

Broadland and South Norfolk Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy 2025-2030

From small acts to big changes: Together we can stop homelessness.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- i. This is the consultation draft of the Broadland and South Norfolk Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy covering 2025-2030. It marks a change from our previous strategies, setting out the proposed priorities and actions for the next 5 years in a combined document.
- ii. The strategy seeks to build on our already successful homelessness prevention and relief work, creating an enduring legacy to take into local government reorganisation and beyond.
- iii. The review of our outgoing strategies found that we had been successful against our actions and priorities. Our full review documents will be published alongside the draft strategy, though as an overview our key successes include:

Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Review – Our successes



Temporary Accommodation

Since 2023 we have acquired 87 units of TA across both Councils



Sanctuary Schemes

300 referrals into our Sanctuary Scheme supporting survivors of Domestic Abuse to stay safely in their homes



Tenancy preparation

Introduced Tenancy and Independent Living (TILs) courses to help tenancy sustainment



Criminal Justice Housing Support

Created a bespoke role to prevent homelessness and rough sleeping on release from prison



Early Intervention Officer

Supported 57 customers from needing statutory homelessness interventions in the first 6 months

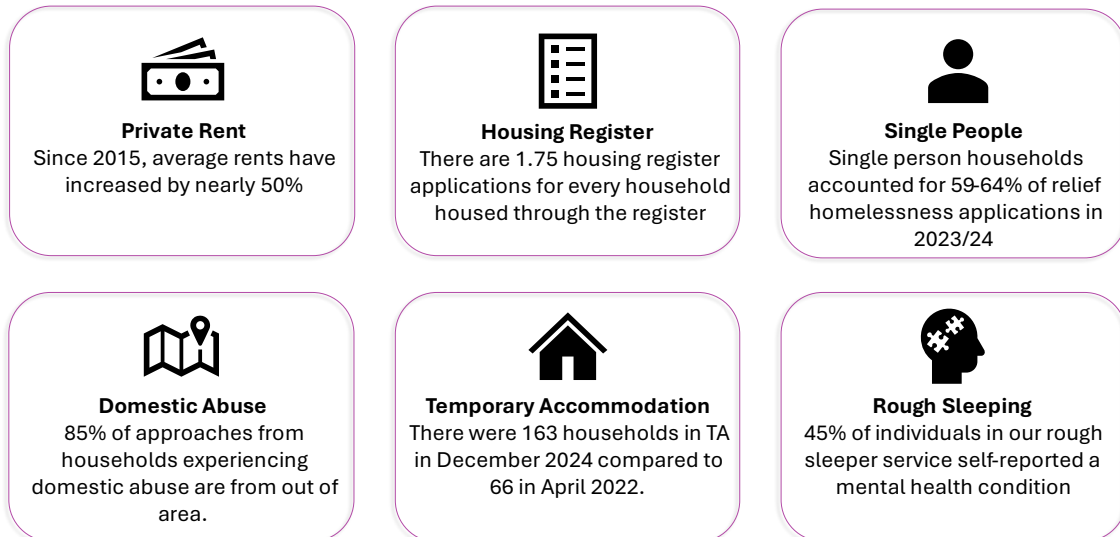


Ukraine team

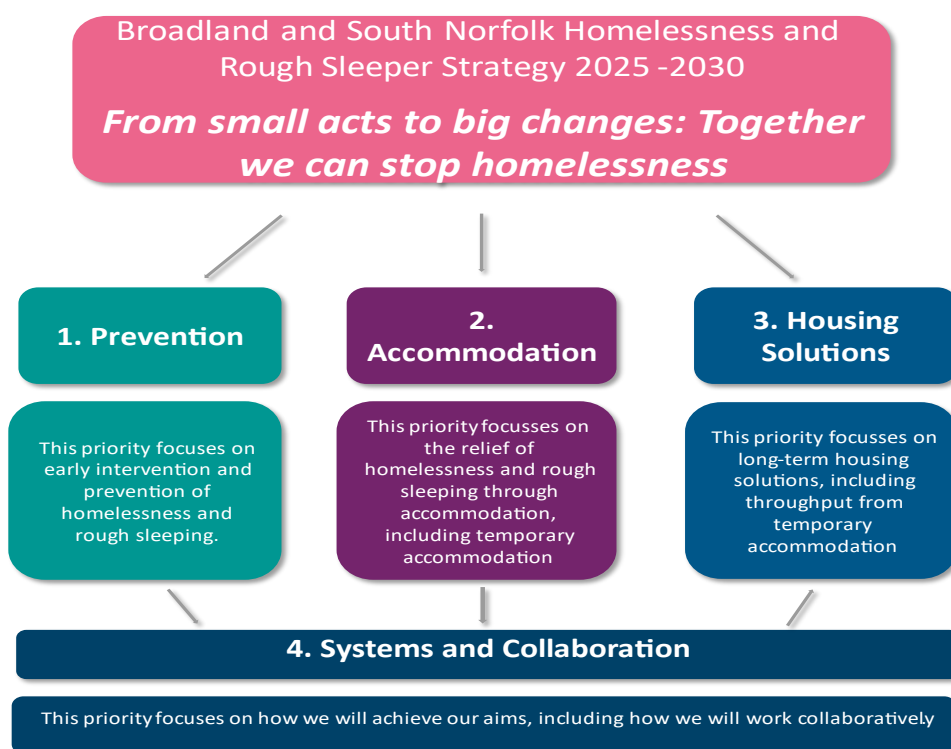
We have introduced a tailored offer to support our Ukrainian guests

- iv. However, the Councils continue to face ongoing pressures in the wake of sustained cost of living and housing crises. Findings from our data review indicate issues across the whole housing arena, for example:

Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Review - Challenges



- v. In addition, in developing this document, our stakeholder workshops identified a number of common themes when considering barriers and solutions to housing for different cohorts of people including:
- Care Leavers
 - People fleeing domestic abuse.
 - Young People
 - Households in private rented homes
 - People rough sleeping for the first time
 - People who have had long periods rough sleeping.
- vi. The main themes taken from the workshops were:
- Stigma and exclusion
 - Prevention of homelessness earlier
 - Preparation for tenancies
 - Affordable accommodation options
 - Collaborative working
- vii. While these themes are unsurprising, they accurately reflect the issues experienced by our customers and the solutions needed to stop homelessness. From this and building on work that is already underway, the Councils are proposing a vision and set of priorities and actions. They acknowledge that no one action will stop homelessness, instead it is a multitude of actions undertaken collaboratively that will make a difference.



- viii. Each priority has a series of identified actions. These are a mix of direct service provision, increasing our accommodation options and better using data and evaluating our work – improving and adapting what works.

Priority One: Prevention	Priority Two: Accommodation	Priority Three: Housing Solutions
1) Introducing an early notification scheme for registered providers and other partners where households have low but ongoing arrears or are at risk of losing accommodation. 2) Providing dedicated support to Ukrainian guests and refugees in relation to housing options and becoming part of their communities 3) Utilising household data appropriately across a number of sources to offer early intervention work.	1) Increase and ensure effective use of the Councils own supply of temporary accommodation. Providing high quality accommodation with access to services and green spaces. 2) Where mandated, work with other local authorities on a supported accommodation strategy for Norfolk. 3) Seek appropriate sites for bespoke HMO accommodation to best support needs of rough sleepers. 4) Within the rough sleeper team, embed a pilot offering space for dogs to encourage	1) Explore a private rent sector liaison officer role. 2) Exploring incentives for downsizing for households in socially rented homes – freeing up larger homes. 3) Embed our Sanctuary scheme – implementing measures to ensure victim-survivors of domestic abuse can remain in their homes, where appropriate. 4) Foster programmes of move-on support to help sustain housing and promote employability, with bespoke versions for refugees and care leavers. 5) Embed and extend our private rental sector model

Priority One: Prevention	Priority Two: Accommodation	Priority Three: Housing Solutions
<p>4) Participating in Family Connect, enabling early identification of issues and promoting safeguarding.</p> <p>5) Use flexible and innovative adaptative aids through the Disabled Facilities Grant to help people live in their homes for longer.</p> <p>6) Building on the success of our housing triage team located in the Help Hub. Linking households directly into additional services, creating a wrap-around support approach.</p> <p>7) Support the implementation of the Renters Rights Bill for our customers and local landlords.</p>	<p>uptake of accommodation and support offers.</p>	<p>and pilot a shared housing option for single people.</p> <p>6) Develop a long-term programme of outcomes tracking in both homelessness and rough sleeping areas. Helping us to understand what works, when and for whom.</p>
Priority Four: Systems and Collaboration		
<p>1) Develop pathways to prioritise customers accessing the service.</p> <p>2) Better use of data using a coalition of the willing to target proactive interventions.</p> <p>3) Create a programme of working with people with lived experience of homelessness to make sure our offer is right and meets needs, including reviewing our personalised housing plans (PHPs).</p> <p>4) Have a best-in-class officer team, retaining and developing expertise, with proactive and people focussed officers.</p> <p>5) Support the wider No Homelessness in Norfolk partnership and be a collaborative partner in the Norfolk Domestic Abuse Partnership Board</p> <p>6) Work with the rough sleeper team and partners to create a business case for street based mental health provision.</p> <p>7) Embed the outcomes and findings of the ERSAT pilot project.</p>		

- ix. For the finished document, the finalised actions will be mapped into a delivery plan. This plan will be the main review mechanism for the councils and partners in order to:
- Map progress

- Review if actions are still relevant.
 - Hold ourselves to account.
- x. We still have more work to do before the strategy is finished, and collaborating with people with lived experience and the public consultation is vital to this to ensure we create a proactive and person-centred plan to stop homelessness over the next five years.

Exec Summary Consultation Draft