

Appendix A – Homeless Task & Finish Group Recommendations

<p>(A) To prevent homelessness, NNDC expands its homelessness service prevention work to undertake such work at an earlier stage along with multi agency support, on an invest to save basis, to seek to reduce the number of people going into temporary accommodation and the costs of that to the council that should include:</p> <p>1. Increasing the awareness and risks of homelessness in the local communities, on the value of prevention for homelessness and that early intervention requires people to ask for help before it becomes too late.</p> <p>2. Increasing its communication work which should include Parish and Town Councils and should also provide support to Councillors to enable them to help signpost those people who need housing help.</p> <p>3. Increasing the range of interventions to help people especially on benefit support and with financial viability assessments.</p>	Cabinet	Agreed		<p>People Services Review will redesign services with greater focus on homelessness prevention and Community Outreach from 1 April 25.</p> <p>Further consider as part of review of Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy to align with development of national Homelessness and Rough Sleeper strategy and spending review Sep 25. Housing Flyer sent to all Parish Councils Nov 24. Community Outreach Officers delivering community-based homelessness prevention from 1 Apr 25.</p> <p>People Services Review will redesign services with greater focus on homelessness prevention from 1 Apr 25.</p>
<p>(B) Managing homelessness Explores how it uses partner, charity, and voluntary organisations to create a series of outreach hubs and front-line services in North Norfolk for homelessness to create a network of advice and support including appropriate partner organisation(s)</p>	Cabinet	Agreed		<p>Community-based outreach service to be developed with partner agencies from 1 Apr 25.</p>
<p>(C) Housing allocation Considers the viability of a support match scheme to match younger residents who need accommodation into a home with</p>	Cabinet	Agreed		<p>No further action – requires additional resources and is not a priority at this time.</p>

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an older resident(s) that needs assistance in a similar way to the scheme in Cornwall Supportmatch Homeshare - Cornwall Council.				
<p>(D) Increase housing supply</p> <p>1. Continues to encourage its Councillors to work within their local communities to seek to find additional plots of land that can be used for new affordable housing schemes.</p> <p>2. As a medium-term solution looks at setting up an investment partnership to provide affordable local housing for local people at social, discount and market rent. We would recommend the model used by Cambridge City Council and Gravesham Borough Council who set an investment partnership with the Hill Group on a 50:50 basis.</p> <p>3. Explores the use of Solo Haus one bed housing where additional temporary accommodation for single people is required.</p>	Cabinet	Agreed		<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>Housing Strategy/Corporate Plan action Jun 26.</p> <p>Proposals for expansion of Council's TA Apr 25.</p>
<p>(E) Increase affordable house building/supply</p> <p>1. Undertakes an audit of shop fronts away from primary retail areas and empty units above and behind shops to assess their potential for conversion to residential usage or renting out rooms.</p> <p>2. An affordable housing conference be set up to encourage Parish and Town councils to create neighbourhood plans that include allocations for community led development for local people and encourages community land trusts to come forward with affordable schemes in rural exception sites.</p>	Cabinet	Agreed		<p>No further action – requires additional resources.</p> <p>Housing Strategy and Planning Policy to consider conference Sep 25.</p>

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<p>3. Continues to seek from Norfolk County Council a minimum 50% return of the extra Council tax that will be received from the new extra second homes premium and that the money the Council receives is ringfenced for affordable housing.</p> <p>4. Responds to the Government consultation on changes to the National Planning Policy Framework on the definition of affordability.</p> <p>5. Explores the potential to use Better Society Capital/National Homelessness Property fund 2 funding for 3-to-4-bedroom properties National Homelessness Property fund 2 Better Society Capital.</p>				<p>Negotiate retention of 50% Second Homes Premium Mar 25.</p> <p>Response completed.</p> <p>Consider as part of review of Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy Sep 25.</p>
<p>(F) Increase/sustain Private rental tenancies</p> <p>1. Explores the model of using a local estate agency to set up a Council letting agency and also looks at whether homelessness prevention grant could be used to bring empty properties back into use.</p> <p>2. Encourages the new government to continue the previous government's work on introducing an appropriate licencing scheme for all short-term lets.</p> <p>3. Continues to engage proactively with private landlords and considers whether setting up a Landlords Forum would be beneficial with an introductory conference type session including mortgage brokers,</p>	Cabinet	Agreed		<p>Await further government proposals</p> <p>Await further government proposals</p> <p>Consider as part of review of Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy Sep 25.</p>

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lenders, insurance companies as well as landlords and housing associations to explore solutions to the issues Landlords are experiencing.				
<p>(G) Reducing Long Term Empty Homes.</p> <p>1. Continues to have an Empty Homes Officer as a permanent role.</p> <p>2. Considers how to increase engagement with the Town and Parish Councils on the number of long-term empty properties in their areas.</p> <p>3. Continues to investigate whether funding could be found to refurbish empty properties for people in housing need.</p>	Cabinet	Agreed		Ongoing.
<p>(H) Sustain social tenancies.</p> <p>1. Continues to investigate with registered providers on the reuse of sheltered housing and to seek fewer age designated homes.</p> <p>2. Continues to have a strategic discussion with the registered providers on potential disposals that may occur over the next few years.</p> <p>3. Encourages registered providers to ensure sufficient target hardening is provided in Domestic Abuse cases.</p>	Cabinet	Agreed		Ongoing.
<p>(I) Prevention of/provision for victims of Domestic Abuse.</p> <p>1. Explores how partner organisations can be used to help with homelessness prevention especially in domestic abuse cases</p>	Cabinet	Agreed		Requires update.

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<p>that would include tenancy support by the Registered Providers and spreading awareness to Parish and Town Councils and Councillors.</p> <p>2. Asks the new Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioner whether the offer of scoping out a pilot that moves out the perpetrator in domestic abuse cases rather than the victim is still valid.</p>				
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