

**Homelessness Strategy Action Plan 2012 – 2016**

**Appendix 2**

**Priority Areas**

Prevention
Partnership working
Welfare & Policy reform
Young People
Rough Sleeping

\* Overarching Priority 'Move On' built into each priority area

**Priority 1. Prevention** - Early intervention and prevention play an important role in tackling homelessness. By being innovative in our approach to finding prevention opportunities we can ensure that those who are at risk of homelessness or already homeless can access appropriate advice, assistance and suitable accommodation. This priority focuses on maximising opportunities for people at risk of homelessness to sustain their accommodation, and relieving homelessness at the earliest opportunity.

This priority also incorporates actions made possible through the dCLG sub regional grant funding to tackle and prevent single homelessness. Actions resourced by additional dCLG grant funding (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region) identified within action plan as 'Sub Regional Grant Funding'

<b>What we will do?</b>	<b>How will we do it?</b>	<b>When will we do it?</b>	<b>Who will help?</b>	<b>What will success look like?</b>	<b>Resources</b>
<b>Develop resources and information for practitioners and customers across Lincolnshire and Rutland</b>	Develop and maintain a comprehensive multi-agency directory of services and resources that can be used by practitioners across Lincolnshire and Rutland to signpost customers to the services they need	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2013	Led by Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy Officer  Public Health (formally Supporting People)  All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	Comprehensive directory of services and resources developed and reviewed annually.  Customers signposted to the right services to meet their needs	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Raise awareness of the universal nature of homelessness by	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2013	Led by Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy Officer	Successful campaign including media, social media and	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>

	carrying out a 'breaking the myths' campaign and homelessness roadshow		Public Health (formally Supporting People)  All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	other information sharing mechanisms such as bus advertising, waste vehicle advertising	
	Develop and promote the LCHSG website for customers	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2012	Led by Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy Officer	Website up and running, organisations are aware of the website and can sign post to it.	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Develop the LCHSG website 'practitioner page'	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2012	Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy Officer	Website in place and service providers are aware and use and contribute to the website	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Develop a range of literature in line with the priorities and actions of the LCHSG for customers and practitioners	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2012	Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy Officer	Literature developed and printed. Raised awareness of the project.	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Produce quarterly e-newsletters for practitioners	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2012 for set up and throughout the life of the strategy	Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy Officer	e-newsletters focused in the priorities of the strategy and circulated quarterly	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Explore the use of social media to raise awareness and promote the work of the LCHSG	End 2012 and throughout the life of the strategy	Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy Officer	Widely promoted launch on face book and twitter pages	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
<b>Implement a No Wrong Door Model across Lincolnshire and</b>	Ensure that all non priority households	March 2013 and throughout life of the	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities	Increase in Non priority households	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>

<b>Rutland to address and prevent homelessness for non priority households, ensuring that all homeless people approaching an authority receive assistance</b>	who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, approaching an authority for assistance are offered advice, support and access to accommodation.	strategy	(Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)  Led by Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy officer  Homeless link  dCLG	helped  Decrease in homelessness	
	Introduce standard letters and action planning mechanism to enable advice and action plan tailored for each customer. This should be confirmed in writing for the customer to take away	March 2012 and throughout life of the strategy	Led by Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy officer  All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)  Homeless link  dCLG	Increase in Non priority households helped  Decrease in homelessness  Increased homelessness prevention  Letter and action plan template in place	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Where appropriate and suitable provide assistance with travel to households to enable access to appropriate accommodation to prevent or relieve homelessness	Throughout life of the strategy	Led by Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy officer	Consistent approach taken by all Local Authorities.  Criteria in place for when to issue warrants for all to work to	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
<b>Develop robust procedures for supporting, assessing and accommodating people leaving hospital</b>	Develop a protocol in partnership with Lincolnshire hospitals to prevent homelessness through joint working	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2014	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)  Lincolnshire Hospitals	Protocol developed with the aim of no one being discharged from hospital to the streets or inappropriate accommodation	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>

<b>Develop a consistent approach to offering rent deposits for non priority households, based on existing best practice models</b>	Review existing bond schemes countywide to understand effective and value for money ways of working	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2012	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	Increase number of tenancies established and sustained in the private rented sector  Understand the best approach to a deposit guarantee scheme	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Explore the extension of current rent deposit schemes to incorporate non priority households	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2014	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	Non- priority households can access the deposit guarantee schemes	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Explore the options for development and administration of a specific rent deposit scheme for rough sleepers and non priority households	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2013	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	Non- priority households can access the deposit guarantee schemes	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Explore options for ensuring that all PRS properties secured through rent deposit schemes meet the required HHSSRS standard	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2015	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	PRS properties let with Deposit Guarantees are inspected and meet the HHSSRS standard  One practitioner trained in each district	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
<b>Support households across Lincolnshire and Rutland facing eviction and repossession through financial difficulty to remain in their home</b>	Actively promote, through Housing Options case work, opportunities to prevent homelessness through the Mortgage Rescue	Throughout life of the strategy	Lead Provider - Waterloo  NHAS  Homes and Community Agency	Stabilise households financial situation homeowners prevented from losing their home  Increase in homeless preventions	Mortgage Rescue Scheme  Preventing Repossession Fund

	scheme		All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities	for people with rent/mortgage arrears	
	Establish a mechanism for households who have benefited from the mortgage rescue scheme to contact L/A if now vulnerable as a result of HB changes	Throughout life of the strategy		Effective use of housing stock  Increase in homelessness prevention	
<b>Ensure households across Lincolnshire and Rutland are able to access timely debt advice</b>	Understand and develop debt advice provision across Lincolnshire and Rutland	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2014	Led by Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy officer  Public Health (formally Supporting People)  All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	Increased awareness and access to debt advice  Analysis of provision across Lincolnshire and inclusion in a directory of services	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Develop links with Lincolnshire Credit Union and actively promote and monitor access	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2014	Led by Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy officer  Public Health (formally Supporting People)  All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities	Improved financial stability	
	Promote the free court desk schemes across Lincolnshire and Rutland	Throughout life of the strategy	Led by Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy officer  Public Health	Increased awareness of the scheme to prevent homelessness	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>

			(formally Supporting People) All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	Homelessness through court repossessions prevented	
<b>Maximise opportunities for people preparing to leave supported accommodation to make a planned and timely move</b>	Establish tenancy training courses across Lincolnshire and Rutland	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2013	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)  Supported Housing Providers  Axiom	Improved tenancy sustainment  Ability to access private rented accommodation where appropriate	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Ensure prioritisation across all Local Housing Authority allocation schemes to people preparing to move on from supported accommodation, including those leaving care	Throughout life of the strategy	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities  Leaving Care Service  Supported Housing and Floating Support Providers	Increased planned move on  Increased capacity in supported accommodation projects	Within existing resources
	Deliver housing options surgeries where appropriate to widen access to housing advice and engage people who might otherwise be difficult to reach	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2012	Pathways Centre  All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)  LCHSG partners	Increased move on  Regular surgeries provided to assist move on from quick access supported accommodation	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	For individuals ready to move, develop a consistent, readily accepted supporting statement to confirm	June 2013	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	Increased move on  Commonly agreed proforma	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>

	they are “ready to move”		Supported Housing Providers Leaving Care Service Registered Providers		
<b>Develop accommodation and tenancy sustainment pathways for people leaving prison and high risk offenders</b>	Monitor the numbers and outcomes of prisoners released into Lincolnshire and Rutland	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2014	Prison protocol sub group		Within existing resources
	Develop a mechanism for Courts to notify LA’s when an individual is sentenced to enable appropriate support to sustain the tenancy or to end tenancy appropriately	Throughout life of the strategy	Prison protocol sub group Lincolnshire Probation Trust HM Court Service	Tenancy sustainment for prisoners on short-term sentences to prevent homelessness on release  Rent arrears not incurred	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Implement prison release protocol to meet the needs of offenders and reduce the offending risks associated with homelessness	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2014		Protocol developed with the aim of no one being discharged to the streets or inappropriate accommodation	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Develop relationships with key services to prevent homelessness within the offender cohort and enable positive and timely move on	Throughout life of the strategy	Lincolnshire Probation Trust Lincolnshire action Trust  Nacro YMACA	Knowledge is shared to enable tenancy sustainability for prison leavers and decreased re-offending.	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Commitment to support high risk	Throughout life of the strategy	Lincolnshire Probation Trust	Cross boundary working to prevent	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>

	offenders in suitable accommodation in line with MAPPA requirements		MAPPA Lincolnshire Police	homelessness and minimise risk	
<b>Maximise opportunities for people at risk of homelessness to retain their accommodation or to make a planned move to suitable accommodation</b>	Establish pre eviction protocols between supported housing providers, social housing providers and All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities for households at risk of homelessness so that a support package can be put in place	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2013	Supported housing providers  All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)  Registered Providers  Local Vulnerable Adult Panels  Public Health	Protocols established with all RP's and Supported Housing Providers Reduce abandonment and eviction across Lincolnshire  Improved tenancy sustainment through intervention	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Ensure that supported housing providers engage with All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities to arrange planned moves from supported accommodation	Throughout life of the strategy	Supported housing providers  All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities  Registered Providers  Local Vulnerable Adult Panels	Protocols established with all RP's and Supported Housing Providers  Reduce abandonment and eviction across Lincolnshire including a short form detailing the intended eviction reasons etc  Increased move on from supported housing	Within existing resources
	Raise awareness of and support the delivery of the services to prevent	Throughout the life of the strategy	Families Working Together Team  Local Vulnerable	Tenancy sustainment and support for families with complex needs	

	homelessness for families with complex needs		Adult Panels		
<b>Develop a consistent, effective and value for money approach to preventing homelessness for victims of domestic abuse in Lincolnshire</b>	Explore options for developing consistent approach to providing assistance to victims of domestic abuse to enable them to remain in their own homes, based on more suitable alternative accommodation and existing best practice models	Throughout life of the strategy	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities  Domestic Abuse Service Manager  Lincolnshire Police  Women's Aids	Reduce repeat victims of crime and homelessness prevention	Within existing resources
	Facilitate training for the county group practitioners	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2012	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities  Domestic Abuse Service Manager  IDVA Service	Cross boundary working	Within existing resources

**Priority 2 Partnership Working** – Partnership working underpins the delivery of a comprehensive and holistic service to households that are homeless or threatened with homelessness. The complexity of homelessness requires innovative partnership working, sharing skills, expertise and supporting one another - to prevent and tackle homelessness for each person in need of our services.

Partnership working on homeless prevention and homelessness involves a considerable range of agencies dealing with a wide range of issues. Lincolnshire authorities and agencies have a strong track record of working together through the Lincolnshire County Homelessness Strategy Group and will continue to work as a multi disciplinary partnership to achieve positive outcomes to support homeless and vulnerable people.

This priority also incorporates actions made possible through the dCLG sub regional grant funding to tackle and prevent single homelessness. Actions resourced by additional dCLG grant funding (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region) identified within action plan as 'Sub Regional Grant Funding'

What we will do?	How we will do it?	When will we do it?	Who will help?	What will success look like?	Resources
<b>Maintain robust approach to coordinating homelessness prevention across Lincolnshire and Rutland through the LCHSG and district homelessness forums</b>	Subject to resource availability maintain ongoing commitment to Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy Officer post	On an annual basis		Officer in post for the duration of the strategy	Lincolnshire District Council contributions  *subject to resource availability
	Provide administrative coordination to coordinate the delivery of Single Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Grant Funding	Throughout life of the strategy	LCHSG	Action plan for the coordination of the Single Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Grant funding	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Ongoing commitment to the LCHSG to provide a partnership strategic approach to countywide homelessness issues	Throughout life of the strategy	All LCHSG attendees	Ongoing representation at LCHSG meetings  Maintain monthly meetings	Within existing resources

	Re-launch local homelessness Forums ensuring local authority led and supported by partner agencies and align with LCHSG priorities and cover local issues for partners to exchange information and best practice	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2012	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities  LCHSG Partners	Co-ordinated, and inclusive services with a multi-disciplinary approach to meeting need, to deliver the homelessness strategy action plan  Annual programme of homeless forums in each area	Within existing resources
<b>Ensure that the LCHSG has robust and transparent governance arrangements, to include monitoring the progress of the Homelessness Strategy Action Plan</b>	Revise Terms of Reference for the Lincolnshire County Homelessness Strategy Group	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2012	Lincolnshire Supported Housing Partnership  All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities	Clear and robust governance in place  Terms of Reference	Within existing resources
	Ensure clear governance is in place for decision making and use of resources	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2012	Lincolnshire Supported Housing Partnership  All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities	Formal governance structure and monitoring of progress  Clear decision making arrangements for funding and resources	Within existing resources
	Formal report on the progress against the action plan to be delivered to the Supported Housing Partnership on an	On an annual basis throughout the life of the strategy	LCHSG Chair  LCHSG Vice Chair  Sub Regional Homelessness	Progress and achievements shared	Within existing resources

	annual basis		Strategy Officer		
	Monitor the delivery of the Homelessness Strategy action plan including sharing budget information	Throughout life of the strategy		Report bi-annually to relevant committee on progress with the action plan  Transparent service delivery	
<b>Establish an agreed minimum standard of monitoring at district level for homeless, advice &amp; prevention cases</b>	Commitment to continue to complete P1E returns	Throughout life of the strategy	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities	Robust data on statutory homelessness and homelessness prevention can inform service development and delivery  P1E returns completed quarterly	
	Monitoring prevention activity including non statutory single homeless	Throughout life of the strategy		Increased prevention demonstrated through increase in P1E prevention	
<b>Ensure a multi agency approach is taken to assist with securing accommodation options for complex cases</b>	Introduce the 'vulnerable adults panel' model or equivalent in each district across Lincolnshire and Rutland	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2015	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)  Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy Officer	Increased move on  Reduction in homelessness	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Explore options for ensuring access to resources for VA panels to prevent	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2013	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	Increased move on  Reduction in homelessness	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>

	<p>homelessness by developing practice guidance to assist decision making on a case by case basis</p> <p>Develop application and approval process and explore options for the release of funds (including funding limits)</p>		Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy Officer		
<p><b>Develop knowledge and expertise of practitioners across Lincolnshire and Rutland to maximise opportunities to prevent and tackle homelessness</b></p>	<p>Facilitate and deliver training and shadow practitioners across Lincolnshire and Rutland in line with strategic priorities, and emerging needs to develop awareness and understanding of services to tackle homelessness effectively</p>	Throughout life of the strategy	<p>All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)</p> <p>National Homelessness Advice Service</p>	Homelessness workshops ran across each authority	<p><b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b></p>
	<p>Enhance links with providers of Supporting People Funded services through the Provider executive</p>	Throughout life of the strategy	Chair of Provider Executive	Greater links and shared information issues and barriers addressed	
<p><b>Improve referral pathways for supported housing across Lincolnshire</b></p>	<p>Develop and adopt a standardised referral form across all supported housing services in Lincolnshire</p>	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2012	<p>LCHSG</p> <p>Public Health</p> <p>Supported Housing Providers</p>	Standard referral form and process in place.	

	Explore the options for developing a central referral point for supported accommodation providers in Lincoln based on existing best practice models	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2013	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities All Supported Housing Providers Public Health	Central referral system and best use of supported housing and reduced homelessness	
<b>Better understand customer experiences of homelessness and prevention services in Lincolnshire</b>	Engage with customers to survey their experience of homelessness services	Throughout life of the strategy	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities All Supported Housing Providers Public Health	Engagement with customers and service delivery informed by service users	
	Explore the options for including customers in LCHSG and District Forums	Throughout life of the strategy			

**Priority 3 Welfare & Policy Reform – To** meet the challenges of economic change and welfare and policy reform it's essential to monitor the impact of the changes to reduce and manage the demand on our homelessness services through developing access routes into the private rented sector and preventing eviction.

The Government's ambitions to improve the affordability, stability and quality of housing are inextricably linked to the benefits system. The best way to help people build a secure future for themselves and their families is to help them find a job. The Government has introduced a radical package of reforms through the Welfare Reform Bill, which will make the most fundamental reforms to the social security system for 60 years. It will deliver a system that is simpler, fairer and ensures that work always pays, helping to break the cycles of deprivation that trap people in poverty and unsuitable housing.

This priority also incorporates actions made possible through the dCLG sub regional grant funding to tackle and prevent single homelessness. Actions resourced by additional dCLG grant funding (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region) identified within action plan as 'Sub Regional Grant Funding'

What will we do?	How will we do it?	When will we do it?	Who will help?	What will success look like?	Resources
<b>Develop partnership working agreements between All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities , Housing Benefit Teams and Job Centre Plus across Lincolnshire and Rutland</b>	Establish effective referral and information sharing processes between HB teams and HO teams	End 2012	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)  All Housing Benefit Teams  Job Centre Plus	Information shared freely between teams	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Representatives from JCP and HB Teams to attend LCHSG meetings	Throughout life of the strategy	All All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities  All Housing Benefit Teams  Job Centre Plus	JCP and HB representatives attend the LCHSG meetings	
	Ensure each Local Authority has a mechanism to	Throughout life of the strategy	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities	Agreements in place to share information on:	

	understand the households that will receive a reduced amount of benefits when transitional protection ends, to enable a planned service response		All Housing Benefit Teams  Job Centre Plus	Claimant Name Household Address Current Claim (status / type) Date Affected by Change	
	Include policy updates as standing agenda item at the LCHSG to generate discussion and collaboration	Throughout life of the strategy	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities	Evidence used to inform policy and services	Within existing resources
<b>Work together to mitigate the impacts of the Welfare Reform Act</b>	Negotiation with landlords to delay or prevent eviction	Throughout life of the strategy	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities	Households are able to remain in their home or access alternative accommodation	
	Explore options to mitigate the impact of the changes to the single room rate by maximising the availability of good quality, well managed single rooms for rent for the under 35's, e.g. supported lodgings, securing nomination rights during the HMO licensing process.	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2015	Private Sector Teams  All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities	Single people, under 35, are able to access rooms for rent	
	Liaise and share housing needs information with registered providers	Throughout life of the strategy	Registered Providers  Planning Teams	Affordable accommodation available to meet housing need	

	and developers to ensure that new build accommodation meets housing need and promotes affordability				
	Explore options for a house share model across Lincolnshire and Rutland	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2015	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities  Registered Providers  Private Sector Teams		
	In partnership with Registered Providers, review Local Lettings Plans to ensure they promote sustainable communities whilst meeting housing need	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2102	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities  Registered Providers  Strategy & Enabling Teams	Appropriate and evidenced Local Lettings Plans are in place with agreed annual reviews	
<b>Develop and monitor use of Discretionary Housing Payments to prevent homelessness</b>	Agree referral routes and criteria for HO to refer customers to HB for a DHP assessment	Throughout life of the strategy	Housing Benefit Teams  All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities	Allows DHP to be used to prevent homelessness, for example offering rent deposits / supplement rent in short term / longer term supplement for those households who cannot move	
	Develop a consistent mechanism for recording where DHP has prevented	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2014	Led by sub regional homelessness strategy officer	Increased homelessness prevention recorded	

	homelessness			More robust recording of homelessness prevention efforts	
	Explore the viability for DHP's being administered by housing teams across Lincolnshire and Rutland	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2014	Housing Benefit Teams All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities	More robust recording of homelessness prevention efforts	
<b>Raise local awareness of welfare reform and its implications for Lincolnshire and Rutland by providing clear and timely information</b>	Understand and share the tenancy strategies and policies of each Local Authority and Registered Provider	June 2103	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities Registered Providers	Tenancy Strategies and Policies will be available on each Local Authority and Registered Providers website, paper copies will be available on request.	
	Develop a communications Plan to ensure households are aware of the implications of welfare and policy reform, and support available	31 <sup>st</sup> January 2013	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities Housing Benefit Teams	Communication plan in place	
	Raise awareness for households eligible for 'extra room rate' (those with a medical need for somebody to stay over to provide care)	Throughout life of the strategy	Led by sub regional homelessness strategy officer	Income maximization and prevention of homelessness	Within existing resources
<b>Develop incentive schemes for under occupiers across Lincolnshire and Rutland to</b>	Develop mechanism for understanding and sharing	End 2014	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire –	Freeing up housing stock based on housing	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>

<b>promote social mobility, affordability and effective use of social housing stock</b>	information relating to under occupancy in social housing in Lincolnshire and Rutland		Rutland sub region) Registered Providers	need	
	Explore best practice to inform the development of an under occupancy incentive scheme in each district to encourage downsizing in the social rented sector	End 2014	All Local Authorities Registered Providers	Successful schemes in place across all districts  Effective use of social housing stock  More fluid housing register	
<b>Improve access to the private rented sector through effective landlord partnerships</b>	Actively engage and develop relationships with landlords at district level through attendance at landlord forums, landlord focus groups and homelessness prevention workshops	Throughout life of the strategy	All Local Authorities  Private Sector Renewal Teams  Housing Benefit Teams  Support Providers	Raised awareness increase in willingness of private sector landlords to accept tenants on benefit and tenants with chaotic tenancy histories	
	Identify achievable landlord incentive options to increase access to the PRS and ensure it is affordable  -free advertising -HMO registration fees -Subscriptions to National Landlord	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2013	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region) Housing Benefit Teams  Private Sector Teams	Non priority households supported  Incentive packages in place	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>

	Association or equivalent				
	Provide information training and advice to landlords	Throughout life of the strategy	Led by Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy Officer	Landlord rights and responsibilities leaflet produced	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Contact landlords using the bond schemes across Lincolnshire and Rutland, and encourage landlords to support tenants to get advice if they are affected by the welfare reform.	Throughout life of the strategy	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region) Landlord Forums  Private Sector Teams  Housing Benefit Teams	Reduced homelessness increased tenancy sustainment	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Ensure landlords are aware of support services which could help those affected by the changes, e.g. floating support	Throughout life of the strategy	Landlord Forums  Private Sector Teams  Housing Benefit Teams	Reduced homelessness increased tenancy sustainment	
	Explore options for tenant accreditation model across Lincolnshire and Rutland	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2015	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)  Support Providers  Landlords  Members	Best practice examples explored for viability in Lincolnshire and Rutland	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Ensure LHA payments are made directly to landlords where possible, to	Throughout life of the strategy	Landlord Forums  All Local Authorities	Increased tenancy sustainment	

	enable access to or sustainment of a tenancy		Housing Benefit Teams DWP		
<b>Increase accommodation options by maximising options to bring empty properties back into use</b>	Encourage landlords to align rents with LHA levels to support affordability	Throughout life of the strategy	All Local Authorities	To make communication better. To know of definite amounts before policies are implemented.	
	Public recognition for those landlords working in partnership to reduce rent to affordable levels	Throughout life of the strategy			
	Support options for bringing empty homes back in to use to meet housing need	Throughout life of the strategy	Private sector renewal teams	More empty homes are brought back into use. Link to the Lincolnshire Empty property strategy	
	Explore opportunities for innovative ways to engage customers in bringing empty properties back into use to promote access to the PRS, for example: the development of a 'paint to rent' scheme	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2016	Private sector renewal teams Support Providers	Increase of suitable affordable accommodation and development of skills	
<b>Ensure safeguarding considerations for vulnerable households affected by changes</b>	Review safeguarding policies to incorporate impact of Welfare Reform	Throughout life of the strategy	All Local Authorities	Policies reflect the impact of the Welfare reform	

	Act				
	Ensure a multi agency approach to considering alternative housing options for vulnerable households or those with complex needs who are unable to remain in their homes due to welfare reform	Throughout life of the strategy	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)  Support Agencies	Effective use of multi agency vulnerable adults panel's	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Regular attendance at Children's Services team meetings to provide housing briefings and advice to practitioners	Throughout life of the strategy	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities  Children's Services Teams	Raised awareness of housing	
	Ensure PRS landlords and practitioners understand safeguarding and have received training and are aware of safeguarding issues and referral mechanisms	Throughout life of the strategy	Landlord Forums  All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities  District Forums  LCHSG  District Safeguarding Working Group	Annual safeguarding training attended by each authority?  Training and regular briefing updates at landlord forums	
<b>Support opportunities to promote training or education opportunities for households at risk of homelessness</b>	Establish a sub group to develop a multi agency approach to tackling worklessness across Lincolnshire and Rutland		All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)  Floating Support DWP	Advice with a focus on employment – access to work or training improved access to work	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>

**Priority 4 - Young People** – We are committed to working together to meet the needs of young people across Lincolnshire, by developing a clear pathway out of homelessness, focusing on early intervention and prevention, prevention at the point of crisis, support and stabilisation and resettlement. Intervening early to prevent homelessness amongst young people is an important part of Local Authority homelessness strategies, working with young people before the door to the family home closes behind them. We also need to prepare for the additional implications for young people that we will see as a result of policy change and economic challenge.

This priority also incorporates actions made possible through the dCLG sub regional grant funding to tackle and prevent single homelessness. Actions resourced by additional dCLG grant funding (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region) identified within action plan as ‘Sub Regional Grant Funding’

What we will do?	How will we do it?	When will we do it ?	Who will help?	What will success look like?	Resources
<b>Raise awareness of the realities of homelessness and of the housing options available for young people and care leavers</b>	Explore options for implementing a consistent homelessness awareness programme in schools as part of the PSHE curriculum	End 2014	Youth Housing Coordinator  Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy Officer  Lincolnshire County Council - Children's Services  All District Housing Authorities	Young people are able to make informed decisions about leaving home  Reduction in youth homelessness	District Council Contributions
	Consider ongoing financial commitment to youth homelessness drama	2012 - 2016	Lincolnshire County Council - Children's Services  All District Housing Authorities	Young people are able to make informed decisions about leaving home  Theatre tour commissioned to raise awareness of homelessness for	District Council Contributions

				16 / 17 year olds	
	Explore the use of social media to raise awareness and improve young people's access to advice and information about homelessness and living independently	End 2012	Youth Housing Coordinator  Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy Officer	Social Media used as a mechanism to share information and communicate with young people  Homelessness reduced	District Council Contributions
<b>Ensure youth housing and homelessness issues are identified and addressed by partners in a strategic way</b>	Children's Services and Local Housing to implement a joint protocol and practice guidance for young people and care leavers at risk of homelessness	End 2013	Lincolnshire Youth Housing Coordinator  Children's Services  All District Housing Authorities	An effective joint protocol and guidance that meets the needs of homeless young people across Lincolnshire  A reduction in youth homelessness	Within existing resources
	Support the development and implementation of the Lincolnshire youth housing pathway	Throughout the life of the strategy	Lincolnshire Youth Housing Coordinator  Children's Services  All District Housing Authorities	An effective joint protocol and guidance that meets the needs of homeless young people across Lincolnshire  A reduction in youth homelessness	Within existing resources
<b>Prevent youth homelessness and promote tenancy sustainment through investment in early intervention and partnership working</b>	Commitment made across Lincolnshire to carry out joint agency visits to assess the needs of young people and care leavers to	Throughout life of the strategy	All District Housing Authorities  Children's Services  County Youth Housing Coordinator	Effective working relationships across Lincolnshire  Access to timely housing options	Within existing resources

	prevent homelessness		Schools	and advice tailored specifically to young people	
	Commitment made to carry out home visits for all parental (and friends/ family) exclusions. Ideally, home visits should be on the same day or next day	Throughout life of the strategy	All District Housing Authorities Children's Services County Youth Housing Coordinator Schools	Effective working relationships across Lincolnshire  Access to timely housing options and advice tailored specifically to young people	Within existing resources
	Prevent incidence of youth homelessness caused by relationship breakdown through use of mediation and Family Group Conferencing	Throughout life of the strategy	All District Housing Authorities Children's Services County Youth Housing Coordinator Schools	Mediation Service Level Agreements in place	
	Develop a 'young tenants' handbook to assist young people when they establish their first tenancy	31 <sup>ST</sup> December 2012	Youth Housing Coordinator Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy Officer	Young tenants guide developed with young people  Improved tenancy sustainment	District Council Contributions
	Develop protocols with supported housing providers which set out the arrangements to be followed before and after a decision is taken to evict a young person	End 2015	Supported Housing Providers Supporting People Leaving Care Service	All supported housing providers of young person's accommodation across Lincolnshire signed up to consistent, staged warning procedure	Within existing resources
<b>Develop emergency and short</b>	Explore	End 2013	All District Housing	Unsuitable	

<b>term accommodation options for young people across Lincolnshire and Rutland; ensuring that bed and breakfast is no longer used at the point of crisis and that best use is made of short term, supported accommodation</b>	opportunities to replicate the crash bed model across Lincolnshire		Authorities Children's Services Accommodation and support providers	emergency accommodation for young people no longer used	
	Support the development of Supported Lodgings, Nightstop,	Immediately and throughout the life of the strategy	All District Housing Authorities Children's Services County Youth Housing Coordinator	Promoting support and stabilisation for young people through increasing capacity and variety in accommodation options	
	Ensure best use of supported accommodation by developing clear move on pathways	Throughout life of the strategy	County Youth Housing Coordinator Accommodation and support providers	Accommodation that is available and appropriate to the individuals needs	

**Priority 5 - Rough Sleeping** - Supporting; Vision to end rough sleeping No One Left Out July 2011

“Homelessness is not just a problem of scale. It’s also a problem of complexity; no two people lose their home for the same reason. They all have different life stories. For some it’s a dramatic change like losing a job or leaving the armed services. For others a problem with drugs or alcohol. In some cases family breakdown or mental illness. For many it’s a combination of all of these”. *Vision to end Rough Sleeping No Second Night Out: Nationwide - HM Government*

**Made possible through dCLG and Homelessness Transition Funding, we will ensure the delivery of a robust ‘Rough Sleeper and Outreach Service’ to operate across Lincolnshire and Rutland 2012 – 2015, to end rough sleeping in line with the Government’s vision.**

This priority also incorporates actions made possible through the dCLG sub regional grant funding to tackle and prevent single homelessness. Actions resourced by additional dCLG grant funding (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region) identified within action plan as ‘Sub Regional Grant Funding’

What will we do?	How we will do it?	When we will do it?	Who will help?	What will success look like?	Resources
<b>Implement and Deliver a Rough Sleeper and Street Out Reach Service across Lincolnshire and Rutland during 2012 – 2015</b>	Implement rough Sleeper and street out reach service	2012 – 2015	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities  Framework HA	Rough sleeping reduced in Lincolnshire	Lincolnshire and Rutland Rough Sleeper Project – within existing resources
	Develop an exit strategy	End 2015	Led by Framework HA  All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities	Successful transitional service that has addressed and tackled rough sleeping, enabling Lincolnshire and Rutland to have put an end to rough sleeping	Lincolnshire and Rutland Rough Sleeper Project – within existing resources
<b>Develop effective joint working arrangements to tackling rough sleeping across Lincolnshire and Rutland</b>	Single approach to allocation of grant funding to deliver rough sleeper service across	Throughout life of strategy	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities  Local Agencies	Rough sleepers will not have to provide the same information to multiple agencies	Sub Regional Grant Funding Homelessness Transition Fund

	Lincolnshire and Rutland			More effective referral process  Improved information sharing and joint working process	Lincolnshire and Rutland Rough Sleeper Project
<b>Understand prevalence and rough sleeping hotspots across Lincolnshire and Rutland</b>	All Local Authorities to carry out annual rough sleeper counts during the life of the strategy	2012 - 2016	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities  Framework HA  Homeless Link	All Local Authorities to submit one 'count' per year to dCLG during the life of the strategy	Within existing resources
	Hotspot counts to be carried out across Lincolnshire and Rutland on a quarterly basis	On a quarterly basis throughout the life of the strategy	Framework HA	Robust data verifying rough sleeping  Reduction in rough sleeping	Lincolnshire and Rutland Rough Sleeper Project – within existing resources
	Detailed report to be submitted to LCHSG each quarter	On a quarterly basis throughout the life of the strategy	Framework HA  LCHSG	Reduction in number of rough sleepers	Lincolnshire and Rutland Rough Sleeper Project – within existing resources
	Analyse rough sleeping data and identify emerging trends	On a quarterly basis throughout the life of the strategy	Framework HA  LCHSG		Lincolnshire and Rutland Rough Sleeper Project – within existing resources
<b>Develop a robust rough sleeper reporting mechanism and ensure that it is widely promoted</b>	Implement a phone line with immediate outreach response for agencies and the general public to report if they have seen or are aware of somebody sleeping rough	June 2012	Framework HA  All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities  LCHSG	Reduction in rough sleeping	Homelessness Transition Fund  Rough Sleeper Project

	Raise agency awareness of the rough sleeper service and reporting mechanism	Throughout life of the strategy	Framework HA All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	Increased awareness demonstrated by increased reporting	Within existing resources
	Raise public awareness of the rough sleeper service and reporting mechanism	Throughout life of the strategy	Framework HA All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	Successful media campaign to raise awareness  Increased reports of rough sleepers	Sub Regional Grant Funding
	Provide personalised and holistic packages of support to rough sleepers who secure tenancy through a rent deposit scheme.	Throughout life of the strategy	Led by Framework HA All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities	Increased number of people with high level support needs who are able to sustain their tenancy	Lincolnshire and Rutland Rough Sleeper Project – within existing resources
	Develop Move in packs to support people moving into accommodation	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2013	Led by Framework HA All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	Contents of move in packs agreed and costed	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Create a new tenants handbook to assist rough sleepers when they move in to a new tenancy	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2012	Led by Framework HA  Supported by sub regional homelessness strategy officer  All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)		<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
<b>Ensure that rough sleepers, including those no recourse to</b>	Implement a supported	Throughout life of the strategy	Framework HA	Reduction in the level of crime and	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>

<b>public funds and new migrant populations, are assisted to return to their area of local connection or country of origin</b>	reconnection service to reduce rough sleeping including those with no recourse to public funds		All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	antisocial behaviour associated with rough sleeping	
	Provide supported reconnection beds for households whilst reconnection and travel is arranged	Throughout life of the strategy	Framework HA All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	Reduction in rough sleeping Increase in successful reconnections	Within existing resources
	Work in partnership with UKBA to support reconnection of central and eastern European rough sleepers to their country of origin	Throughout life of the strategy	UKBA	Reduction in rough sleeping Increase in successful reconnections	Lincolnshire and Rutland Rough Sleeper Project – within existing resources
	Monitor number and destination of reconnections recorded and reported to LCHSG	Throughout life of the strategy	Led by Framework HA		Lincolnshire and Rutland Rough Sleeper Project – within existing resources
	Develop joint protocols with the embassies of accession states to ensure effective reconnection of rough sleepers	Throughout life of the strategy	Led by Framework HA	More effective repatriation service Increase in numbers of rough sleepers repatriated to country of origin	Lincolnshire and Rutland Rough Sleeper Project – within existing resources
<b>Understand homelessness triggers and homelessness trends for ‘non priority’ households to inform prevention services and prevent rough sleeping</b>	Undertake needs analysis to understand triggers of homelessness, and reason for loss of accommodation	End 2013	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region) Led by sub regional		<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>

	for non priority households		homelessness strategy officer		
	Develop a mechanism for information to be collected and shared locally		All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)  Led by Sub Regional Homelessness Strategy Officer		<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Use data to develop targeted prevention services		All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)		<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
<b>Develop and implement multi-agency Severe Weather Emergency Protocols or extended cold weather provision across Lincolnshire and Rutland</b>	Communicate plans and advice services effectively  Develop move on protocol from SWEP provision	Throughout life of the strategy	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)  & Voluntary Organisations	Minimise the risk of people dying on the streets  Entrenched rough sleepers engaged in services	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding to complement existing resources</b>
<b>Improve the health of people affected by rough sleeping</b>	Carry out a health needs audit to develop understanding of the health needs of rough sleepers, and the barriers faced by for rough sleepers in meeting their health needs	Throughout life of the strategy	Framework HA	Rough Sleepers are able to access appropriate health services	Within existing resources
	Ensure effective and responsive pathways exist to enable rough sleepers to access full range of primary health care and alcohol and	Throughout life of the strategy	All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	Effective referrals to health care services	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>

	substance misuse services				
<b>Engage and support entrenched rough sleepers</b>	Entrenched rough sleepers identified through outreach work	Throughout life of the strategy	Framework HA All Lincolnshire Housing Authorities (Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region)	Reduced rough sleeping	<b>Sub Regional Grant Funding</b>
	Utilise case conference approach to supporting, finding and where required, resourcing solutions for individual rough sleepers	Throughout life of the strategy	Through vulnerable adult panels	Use of vulnerable adult panels to consider and access housing options for rough sleepers	<b>Within existing resources</b>
<b>Reduce anti social behaviour caused by rough sleeping and tenancy failure</b>	Develop links with community safety police and ASB teams to allow for earlier, coordinated intervention	Throughout life of the strategy	Lincolnshire Police Community Safety and ASB Teams Framework HA	Reduce crime and disruption on the streets	

## Sub Regional Grant Funding to Prevent Single Homelessness and Rough Sleeping

### Overview

- **£20 million made available to Local Authorities to ensure front line provision to prevent single homelessness and rough sleeping nationally.**
- Sub Region of Lincolnshire and Rutland has received an allocation of £259,000
- Boston Borough Council will act as lead authority
- Expectation that the funding will remain as a single approach and not be split between authorities within the sub region
- The Lincolnshire – Rutland sub region partnership has been highlighted as an example of best practice...we are a strong partnership and can make effective use of this funding

### Objectives

- To prevent and tackle rough sleeping, single homelessness
- To develop a generic early intervention and prevention service

### Aims

- Ensure that all homeless people approaching an authority for assistance get –
  - Tailored Advice and assistance to prevent or resolve homelessness – also set out in writing (see attached example)
  - An offer of suitable accommodation if required (be that access to the PRS, a hostel place or emergency accommodation)
  - Access to / linked into any additional support they may need
- This prevention activity / assistance should be provided irrespective of the route by which the customer came into contact with the authority (eg: through a front line housing options service, homelessness application, presenting as a rough sleeper, or any other route available in the local area)