Derby City Council

Derby Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy Action Plan 2020–2027 | 2026 Revision



In partnership with:

derby homes

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1. Introduction

Derby's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy has been approved for extension until 31 March 2027**.**

This Action Plan has been refreshed to support delivery of the extended strategy and reflects the requirements of the Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Domestic Abuse Grant. It also supports the government's ambition, set out in the National Plan to End Homelessness, to strengthen homelessness prevention, increase access to accommodation and improve outcomes for people experiencing homelessness and rough sleeping.

Homelessness is not solely a housing issue. Preventing and addressing homelessness requires coordinated action across housing, health, adult social care and wider partners. Delivery of this Action Plan will strengthen integration between services to prevent homelessness earlier, improve wellbeing and reduce inequalities, recognising the significant impact that housing has on physical health, mental health and broader life outcomes

The Action Plan sets out the priorities, actions, partnerships and performance measures that will support delivery of Derby's strategic themes of **Prevention, Supply and Support** during the period to 31 March 2027**.**

This is an interim Action Plan. A new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy is currently progressing through consultation and approval processes. Following adoption of the new strategy, the Action Plan and its associated local indicators will be reviewed and updated to reflect the agreed priorities and outcomes for the period 2027-2032.

Progress against this Action Plan will be monitored through the mandatory Local Outcomes Framework (LOF) measures, local indicators and established governance arrangements.

2. National Policy and Derby's Response

National Plan to End Homelessness

On 11 December 2025 Government published its National Plan to End Homelessness A National Plan to End Homelessness - GOV.UK . This plan established a long-term ambition to make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring through earlier prevention, stronger partnership working and improved outcomes.

Ending homelessness requires coordinated action across housing, health, social care, criminal justice services, housing providers, the voluntary, community and faith sector, and people with lived experience of homelessness. This reflects Derby's established partnership approach to preventing and relieving homelessness and supporting people to sustain accommodation.

Derby's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy shares these ambitions through its three strategic priorities:

- Prevention
- Supply
- Support

This refreshed Action Plan sets out how Derby City Council, Derby Homes and local partners will continue to deliver against these priorities during the extension of the current strategy to 31 March 2027. It also provides a framework for demonstrating progress against national and local performance measures while the new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy is developed and implemented.

3. Derby's Strategic Priorities

Derby's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy is structured around three strategic priorities:

Priority One

Preventing Homelessness: Prevent homelessness wherever possible through earlier intervention and effective partnership working.

Priority Two

Increasing Access to Suitable Accommodation: Improve access to suitable accommodation and reduce reliance on temporary accommodation.

Priority Three

Providing the Right Support: Ensure people experiencing homelessness receive the support needed to sustain accommodation and improve long-term outcomes.

Together, these priorities support Derby's ambition to prevent homelessness wherever possible, reduce rough sleeping and improve housing outcomes for residents.

4. Delivering the Strategy

Delivery of Derby's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy is supported through mainstream services, partnership working and targeted investment through the Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Domestic Abuse Grant.

This investment enables Derby City Council, Derby Homes and partner organisations to strengthen homelessness prevention, improve access to accommodation and provide targeted support for people experiencing homelessness and rough sleeping. Funding supports a range of interventions including homelessness prevention activity, private rented sector initiatives, accommodation pathways, rough sleeping services, supported housing provision and specialist support for people experiencing multiple disadvantage.

Investment is aligned to Derby's three strategic priorities of Prevention, Supply and Support and is intended to improve homelessness and rough sleeping outcomes, strengthen partnership working and support a continued shift from crisis response towards earlier intervention and prevention.

The Action Plan sets out how this investment, alongside mainstream services and wider partnership activity, will be used to deliver the priorities of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy and contribute towards improved performance against the Local Outcomes Framework and Derby's local indicators.

5. Measuring Success

Local Outcomes Framework

The Action Plan will be monitored through a combination of national measures and local indicators. National measures align with the Local Outcomes Framework set out in the A National Plan to End Homelessness. Derby indicators have been selected to complement the national framework and monitor progress against key outcomes within this Action Plan.

Baseline periods for national measures reflect the dates specified by MHCLG within the Local Outcomes Framework and associated guidance. Derby indicators use the most recent validated local data available at the time the Action Plan is agreed. Annual checkpoints have been included to support ongoing monitoring of progress and to ensure that delivery remains on track to achieve longer-term outcomes.

National baseline periods are based on the Local Outcomes Framework and include September 2025, July to September 2025 and November 2025 depending on the measure concerned. Local baseline periods are shown within the table below.

National Outcome	Baseline	Target (by end of parliament)	Annual checkpoint 2026	Annual checkpoint 2027	Annual checkpoint 2028
Households with children in Temporary Accommodation (per 1000 households) (Baseline period September 2025)	3.26	3.17	3.61 (in September 2026)		
Families in B&B over six weeks (Baseline period September 2025)	0	0	0		
People sleeping rough on a single night (Baseline period November 2025)	21	15	TBC		
Long-term rough sleeping (Baseline period November 2025)	38	19	39		
Success at preventing and relieving homelessness (Baseline period July – September 2025)	40%	47%	48.85%		
Success at preventing and relieving homelessness (Severe and Multiple Disadvantage) (Baseline period July – September 2025)	31%	35%	41.66%		

Derby Local Indicators

In addition to the mandatory Local Outcomes Framework measures, Derby will monitor a small number of local indicators aligned to the priorities of Prevention, Supply and Support. These indicators provide additional insight into local service performance and the impact of grant-funded activity. As this is an interim Action Plan

supporting Derby's current Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy, local indicators will be reviewed alongside the adoption of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2027-2032.

Priority	Derby Local Indicator	Timeframe	Baseline (Q2 2026/27)	Target
Prevention	Number of households with dependent children entering temporary accommodation.	Q2 Annually	150	Reduce
Supply	No of PRS placements secured or sustained	Q2 Annually	142	Increase
Support	Number of households with dependent children leaving temporary accommodation into settled accommodation.	Q2 Annually	97	Increase

These indicators will be reviewed quarterly and used alongside the Local Outcomes Framework to monitor delivery of the Action Plan, understand local trends and assess the impact of grant-funded activity. As this is an interim Action Plan supporting Derby's current Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy, local indicators will be reviewed alongside the implementation of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2027-2032.

6. Delivering the Action Plan

The Action Plan provides the delivery framework for Derby's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020-2027 and supports the strategic priorities of Prevention, Supply and Support.

The actions within this Plan have been developed to improve performance against the Government's Local Outcomes Framework measures and support Derby's wider ambition to prevent homelessness, increase access to accommodation and improve outcomes for people experiencing homelessness and rough sleeping.

Actions have been developed in partnership with key stakeholders and reflect local priorities, national policy, learning from service delivery and the use of investment through the Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Domestic Abuse Grant.

Each action within the Plan identifies:

- An area of focus;
- The action to be delivered;
- The lead organisation;
- Key delivery partners;
- Delivery timescales;
- The Local Outcomes Framework measures supported

Progress against the Action Plan will be reviewed through agreed governance arrangements and will inform future development of Derby's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy.

7. Priority One PREVENTION – Preventing Homelessness

Why this priority matters

Preventing homelessness remains Derby's principal objective. Earlier intervention improves outcomes, reduces demand for temporary accommodation and enables resources to be targeted more effectively.

National Outcomes Supported

- Prevention & Relief Success
- Prevention & Relief Success (Severe and Multiple Disadvantage)
- Households with Children in Temporary Accommodation

Derby Local Indicator Supported

- Number of households with dependent children entering temporary accommodation

Prevention Action Plan:

Area of focus	Action	Lead	Key partners	Timescale	National outcome(s) supported
Early intervention	Improve the use of homelessness, housing and partner data to identify opportunities for earlier intervention, inform service improvement and strengthen homelessness prevention activity. This will include the development of a homelessness performance dashboard and the establishment of Single Homelessness and Family Homelessness Focus Groups to improve understanding of local need, emerging trends and opportunities for prevention.	DCC /DH	ALL	Continually reviewed	Households with children in Temporary Accommodation; Families in B&B over six weeks; Prevention & Relief Success
Early intervention/ prevention	Strengthen integration between housing, health and social care services to identify homelessness risk earlier, coordinate preventative interventions and improve outcomes for people with health, care and support needs. This will include joint case management through MARSH, closer partnership working with primary care networks, mental health services and Adult Social Care, and earlier intervention for households at risk of homelessness.	DCC /DH	ALL	Continually reviewed	Prevention & Relief Success; Prevention & Relief Success for people experiencing severe and multiple disadvantage

Area of focus	Action	Lead	Key partners	Timescale	National outcome(s) supported
Early intervention/ prevention	Review and strengthen arrangements to prevent care leaver homelessness, including monitoring local care leaver homelessness data and delivery of the joint housing protocol.	DCC	DH	Continually reviewed	Prevention & Relief Success
Duty to Refer	Use Duty to Refer data and partner intelligence to identify gaps in referrals, strengthen referral pathways and increase opportunities for earlier homelessness prevention.	DCC /DH	All public bodies with a DTR	Continually reviewed	Prevention & Relief Success; Prevention & Relief Success for people experiencing severe and multiple disadvantage
Hospital discharge / Prison leaver pathways	Develop and appoint dedicated Homelessness Advisers and a seconded Probation Officer to deliver earlier intervention for hospital discharge and prison release cases. The roles will support attendance at hospital discharge and prison release panels, improve partnership working and planning, and maximise opportunities to prevent homelessness before individuals leave institutional settings.	DCC /DH	Probation/Public Health	Dec 2027	Prevention & Relief Success; Prevention & Relief Success for people experiencing severe and multiple disadvantage
Financial resilience / Employment and skills	Develop and embed a clear pathway into welfare, debt, financial inclusion, employment and training support, enabling households at risk of homelessness to access the right support earlier and improve financial resilience.	DCC /DH	Derby Advice/DWP/DCM /Standing Tall	Dec 2027	Prevention & Relief Success

8. Priority Two SUPPLY – Increasing Access to Suitable Accommodation

Why this priority matters

Increasing access to settled accommodation is central to preventing and reducing homelessness in Derby. Evidence from local and regional reviews identifies access to social housing, affordable private rented accommodation and move-on from temporary and supported accommodation as key system challenges. Improving housing supply and reducing barriers to move-on will help prevent households remaining in temporary accommodation for longer than necessary and improve outcomes for both families and single people experiencing homelessness.

National Outcomes Supported

- Children in Temporary Accommodation
- Families in B&B
- Prevention & Relief Success

Derby Local Indicator Supported

- Number of private rented sector placements secured or sustained

Temporary accommodation suitability

Derby City Council and Derby Homes will continue to ensure that temporary accommodation is procured, allocated and managed in accordance with statutory suitability requirements and relevant guidance. Suitability assessments consider household size and composition, medical and welfare needs, safeguarding considerations, risk factors, access to education, health services, employment and support networks, and any other relevant individual circumstances.

Temporary accommodation is provided through Council-owned HRA stock managed by Derby Homes and used temporarily to discharge homelessness duties, together with accommodation secured through the Council's temporary accommodation framework.

Demand for temporary accommodation will be monitored regularly to support procurement activity, maintain sufficient supply and reduce reliance on less suitable forms of accommodation through prevention activity, effective stock management and improved move-on opportunities.

Derby City Council and Derby Homes also provide targeted support for families with children living in temporary accommodation. This includes dedicated family-focused support to help households access appropriate services, address barriers to move-on and minimise the impact of homelessness and temporary accommodation on children and family life. Additional support is available for households placed into temporary accommodation through Children's Services, helping to strengthen joint working, improve placement management and support timely move-on into settled accommodation.

The Council's detailed approach to assessing suitability, managing placements, out-of-area placements, notifications and quality assurance is set out within the Temporary Accommodation Manual and associated procedures, which are kept under review and updated as required.

The Council will continue to review temporary accommodation arrangements, suitability processes and support provision to ensure accommodation remains appropriate, safe and responsive to the needs of households, particularly families with dependent children. Please also see Derby City Council's Temporary Accommodation Placement Statement for further information www.derby.gov.uk/housing/strategies-and-policies/.

Supply Action Plan:

Area of focus	Action	Lead	Key partners	Time-scale	National outcome(s) supported
Social and affordable housing	Work with Housing Strategy, Planning and Registered Providers to ensure homelessness and housing needs evidence informs housing development and affordable housing delivery across Derby.	DCC/ DH	All housing providers	Dec 2027	Households with children in TA; Families in B&B over 6 weeks; Prevention & Relief Success
Private rented sector	Increase access to good-quality private rented accommodation for households experiencing or at risk of homelessness through Derby's landlord incentive programme, private rented sector access schemes and partnership working with landlords, building on existing arrangements and exploring additional approaches including leasing models and a potential local lettings agency.	DCC/ DH	All housing providers	Dec 2028	Prevention & Relief Success; Households with children in TA; Families in B&B over 6 weeks
Supported / SEA accommodation	Implement the priorities within Derby's Supported Housing Strategy and associated needs assessment, including the development of a single referral route into SEA accommodation and commissioning and procurement arrangements that support high-quality supported accommodation, enhanced support provision and clear pathways into settled housing for people with complex needs, prison leavers and those at risk of rough sleeping.	DCC - SEA TEAM /DH	All SEA providers	Dec 2029	Prevention & Relief Success – Severe and Multiple Disadvantage; Long-term rough sleeping
Supported accommodation	Assess current and future supported housing needs of care leavers and identify any gaps in accommodation pathways through annual strategy reviews	DCC	DH	Dec 2029	Prevention & Relief Success

Area of focus	Action	Lead	Key partners	Time-scale	National outcome(s) supported
Move-on	Work with housing providers and partners to increase access to general needs, private rented sector and specialist move-on accommodation, using incentive schemes, accommodation pathways and targeted move-on support to reduce delays for households ready to leave temporary and supported accommodation and improve access to settled housing.	DCC	Housing providers	Dec 2029	Households with children in TA; Families in B&B over 6 weeks; Prevention & Relief Success
Temporary accommodation / B&B	Reduce the number of families requiring temporary accommodation through earlier intervention and effective homelessness prevention and, where temporary accommodation is required, ensure families have access to suitable accommodation and coordinated support to move into settled housing as quickly as possible. This will include targeted support for families in temporary accommodation, joint working with Children's Services and measures to reduce and ultimately eliminate the use of B&B accommodation for households with dependent children.	ALL PARTNERS	ALL	Dec 2027	Households with children in TA; Families in B&B over 6 weeks

9. Priority Three SUPPORT – Providing the Right Support

Why this priority matters

Support needs vary significantly across households experiencing homelessness. Some residents require intensive multi-agency support to address rough sleeping, multiple disadvantage, poor mental health or substance misuse. Others may require targeted support to sustain accommodation, avoid repeat homelessness or minimise the impact of temporary accommodation on family life. Effective support therefore requires coordinated action across housing, health, social care, children's services and the voluntary sector.

Derby's Long-Term Rough Sleeping Partnership Plan is currently in development and will sit alongside this Action Plan, providing further detail on the partnership response to long-term rough sleeping.

National Outcomes Supported

- Rough sleeping
- Long-term rough sleeping
- Prevention & Relief Success (Severe and Multiple Disadvantage)

Derby Local Indicator Supported

- Number of households with dependent children leaving temporary accommodation into settled accommodation

Support Action Plan:

Area of focus	Action	Lead	Key partners	Time-scale	National outcome(s) supported
Long-term rough sleeping / Multiple disadvantage	Embed Derby's Multi-agency rough sleeper (MARSH) approach, bringing together partners to coordinate tailored interventions for people experiencing persistent and long-term rough sleeping. This will include targeted support for people experiencing multiple disadvantage, criminal justice partnership working and intensive multi-agency interventions to remove barriers to accommodation and support and achieve sustained moves away from the street.	DH	MARSH Partnership	Dec 2027	People sleeping rough over the month who are long term; People sleeping rough on a single night; Prevention & Relief Success – Severe and Multiple Disadvantage

Area of focus	Action	Lead	Key partners	Time-scale	National outcome(s) supported
Housing First	Expand successful housing-related support models, including Housing First, to increase access to settled accommodation and intensive support for people experiencing rough sleeping, long-term homelessness and multiple disadvantage.	DH	Derby City Mission (DCM)	April 2027	People sleeping rough over the month who are long term; People sleeping rough on a single night; Prevention & Relief Success – Severe and Multiple Disadvantage
Tenancy sustainment	Expand and strengthen private rented sector tenancy sustainment support by improving understanding of tenancy success and tenancy failure and using this evidence to target prevention activity, floating support and earlier intervention for households at risk of losing their accommodation. Work with providers to identify what supports successful tenancy sustainment and use this learning to shape future service development and support delivery.	DH	Derby City Mission (DCM)	April 2027	Prevention & Relief Success; Prevention & Relief Success – Severe and Multiple Disadvantage
Health and recovery	Develop and expand recovery-focused support pathways for people experiencing homelessness, rough sleeping and substance misuse, including lived experience-led support, outreach, peer mentoring and accommodation-based recovery provision, helping people access treatment, sustain recovery and secure settled accommodation.	DH/ Public Health	Cranstoun/ Living Recovery Foundation	April 2027	Prevention & Relief Success – Severe and Multiple Disadvantage; People sleeping rough over the month who are long term

Area of focus	Action	Lead	Key partners	Time-scale	National outcome(s) supported
Families and children in temporary accommodation	Reduce the number of families requiring temporary accommodation through earlier intervention, targeted family support and coordinated partnership working. This will include dedicated Family Practitioner support, joint working with Children's Services and other partners to prevent family homelessness, support households placed in temporary accommodation, reduce reliance on B&B accommodation and achieve timely move-on into settled housing.	ALL PARTNERS	ALL	Dec 2027	Households with children in temporary accommodation; Families in B&B over 6 weeks

10. Governance, Monitoring and Review

Governance and accountability

Delivery of this Action Plan requires shared ownership across Derby City Council, Derby Homes and partner organisations. Each action within the Plan will have an identified lead organisation and supporting delivery partners responsible for coordinating activity, monitoring progress and reporting outcomes.

Progress against the Action Plan will be reviewed quarterly through the Homeless Liaison Forum and the Housing and Health Coordination Group within the Place Partnership arrangements. These forums will monitor performance, review progress against agreed actions and identify areas where additional intervention or escalation is required.

Annual progress reports will be presented through the Place Board and shared with the Health and Wellbeing Board through wider partnership reporting arrangements to provide strategic oversight of homelessness and rough sleeping activity.

Progress against the Action Plan will also be reported annually to the Strategic Partnership Board (Derby City Council/Derby Homes) and the Safeguarding Adults Board to support wider accountability and assurance.

Where progress is not on track, action leads and delivery partners will be expected to identify barriers, agree corrective actions and report progress through the appropriate governance arrangements.

Forum	Frequency	Purpose
Homeless Liaison Forum	Quarterly	Action Plan delivery and performance monitoring
Housing & Health Group / Place Partnership	Quarterly	Partnership oversight and escalation
Place Board	Annual	Strategic review
Health & Wellbeing Board	Annual	Strategic oversight
Strategic Partnership Board (DCC/DH)	Annual	Executive oversight
Safeguarding Adults Board	Annual	Assurance and partnership learning

Partnership and shared responsibility

Preventing and reducing homelessness requires coordinated action across housing, health, adult social care, children's services, probation, police, housing providers, education services, the voluntary, community and faith sector.

Within Derby, partnership working supports earlier intervention, homelessness prevention, rough sleeping responses, access to accommodation and coordinated support for people experiencing multiple disadvantage.

Key partnerships include:

- Homeless Liaison Forum (HLF), bringing together statutory, voluntary and housing partners to monitor local pressures, share learning and coordinate responses to homelessness and rough sleeping.
- Multi Agency Rough Sleeping Hub (MARSH), supporting coordinated multi-agency responses for people experiencing rough sleeping and multiple disadvantage.

- Partnership working with Adult Social Care, including joint prevention activity, housing-related support and the use of Homeless Prevention Funding to support vulnerable adults at risk of homelessness.
- Partnership working with Children's Services, including family homelessness prevention, support for young people, prevention of family breakdown and support for households in temporary accommodation.
- Joint working with health partners, including Public Health, mental health services, substance misuse services, hospital discharge pathways and wider health and wellbeing services.
- Partnership arrangements with probation and criminal justice agencies to support prison leavers and reduce homelessness following release from custody.
- Collaboration with registered providers, private landlords and housing providers to increase access to accommodation and improve move-on opportunities.
- Engagement with voluntary, community and faith organisations who provide advice, support, accommodation and wider assistance to people experiencing homelessness.

These arrangements are supported through wider governance structures including the Housing and Health Coordination Group within the Place Partnership arrangements, Safeguarding Adults Board, Homefinder Partnership Meetings and the emerging Long-Term Rough Sleeping Partnership Plan.

Lived experience

The experience of people who have been homeless or at risk of homelessness will help inform delivery and future development of the Action Plan.

Derby will build on existing opportunities across homelessness services and partner organisations to hear from people with lived experience and develop a more consistent approach to using this feedback to understand what is working, identify barriers and inform service and partnership improvement.

Monitoring, learning and review

Progress against the Action Plan will be reviewed quarterly, considering both delivery of the agreed actions and performance against the Local Outcomes Framework and Derby's Local Measures.

Where progress is not on track, action leads and partners will be expected to identify barriers and agree appropriate action. Issues requiring wider partnership or strategic intervention will be escalated through the agreed governance arrangements.

Where new approaches are introduced, Derby will use a proportionate test-and-learn approach where appropriate, using performance information, operational learning and lived experience to understand what works and inform whether activity should be adapted, continued or expanded.

The Action Plan will remain a working document and will be updated where necessary to reflect performance, learning, emerging national requirements and changes in local need. A wider review will take place alongside development of Derby's next Homelessness Strategy and future local government arrangements.

Derby's Long-Term Rough Sleeping Partnership Plan is currently in development and will complement this Action Plan. A separate B&B elimination plan is not required.

11. Links to other plans and strategies

This Action Plan does not sit in isolation and should be read alongside other local strategies, plans and partnership arrangements that contribute to preventing and reducing homelessness and rough sleeping in Derby.

Key related documents include:

- **Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020-2027**
- **Long-Term Rough Sleeping Partnership Plan**
- **System Maturity Improvement Plan**
- **Supported Housing Strategy**
- **Housing Strategy**
- **Health and Wellbeing Strategy**
- **Relevant safeguarding arrangements and partnership plans**

These documents provide additional detail on specific areas of work and collectively support Derby's approach to preventing homelessness, increasing access to accommodation and improving outcomes for people experiencing homelessness and rough sleeping.