



# Homelessness Strategy Group

Update for HWB Steering Group

## Current Actions

- Update on current position highlighting increased numbers in B&B accommodation including significant increase in families in B&B and rise in number of single homeless presentations.
- Update on projects which are currently underway to reduce B&B use including delivery of new 119 unit affordable housing scheme in Newbury, and proposals to develop additional temporary accommodation for families to reduce reliance on commercial B&B accommodation.
- Winter Plan provision - ends mid-April. Currently 10+ clients accommodated and a risk that all clients could end up back on the streets. Partners to ensure move on plan in place for all clients and a project closure report to be undertaken.
- Review of membership for HSG to be undertaken as lack of attendance from health care partners, Healthwatch; police and other agencies who used to attend regularly.
- Opportunities for including migrant households who are either in temporary accommodation or settling in district into food provision pans through agencies such as Loose Ends.
- Increased outreach provision via Newbury Soup Kitchen including liver scanning provision for clients.

## Future Actions

- Development of new Preventing homelessness & Rough Sleeping strategy timetabled for 2024/25 for adoption in April 2025. Members to form part of working group to review.
- Homeless hostel procurement exercise to take place during 2024/25 for implementation April 2025.
- Development of future funding bids via DLUHC regarding funding Rough Sleeping Initiatives work once funding provision known (existing grant funding expires March 2025).
- To continue to progress previous workplan discussions around provision of Homeless Hub, recognising competing priorities for voluntary sector partners.
- Development of Migration Strategy Group during 2024