is a crucial element of the Domestic Abuse pathfinder initiative within Clydebank and is key to the GIRFEC agenda	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 1.4.3. we will investigate with partners the development of a new Womens' Aid refuge in Clydebank	100%	30-Sep-2009
	Homeless 1.4.4. We will ensure that victims of domestic abuse have access to services and agencies that will aim to prevent the crisis of homelessness	100%	01-Apr-2011

Icon	Name
Ob	1.5, By April 2011, We will have developed services and support to prevent homelessness occurring as a result of any financial hardship

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 1.5.1. We will promote income maximisation and benefit take up to assist in the prevention of homelessness as a result of rent arrears.	100%	31-Dec-2008
	Homeless 1.5.10. We will deliver a housing education programme within all West Dunbartonshire secondary schools which incorporates budgeting skills and money/debt advice	70%	31-Dec-2011

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 1.5.2. We will ensure early intervention to prevent the threat of homelessness by improving public awareness of money advice services through targeted information and advice.	100%	31-Dec-2007
	Homeless 1.5.3. We will develop clear access to money advice services by establishing an effective referral system and promoting joint training to all front line officers	100%	28-Feb-2009
	Homeless 1.5.4. We will respond appropriately to regulations arising from the implementation of the duties arising from Section 11 of the Homelessness (Scotland) Act 2003	100%	01-Apr-2009
	Homeless 1.5.5. We will ensure people that have mortgage arrears have access to advice and information to assist in the prevention of homelessness	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 1.5.6. We will investigate the feasibility of introducing schemes within West Dunbartonshire that will assist in the prevention of homelessness as a result of mortgage default. E.g.; mortgage to rent scheme	100%	31-Mar-2009
	Homeless 1.5.6b We will promote energy efficiency methods to prevent homelessness occurring as result of fuel poverty	100%	31-Mar-2009
	Homeless 1.5.7. We will examine alternatives to eviction as a result of rent arrears to prevent homelessness occurring.	100%	04-Apr-2009
	Homeless 1.5.8 We will explore links between preventing homelessness and tackling financial inclusion	100%	30-Jun-2009
	Homeless 1.5.9 We will ensure that the prevention of homelessness is a key aim of rent recovery policies and strategies for all landlords in West Dunbartonshire	100%	30-Apr-2009

Icon	Name
Ob	1.6, By April 2011, we will have reduced homelessness occurring to young people (16-25) in West Dunbartonshire by 25%

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 1.6.1. We will develop in partnership with West Dunbartonshire's young community and with youth organisations a Young Persons Information Pack	100%	28-Feb-2010
	Homeless 1.6.2 We will support the Young persons Addiction Service and will provide direct access units for young addiction service users.	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 1.6.3 We will work in partnership with youth organisations and other agencies in West Dunbartonshire to develop an integrated strategy for housing and related services to young people	50%	31-Mar-2012
	Homeless 1.6.4. We will research the high incidences of homelessness amongst young females in West Dunbartonshire	100%	31-Aug-2009
Ø	Homeless 1.6.5. We will investigate the feasibility of introducing furnished starter tenancies for young people to promote successful independent living	100%	31-Jul-2009
	Homeless 1.6.6. We will support national organisations in lobbying for the review of the Single Room Rent restriction for under 25s particularly in relation to single pregnant women.	100%	31-Mar-2009

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 1.6.7 We will investigate opportunities for young people to access a sustainable housing solution in the private rented sector, including the feasibility of introducing a 'flat sharing' scheme within West Dunbartonshire	100%	30-Sep-2009
	Homeless 1.6.8. We will establish a Housing Education programme to be delivered to all West Dunbartonshire school pupils S4 and above to ensure every S4 pupil knows the facts about homelessness and can avoid it	33%	31-Dec-2011

Icon Name		Name
	Ob	1.7, By April 2011, we will have developed service and support to reduce and ultimately prevent homelessness resulting through health and addiction issues

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 1.7.1 We will enhance and further develop protocols to reduce the risk of homelessness for those leaving hospital	100%	28-Feb-2009
	Homeless 1.7.10 We will provide ongoing training to NHS staff in relation to homelessness issues	100%	31-Dec-2009
	Homeless 1.7.2. We will continue to work in partnership and Homeless services will contribute to play a key role within the Drug and Alcohol Forum and Addiction Treatment and Support Group	100%	30-Sep-2008
	Homeless 1.7.3 We will continue to work in partnership review and implement an area wide Homelessness and Addictions protocol	100%	01-Apr-2009
	Homeless 1.7.4. We will review the current mechanisms to ensure that clear, referral, assessment, support planning and information sharing procedures are in place to assist individuals with addiction issues	100%	01-Apr-2009
	Homeless 1.7.5 We will ensure that all Homelessness Services staff have access to training to develop understanding of health and addiction issues	100%	31-Dec-2008
	Homeless 1.7.6. We will promote healthy living to all homeless households residing in temporary accommodation including sexual health information	100%	31-Jan-2009
	Homeless 1.7.7. We will monitor that all actions incorporated within the NHS health and Homelessness Action Plan	100%	31-Mar-2009
	Homeless 1.7.8. We will continue to ensure in partnership with statutory and voluntary partners resources are available to address the support needs of a range of service users including addiction and mental health issues	100%	31-Mar-2009
	Homeless 1.7.9. We will provide housing advice and information resources within all local hospitals to ensure that people have access to relevant advice and information to prevent homelessness on their discharge.	100%	31-Mar-2009

Icon	Name
Ob	1.8, By April 2012 we will have developed capacity to maximise tenancy sustainment levels in West Dunbartonshire

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 1.8.1. We will include within the new Homelessness Performance monitoring Framework levels of tenancy sustainment of homeless applicants in West Dunbartonshire	100%	01-Apr-2009
	Homeless 1.8.2 We will in partnership with Impact Arts support a 'Fab Pad' tenancy sustainment project in West Dunbartonshire	100%	30-Sep-2008
	Homeless 1.8.3. We will strive to maximise where appropriate the use of discretionary housing benefit (DHB) to assist homeless households moving from temporary to permanent accommodation	100%	30-Nov-2008
	Homeless 1.8.4. We will put in place systems and processes to ensure that contact is made with housing support services when a tenant is at risk of losing their tenancy as a result of arrears or anti social behaviour across all housing tenures	100%	30-Nov-2008
	Homeless 1.8.5 We will develop a West Dunbartonshire Tenancy Sustainment Strategy to improve tenancy sustainment levels in West Dunbartonshire	50%	01-Apr-2012
②	Homeless 1.8.6 We will maximise the opportunity to reuse recycled furniture to assist people setting up a new home	100%	30-Apr-2009

Icon	Name
Th	Housing Options

Icon	Name
Ob	2.1, By April 2010, we will have improved access to housing for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 2.1.1 We will develop and deliver a Housing Options Guide for the communities of West Dunbartonshire	100%	28-Mar-2009
	Homeless 2.1.2 we will continue to ensure allocations made to homeless households are suitable for their needs	100%	30-Jun-2009
	Homeless 2.1.3. We will assess and examine introducing housing Options interviews to ensure individuals have access to information about potential housing solutions to prevent the crisis of homelessness	66%	31-Oct-2011
②	Homeless 2.1.4 we will undertake a comprehensive review of our allocations policy and procedures and examine the possibility of introducing a choice based lettings system within West Dunbartonshire	100%	31-Mar-2010
	Homeless 2.1.5. We will develop and implement a Common Housing Register within West Dunbartonshire	50%	30-Sep-2012

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 2.1.6. We will continue to monitor and review the % of WDC lets made to homeless households and set targets on an annual basis in order to achieve the 2012 targets in relations to the abolition of priority need	75%	02-Apr-2012
	Homeless 2.1.7 In partnership with our local RSL partners we will maximise the use of Section 5 referrals to increase opportunities for homeless households to be housed.	75%	02-Apr-2012

Icon	Name
Ob	2.2.1, By July 2011, We will plan to improve affordable housing options to people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 2.2.1. We will publish a new Local housing Strategy that will have been informed by a housing needs and Supply Study to determine affordable Housing Options to people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness	75%	30-Nov-2011

Icon	Name
Ob	2.3, By April 2010, we will have developed increased capacity for the Private rented sector to meet the housing needs of homeless households

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 2.3.1. We will include up to date information on the Private Rented Sector (PRS) within our Housing Options Guide	100%	28-Mar-2009
	Homeless 2.3.2. We will review, and if appropriate increase the opportunities for individuals to access the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme	100%	01-Apr-2009
	Homeless 2.3.3 We will undertake research into whether the Private Rented Sector within West Dunbartonshire to ascertain whether it is a sustainable housing solution for homeless and low income households	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 2.3.4. We will examine the possibility of establishing a Private sector Leasing Scheme within West Dunbartonshire to increase our supply of permanent and temporary accommodation	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 2.3.5 We will work with internal partners and private landlords to establish a Private Sector Landlords' Forum	100%	31-Dec-2010
	Homeless 2.3.6. We will offer tenancy support that is available to homeless households accommodated within the PRS to ensure help and assistance with housing benefit applications and successful independent living	100%	30-Apr-2010

Icon	Name
Ob	2.4, By April 2009, we will expand choice to include accessing furnished tenancies

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 2.4.1. We will develop a plan to enhance programme of conversion of temporary accommodation units into permanent accommodation for homeless people to assist tenancy sustainment	100%	03-Apr-2009
	Homeless 2.4.2 We will continue to ensure that tenants have access to basis furnishings on day one of their tenancy to assist them to successfully sustain their tenancy	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 2.4.3. We will investigate the feasibility of introducing furnished starter tenancies for young people to promote successful independent living	75%	31-Dec-2011

Icon	Name
Ob	2.5, By July 2009, we will ensure mechanisms are in place to plan, manage and develop the supply of temporary accommodation

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
Ø	Homeless 2.5.1. We will continue to ensure that the use of Bed and Breakfast (B&B) accommodation is eliminated for homeless households in West Dunbartonshire	100%	31-Mar-2009
	Homeless 2.5.2. Establish a model to determine the requirements for temporary accommodation provision to meet current and future need in West Dunbartonshire	20%	31-Dec-2011
	Homeless 2.5.3. We will develop a resettlement package for homeless households accommodated in temporary accommodation	100%	31-Dec-2008
	Homeless 2.5.4. We will develop a cross authority temporary accommodation protocol	100%	31-Jan-2009
	Homeless 2.5.5. We will ensure that our temporary accommodation provision includes barrier free accommodation suitable for disabled service users	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 2.5.6. We will examine the possibility of establishing a Private Sector Leasing Scheme within West Dunbartonshire to increase our supply of permanent and temporary accommodation.	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 2.5.7 we will establish a temporary accommodation standard within West Dunbartonshire and ensure service user needs and aspirations are being addressed in the provision of temporary accommodation	100%	30-Jun-2009
	Homeless 2.5.8. We will consider the feasibility of establishing a supported accommodation resource to prepare for independent living for:- •Homeless People with complex needs •Homeless Young females	20%	31-Dec-2011

Icon	Name
Th	Sustainable Solutions

Icon	Name
Ob	3.1, By April 2010, We will ensure that everybody has access to appropriate housing support

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
②	Homeless 3.1.1. We will improve understanding of those homeless or vulnerable households who have particular needs, where current services are not adequate to achieve a sustainable housing solution.	100%	30-Nov-2008
	Homeless 3.1.2. We will review all protocols and identify gaps and take appropriate action	100%	30-Apr-2009
②	Homeless 3.1.3. we will ensure that everyone who has been rehoused from a homeless situation is assessed within 6 months of their tenancy to identify support needs	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 3.1.4. We will carry out a review of Housing Support in West Dunbartonshire to plan for future service provision	33%	31-Dec-2011

Icon	Name
Ob	3.2, By April 2010, we will develop capacity so that people who have experienced homelessness can access appropriate employment, training and volunteering opportunities

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 3.2.1. We will establish a partnership with Job Centre Plus and local Careers/Employment agencies to examine the scope for developing training and employment opportunities for homeless people.	33%	30-Dec-2011
	Homeless 3.2.2. We will improve links with the Job Centre Plus and develop appropriate protocols	33%	31-Dec-2011
	Homeless 3.2.3. We will ensure effective partnership arrangements are in place to allow homeless households the opportunity to participate in NEET (Not in employment, education or training) activity in West Dunbartonshire	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 3.2.4. We will ensure Homelessness Services link into the Workforce Plus Action Plan to assist in improving employment opportunities for homeless households	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 3.2.5. We will as part of housing support provision ensure individuals have information and access to employment, training and volunteering opportunities	100%	30-Apr-2010
	Homeless 3.2.6. We will examine opportunities for individuals who have experienced homelessness to have access to employment initiatives within the house building industry, e.g.; Youthbuild	100%	30-Apr-2010

Icon	Name
Ob	3.3, By September 2009, we will positively expand social networks for individuals who have experienced homelessness

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 3.3.1 We will map existing provision and make links with Community Education and partners in the voluntary sector to develop networks to overcome isolation for homeless people	83%	31-Jan-2012
②	Homeless 3.3.2 We will establish a service user consultation group on homelessness issues	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 3.3.3. We will provide information packs on local services to people moving into permanent or temporary accommodation	100%	30-Sep-2009
	Homeless 3.3.4. We will engage with Scottish Social Networks to plan to increase social networking opportunities for homeless or potentially homeless households	100%	30-Sep-2009
	Homeless 3.3.5. We will actively promote physical and leisure pursuits to build social capacity for homeless households.	100%	30-Sep-2009
②	Homeless 3.3.6. We will explore options for developing a befriending / mentoring service to assist and support successful resettlement.	100%	30-Sep-2009

Icon	Name
Ob	3.4, By December 2009, ensure people who have experienced homelessness can access a full range of health services

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 3.4.1. We will in partnership with the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde ensure that all relevant actions within the Health and Homelessness Action Plan are realised.	100%	31-Mar-2009
	Homeless 3.4.2 We will continue to develop care pathways between addiction, mental health and homelessness services	100%	31-Dec-2008
②	Homeless 3.4.3. We will improve communication between homelessness services and addiction services regarding service access and ensure officers within Homelessness Services can access services.	100%	31-Dec-2008

Ico	n	Name
Ob		3.5, By September 2009, we will improve the health and well being of homeless households

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 3.5.1. We will raise awareness of homelessness among staff of NHS and other health agencies	100%	31-Dec-2009

Sta	atus	Action	Progress	Due Date
		Homeless 3.5.2. We will include information promoting health awareness within our temporary accommodation resettlement pack including information on sexual health.	100%	31-Dec-2009
		Homeless 3.5.3. We will undertake targeted work to address the nutritional needs of homeless households in West Dunbartonshire.	33%	30-Nov-2011

Icon	Name
Ob	By April 2009, We will assess the success of the Housing advice surgery within Greenock prison and plan to develop services in other prisons within Scotland

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 3.6.1. We will assess the success of the Housing Advice surgery within Greenock Prison and plan to develop services in other prisons within Scotland	100%	30-Apr-2009

Icon	Name
Th	Commitment

Icon	Name
Ob	4.1, By April 2012, we will have complied with the new duties arising from the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 and the Homelessness etc., (Scotland) Act 2003

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 4.1.1 We will respond appropriately to regulations arising from the implementation of the Section 11 of the Homelessness (Scotland) Act 2003	100%	31-Mar-2009
	Homeless 4.1.2. We will enhance the assessment of applicants to ensure judgements of priority need are more comprehensively informed	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 4.1.3 We will develop and adopt a planned phased approach to ensure we meet our obligations in terms of the abolition of priority need.	100%	31-Mar-2010
	Homeless 4.1.4. We will monitor and report on the total number of households that are declared intentionally homeless	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 4.1.5. We will develop a plan to respond effectively to the suspension of local connection	100%	30-Nov-2010
	Homeless 4.1.6. Ensure that actions identified in this action plan are implemented, specifically actions under Strategic Aims 1 and 2, prevention and increasing choice	66%	31-Mar-2012

Icon	Name	
Ob	4.2, By April 2009, we will have developed a comprehensive performance management framework to measure the impact of the Homelessness Strategy alleviating homelessness in West Dunbartonshire	in preventing and

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 4.2.1 We will develop and implement a Performance Management Framework for Homeless Services in West Dunbartonshire	100%	30-Sep-2008
②	Homeless 4.2.2. We will introduce a service user involvement programme to inform and influence homelessness service development in West Dunbartonshire	100%	31-Mar-2009
	Homeless 4.2.3 We will analyse current records from across services to improve understanding of those households with whom contact is lost from the homeless service	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 4.2.4 We will reduce the number of homeless households and potentially homeless households with whom contact is lost	75%	01-Apr-2012

Icon	Name
Ob	4.3, By September 2011, we will ensure that the Homelessness Strategy continues to be linked to all other relevant strategies and plans

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 4.3.1. We will ensure that future strategic and service development adheres to the Getting it Right for every child agenda.		31-Mar-2009
	Homeless 4.3.2. We will ensure the impacts of homelessness are included in the development of West Dunbartonshire's Corporate Debt Policy	100%	30-Apr-2009
	Homeless 4.3.3 We will investigate a system of reviewing all relevant departmental plans and policies for the impact on the prevention of homelessness	33%	31-Dec-2011
	Homeless 4.3.4. We will continue to ensure that tackling homelessness remains a priority within West Dunbartonshire's Local Housing Strategy	100%	31-Jul-2011

Icon	Name
Ob	4.4, By April 2009 we will have improved communication with partner agencies to enhance services o prevent and alleviate homelessness in West Dunbartonshire

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 4.4.1 We will continue to work in a partnership approach through the multi agency Homelessness Forum to implement the strategy	100%	01-Jan-2009
	Homeless 4.4.2. We will through the Homelessness Forum, survey partners regarding the effectiveness of homelessness services on an annual basis	100%	30-Apr-2009
②	Homeless 4.4.3. We will put in place a protocol to set out how housing providers can share and access key information about sex offenders and violent clients	100%	30-Apr-2009

Icon	Name
Ob	4.5, By April 2010, we will ensure all strategic and operational developments are consistent with equality and diversity agendas

Status	Action	Progress	Due Date
	Homeless 4.5.1. We will examine the outcomes of the research into housing needs of gypsies/travellers	100%	30-Jun-2009
	Homeless 4.5.2. We will research housing and homelessness needs of LGBT people	90%	31-Jan-2012
	Homeless 4.5.3. We will research housing and homelessness needs of Minority Ethnic Groups	80%	31-Jan-2012
	Homeless 4.5.4 We will implement all actions highlighted during Integrated Impact assessment of the Homelessness Strategy,	100%	31-Mar-2009