

## PEOPLE SCRUTINY PANEL

<b>Date:</b> Monday, 20 January 2025
<b>Time:</b> 4.30 p.m.
<b>Venue:</b> Mandela Room, Town Hall

### AGENDA

1. Welcome and Fire Evacuation Procedures

In the event the fire alarm sounds attendees will be advised to evacuate the building via the nearest fire exit and assemble at the Bottle of Notes opposite MIMA.

2. Apologies for Absence

3. Declarations of Interest

4. Minutes - People Scrutiny Panel - 16 December 2024 3 - 8

5. Children Missing from Education (CME) - Further Evidence 9 - 16

The Head of Virtual School will be in attendance to provide information regarding the Virtual School's role in supporting children missing education.

6. Homelessness - An Introduction 17 - 46

The ACT Middlesbrough Lead Officer will be in attendance to provide an overview of the panel's next topic: Homelessness.

7. Overview and Scrutiny Board Update

The Chair will provide a verbal update on matters considered at the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 18 December 2024.

8. Date and Time of Next Meeting - 17 February 2025 at 4.30 p.m.

9. Any other urgent items which in the opinion of the Chair, may be considered.

Charlotte Benjamin  
Director of Legal and Governance Services

Town Hall  
Middlesbrough  
Friday, 10 January 2025

### MEMBERSHIP

Councillors E Clynch (Chair), J Banks (Vice-Chair), L Hurst, D Jackson, M McClintock, Mohan, M Nugent, S Platt, S Tranter, Z Uddin, G Wilson and L Young.

### **Assistance in accessing information**

**Should you have any queries on accessing the Agenda and associated information please contact Claire Jones / Chris Lunn, 01642 729112 / 01642 729742, [claire\\_jones@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:claire_jones@middlesbrough.gov.uk) / [chris\\_lunn@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:chris_lunn@middlesbrough.gov.uk)**

**PEOPLE SCRUTINY PANEL**

A meeting of the People Scrutiny Panel was held on Monday, 16 December 2024.

**PRESENT:** Councillors E Clynch (Chair), T Mohan, S Platt, S Tranter, Z Uddin and L Young.

**OFFICERS:** M Adams, C Cannon, E Cowley, T Dunn, C Jones, C Lunn, A McLoughlin and E Scollay.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Councillors J Banks, L Hurst, M Nugent and G Wilson.

**24/39 WELCOME AND FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURES**

The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting and explained the fire evacuation procedures.

**24/40 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Name of Member	Type of Interest	Item / Nature of Business
Cllr E Clynch	Non-Pecuniary	Employed within education setting.
Cllr D Jackson	Non-Pecuniary	School Governor.
Cllr S Tranter	Non-Pecuniary	Employed within education setting.
Cllr L Young	Non-Pecuniary	Employed within education setting.

**24/41 MINUTES - PEOPLE SCRUTINY PANEL - 11 NOVEMBER 2024**

The minutes of the People Scrutiny Panel meeting held on 11 November 2024 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

**24/42 TEES SUICIDE PREVENTION - STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2029**

The Public Health Practitioner was in attendance and presented the Tees Suicide Prevention - Strategic Plan 2024-2029.

The Public Health Practitioner informed the Panel that the Strategic Plan had been developed using feedback from November 2023's Suicide Prevention Awareness Conference; analysis of real time surveillance data, and the framework set out by the national strategy. The Tees Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan set out the key areas for action and how it aimed to achieve the vision of reducing the rates of suicide. The strategy had been developed with and endorsed by key local partners, organisations, services, and communities who contributed to suicide prevention, postvention and supported vulnerable groups. Where possible, and appropriate, the voice of lived experience had been sought.

The following key areas for action were discussed:

1. Supporting practice through local data collection, research, and intelligence.
2. Providing tailored, targeted support to key priority groups.
3. Identifying and addressing common risk factors linked to suicide.
4. Promoting online safety and responsible media content.
5. Identifying and supporting crisis pathways across sectors.
6. Reducing access to the means and methods of suicide.
7. Providing effective bereavement support to those affected by suicide.
8. Making suicide everybody's business.

During discussion, the increase in children's suicides was considered. The Public Health Practitioner advised that, often, the young person did not show any signs that this would occur. The Public Health Practitioner was involved in Child Death Overview Panels (CDOP) and Joint Agency Response (JAR) meetings, whereby a team of key professionals came together for the purpose of enquiring into and evaluating each unexpected death of a child.

A member queried the demographics of those most at risk of suicide. In response, it was advised that, in Teesside, 75% of suicides were male and between the ages of 30-49; women of a menopausal age were also noted as being at risk.

In response to a query regarding the success of the strategy, the Public Health Practitioner advised that it would be reviewed in four years' time.

The Chair thanked the Public Health Practitioner for her attendance and contribution to the meeting.

**NOTED**

24/43

**TEESWIDE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD (TSAB) - ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24**

The Independent Chair of the Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board (TSAB), Adrian Green, was in attendance and presented the TSAB's Annual Report 2023-24.

The presentation covered the following topics:

- The purpose of the TSAB.
- The composition of the Board.
- The structure of the Board, including details of its five main Sub-Groups and Task and Finish Groups.
- The key achievements made by the Board over the past year.
- Safeguarding data for 2023-24, which included details of the number of concerns and Section 42 enquiries raised, and an overview of their content.
- Communication and engagement.
- Training opportunities provided by the Board, in conjunction with the local Safeguarding Children Partnerships.
- Priorities of the Board and the associated work undertaken.
- Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SAR) data.
- Partner Activity.
- Priorities for the Board 2024-25.

During discussion, Members raised a number of points in relation to the following:

- Modern day slavery,
- The different organisations raising safeguarding issues.
- Key Performance Indicators,
- Training opportunity uptake.
- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS).
- Learning opportunities across the North East.
- Safe Places Scheme.
- Safeguarding Champions and the recruitment of these.
- Partnership working and the sharing of information.

The Chair thanked the Independent Chair for his attendance and contribution to the meeting,

**NOTED**

24/44

**CHILDREN MISSING EDUCATION (CME) - FURTHER EVIDENCE**

The Head of Inclusion delivered a presentation to provide further evidence on the Panel's Scrutiny topic of Children Missing Education (CME). The presentation included information in respect of permanent exclusion.

The national context of permanent exclusion was discussed and the panel was informed that there was a growing rate of permanent exclusion, which was under scrutiny and received significant media attention. SEND and Inclusion were identified as a priority area for education nationally, focussing on mainstream inclusion.

The local context of permanent exclusion was delivered, as follows:

- There was a high rate of permanent exclusion and suspension from Middlesbrough secondary schools.
- The Local Authority had commissioned a range of good quality alternative provision and specialist assessment provision.
- A 0-25 Inclusion and Outreach service had been developed in partnership with and was available to all schools.
- There was a well-established Local Area Inclusion Partnership with schools and multi-disciplinary agencies.

In the 2023/24 academic year, 111 pupils had been excluded from Middlesbrough schools. The reasons for the permanent exclusions were noted as follows:

- Persistent Disruptive Behaviour - 66
- Physical Assault on an Adult - 14
- Physical Assault on a Pupil - 10
- Damage to property - 9
- Verbal Abuse / Threatening Behaviour towards an Adult - 5
- Verbal Abuse / Threatening Behaviour towards a Pupil - 3
- Other - 3
- Use / Threat of an Offensive Weapon - 1.

A Member queried how schools defined 'persistent disruptive behaviour' and the threshold for this when excluding children. The Head of Inclusion advised that there was no nationally recognised definition of persistent disruptive behaviour and that this was down to each individual school to determine, via their behaviour policy.

The Panel was advised that the Local Authority had a duty to arrange suitable full-time education for permanently excluded pupils from the sixth school day of exclusion. In Middlesbrough, sixth day education provision was delivered by several registered Alternative Provisions (AP) / schools.

Alternative Provision offered an adapted or alternative curriculum for children who had been unsuccessful in accessing or engaging with a mainstream education. Alternative Provision also encompassed provision available for children who were unable to attend school because of their physical and/ or mental health needs. A proportion of children in Alternative Provision had additional vulnerabilities or characteristics, often because of trauma and adverse childhood experiences. For the children in Alternative Provision, it offered an opportunity to gain qualifications (both vocational and academic) alongside participating in personal development activities whilst developing transferable skills and knowledge, which supported onward progression into Post-16 pathways after Year 11.

There were currently 279 children accessing education in an Alternative Provision. Of these pupils, 264 were secondary and 15 were primary. Of the 279 children in Alternative Provision:

- 188 accessed as result of being permanently excluded from their mainstream school.
- 108 had identified Special Educational Needs (SEN).
- 42 had an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) for their Special Educational Needs.
- 38 were open to Social Care on a Child In Need plan (CIN).
- 13 were open to Social Care on a Child Protection Plan (CP).
- 8 were Children Looked After (CLA).
- 7 were open to the Youth Justice Service.

A number of the children in Alternative Provision had multiple complexities and vulnerabilities from the list above and received support from numerous external agencies.

Most pupils in Alternative Provision received a full-time education, however, 39% of children accessed the provision on a reduced timetable basis. These reduced timetables were used to accommodate an assessment/ transition plan or because it was in the child's best interests to reflect their individual needs.

At times when exclusion rates were high or there was a high volume of permanent exclusions

over a short period of time, some pupils waited for a place to become available at one of the registered providers. During this period, these children were offered an interim education package which was coordinated by the Local Authority, and they received regular visits from Local Authority staff.

At present, there were 22 children receiving an interim education package; there were plans for 11 of these children to transition into a school placement before Christmas. There were periods of time over the year when there were more children waiting to start their Alternative Provision placements depending on peaks in the rate of exclusion. Admission of these pupils (often with additional needs or behaviour that challenged) into the small number of registered provisions needed to be carefully considered and managed.

The next steps of place capacity and prioritising reintegration were considered. It was noted that because of the high numbers of permanently excluded children, the cohort of children in Alternative Provision had grown significantly from 147 in 2021 to 279 in 2024. To ensure there was sufficient capacity in the system to meet sixth day responsibilities and to allow children to experience their mainstream education entitlement wherever possible, the Local Authority was working with secondary school partners to prioritise reintegration back into mainstream. This allowed children who were in Alternative Provision to move back into mainstream education when they were ready. It also meant that an increased number of newly excluded children were able to be reviewed and reintegrated into another mainstream school quickly to avoid them needing to move into Alternative Provision.

The 0-25 Inclusion and Outreach model had recently been restructured based on feedback from schools to ensure it met local needs. Preventative Alternative Provision pathways were in place, commissioned using high needs funding, to offer opportunity for off-site assessment of children's needs. New preventative Alternative Provision had been commissioned (Latitude at Acklam Grange School) to avoid exclusions. A new primary age support base was being built for children with trauma and adverse childhood experiences to support early identification of needs ahead of a transition to secondary school. The Local Authority was delivering project work in other key areas such as: workforce development, transitions, and support for parent carers as part of the Delivering Better Value programme with the Department for Education (DfE).

In preparation for the next meeting, Members agreed that contact should be made with schools to invite representatives to attend the People Scrutiny Panel on 20 January 2025, to provide their views on how CME affected their schools. It was further agreed that schools should also be invited to provide written commentary to assist with the investigation.

The Chair thanked the Head of Inclusion for her attendance and contribution to the meeting.

#### **NOTED**

24/45

#### **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD UPDATE**

The Chair provided an update on items discussed at the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting held on 23 October 2024, which included:

- An overview of Middlesbrough Voluntary Development Agency (MVDA), with the MVDA Chief Executive in attendance.
- An update from the Task and Finish Group, in respect of Community Cohesion.
- Executive forward work programme.
- Scrutiny Chairs update.

#### **NOTED**

24/46

#### **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING - 20 JANUARY 2025 AT 4.30 P.M.**

The next meeting of the People Scrutiny Panel had been scheduled for Monday, 20 January 2025 at 4.30 p.m. in the Mandela Room, Town Hall.

#### **NOTED**

24/47

**ANY OTHER URGENT ITEMS WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIR, MAY BE CONSIDERED.**

None.

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# Looked After Children Who Are CME

Page 9

Agenda Item 5

[middlesbrough.gov.uk](http://middlesbrough.gov.uk)

  
Middlesbrough  
moving forward

# The Role of the Virtual School

The role of the local authority Virtual School Head is to promote the educational achievement of children in care and previously in care. This includes children with a social worker and from September 2024, children in kinship care.



**Strategic Leadership:** Virtual School Heads (VSHs) are strategic leaders who work to improve educational outcomes for these children.



**Support and Advocacy:** They provide support and advocacy to ensure that the educational needs of these children are met



**Collaboration:** They work closely with schools, social workers, and other professionals to share information and ensure that all parties are aware of the child's educational needs and progress

The local authority Virtual School plays a crucial role in tracking and monitoring the educational progress of children in care. Here are some key aspects of this role

Page 11

**Tracking Attainment and Progress:** Virtual Schools ensure there is a system in place to track and monitor the attainment and progress of children in care. This helps in identifying any gaps in learning and implementing timely interventions.



**Personal Education Plans (PEPs):** They oversee the creation and maintenance of high-quality Personal Education Plans for each child. These plans are regularly reviewed to ensure they are effective and that the child is making progress.



**Attendance Monitoring:** Virtual Schools monitor the attendance of children in care to ensure they are attending school regularly. Real-time data collection helps in quickly identifying and addressing any attendance issues.

## Definition

Children missing education (CME) is a term used by DfE to identify a particular subset of children who are at increased risk and are not attending school.

To be CME, children must satisfy all three of the following criteria:

**be of compulsory school age**

**not be registered at a school**

**not be receiving suitable education otherwise than at a school**

According to a report by the Children's Commissioner, as of March 2022, there were approximately **1,363 looked after children (2.7%)** who were not in school. This includes children who are not registered at any school and are not receiving suitable education otherwise. By local authority, this varied from 0% to 13.4%.



National Challenges found by the Children's Commissioner were ;

**EHCP Delays:** Delays in transferring EHCPs when children are placed out of area.

**School Capacity:** Schools often lack capacity or expertise to support children with SEN.

**Unregistered Education:** Some children receive education from unregistered settings, posing risks to their education and safety

**Structural Factors:** Placement type, stability, and location of care placement affect school attendance

Page 13



Groups of looked after children at Higher Risk:

- Unaccompanied Children Seeking Asylum (UCSA),
- Older children,
- Boys,
- Children with Special Educational Needs (SEN).

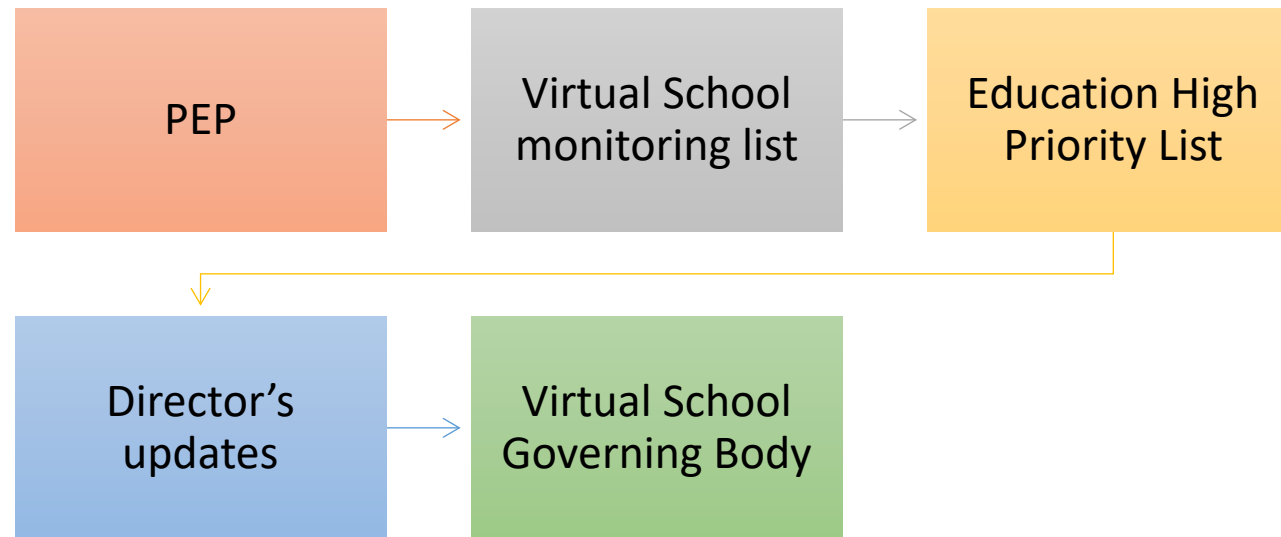
# Local context

Demographics	
Number of school aged CLA	399
Male students	56%
Educated in a Middlesbrough School	60%
Secondary School students	55%
Have an EHCP	27%
SEND plan	34%
Unaccompanied Children Seeking Asylum (UCSA)	0.75%

Current CLA CME	
Number (%) of CME CLA	14 (3.5%)
Number (%) with an EHCP	10 (71%)
Number with SEND support	4 (29%)
Number (%) male	9 (64%)
KS3 students	4 (29%)
KS4 Students	10 (71%)
Unaccompanied Children Seeking Asylum (UCSA)	3 (21%)

Trend	
September 2023	4 (1%)
October 2023	4 (1%)
November 2023	5 (1.2%)
December 2023	6 (1.5%)
January 2024	8 (2%)
February 2024	11 (2.7%)
March 2024	7 (1.7%)
April 2024	7 (1.7%)
May 2024	7 (1.7%)
June 2024	7 (1.7%)
July 2024	8 (8%)
September 2024	15 (3.8%)
October 2024	13 (3.2%)
November 2024	14 (3.5%)
December 2024	14 (3.5%)

# Line of sight



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# Homeless Service

# Accessing Change Together Middlesbrough

Page 18

ACT  
Middlesbrough

Housing

Substance Use

Domestic Abuse



# Homelessness Legislation

- Part VII – Housing Act 1996 (28 day threat, 33 day investigation period)
  - Eligibility for assistance
  - Homeless or threatened with homelessness
  - Priority Need
  - Intentionally Homeless
  - Local Connection

Page 20 •

## Homeless Reduction Act 2017 (56 day threat, new duties)

- Introduced Prevention and Relief duties, Personal Housing Plans and Duty to refer.
- Priority Need is not necessary to receive support
- Local connection can now be applied earlier and referrals made to other authorities.
- Most decisions made along the way are subject to review – must be requested within 21 days of decision date.

# Duties introduced in HRA 2017

- **Prevention Duty (56 days)**

- Where there is a threat of homelessness
- Aim is to keep the person in their current accommodation where possible and safe to do so
- If this is not possible, assist the person into alternative accommodation before their current accommodation ends

- **Relief Duty (56 days)**

- Where the person is actually homeless
- Temporary accommodation can be provided if s.188 duty met (next slide)
- S.193 referrals can be made to authorities where the person has local connection

- Both Prevention and Relief duties can be ended with an offer of accommodation where the person could be expected to reside for a minimum of 6 months.
- At the end of the Relief duty further considerations are made in terms of priority need, intentionality and whether a 'main duty' is owed. Main duty can only be discharged into a part VI (Social Housing) offer or 12 Month AST (specific conditions apply)

# Duties introduced in HRA 2017

## Continued

- **The Duty to Refer**

Page 22

The Act introduced a duty on specified public authorities to refer service users who they think may be homeless or threatened with homelessness to local authority homelessness/housing options teams.

The specified public authorities subject to the duty to refer are (in England only):

- prisons
- young offender institutions
- secure training centres
- secure colleges
- youth offending teams
- probation services (including community rehabilitation companies)
- Jobcentres in England
- social service authorities (both adult and children's)
- emergency departments
- urgent treatment centres
- hospitals in their function of providing inpatient care
- Secretary of State for defence in relation to members of the regular armed forces

# Eligibility

- To be eligible for assistance, you must meet residence and immigration conditions
- You usually meet immigration and residence conditions if you:
  - are a British or Irish citizen (and are habitually resident\*)
  - have refugee status or humanitarian protection
  - have indefinite leave to remain or EU settled status
  - are a Commonwealth citizen with right of abode
  - have leave to remain in the UK with access to public funds\*\*

Page 23

\* A habitual residence test would be required to satisfy this condition

\*\*Access to public funds means access to benefits, homelessness assistance and council allocation of social housing.

# Definitions of homelessness

- A person is homeless if they have no accommodation in the UK or elsewhere which is available for their occupation and which that person has a legal right to occupy.

Page 24

A person is also homeless if they have accommodation but cannot secure entry to it, or the accommodation is a moveable structure, vehicle or vessel designed or adapted for human habitation and there is nowhere it can lawfully be placed in order to provide accommodation.



# Definitions of homelessness continued

- A person who has accommodation is to be treated as homeless where it would not be reasonable for them to continue to occupy that accommodation.

Page 25

A person is threatened with homelessness if they are likely to become homeless within 56 days.

- A person is also threatened with homelessness if a valid (“no fault”) notice under section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 has been issued in respect of the only accommodation available for their occupation, and the notice will expire within 56 days.

# Emergency/interim accommodation duty

- Section 188(1) requires housing authorities to secure that accommodation is available for an applicant (and their household) if they have *reason to believe* that the applicant may:
  - (a) be homeless;
  - (b) be eligible for assistance; and,
  - (c) have a priority need.

All 3 criteria must be met

# Priority Need

Source: Chapter 8, Homelessness code of guidance for local authorities - Guidance - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

An applicant will have a priority need for housing if they or a member of their household is:

- a pregnant woman or a person with whom she resides or might reasonably be expected to reside
- a person with whom dependent children reside or might reasonably be expected to reside
- a person who is homeless as a result of that person being a victim of domestic abuse
- a person who is vulnerable *as a result of* old age, mental illness, learning disability or physical disability or other special reason, or with whom such a person resides or might reasonably be expected to reside
- a person aged 16 or 17 who is not a 'relevant child' or a child in need to whom a local authority owes a duty under section 20 of the Children Act 1989
- a person under 21 who was (but is no longer) looked after, accommodated or fostered between the ages of 16 and 18 (except a person who is a 'relevant student')

# Priority Need continued

Page 28

- a person aged 21 or more who is vulnerable *as a result of* having been looked after, accommodated or fostered (except a person who is a ‘relevant student’)
- a person who is vulnerable as a result of having been a member of Her Majesty’s regular naval, military or air forces
- a person who is vulnerable *as a result of*:
  - (i) having served a custodial sentence;
  - (ii) having been committed for contempt of court or any other kindred offence; or,
  - (iii) having been remanded in custody
- a person who is vulnerable *as a result of* ceasing to occupy accommodation because of violence from another person or threats of violence from another person which are likely to be carried out
- a person who is homeless, or threatened with homelessness, as a result of an emergency such as flood, fire or other disaster

# Vulnerability

- COG 8.16 - It is a matter of evaluative judgement whether the applicant's circumstances make them vulnerable. When determining whether an applicant in any of the categories set out in paragraph 8.14 is vulnerable, the housing authority should determine whether, if homeless, the applicant would be significantly more vulnerable than an ordinary person would be if they became homeless. The assessment must be a qualitative composite one taking into account all of the relevant facts and circumstances, and involves a consideration of the impact of homelessness on the applicant when compared to an ordinary person if made homeless. The housing authority should consider whether the applicant would suffer or be at risk of suffering harm or detriment which the ordinary person would not suffer or be at risk of suffering, such that the harm or detriment would make a noticeable difference to their ability to deal with the consequences of homelessness.

# Vulnerability

- COG 8.17 - When assessing an applicant's vulnerability, a housing authority may take into account the services and support available to them from a third party, including their family. This would involve considering the needs of the applicant, the level of support being provided to them, and whether with such support they would or would not be significantly more vulnerable than an ordinary person if made homeless. In order to reach a decision that a person is not vulnerable because of the support they receive the housing authority must be satisfied that the third party will provide the support on a consistent and predictable basis. In each case a housing authority should consider whether the applicant, even with support, would be vulnerable.

# Intentionally Homeless

- An Intentionally homeless decision may be made if the main reason the applicant lost their home was because of something they did or failed to do.
- This might include if they (not exhaustive):
  - were evicted after not paying the rent when they could afford to
  - moved out of their home voluntarily when they could have stayed
  - lost their tenancy because they went to prison for a criminal offence
  - were evicted for anti-social behaviour

If a household is determined to be intentionally homeless, the relief duty would end and there would be no further duty. This means the case would be closed and they would be given reasonable notice to leave any interim accommodation provided.

- They won't be intentionally homeless if they lost your home because of something beyond their control or it wouldn't have been reasonable to expect them to do so. For example, we would need to consider (not exhaustive and on a case by case basis):
  - If they were at risk of violence or domestic abuse by staying
  - If the property had become unaffordable due to a life event out of their control e.g. health issues

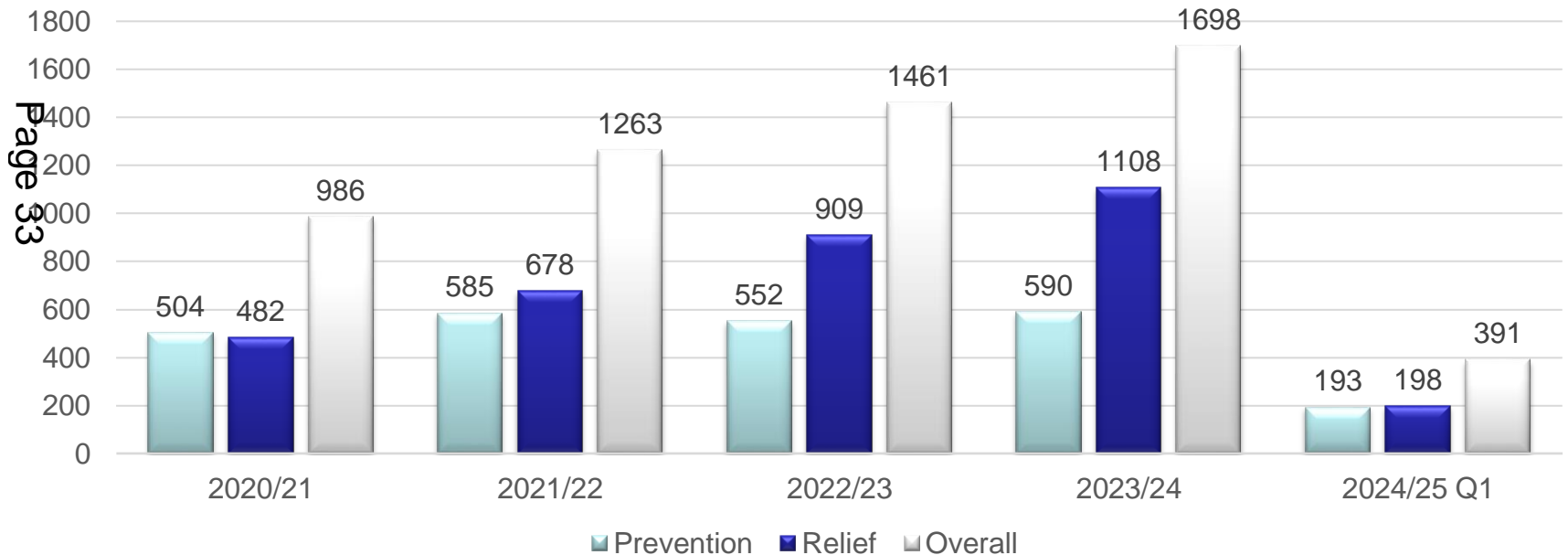
# Local Connection

- The service user may choose the local authority to be referred to / approach.
- However, they should be advised that if they do not have a local connection to the area, they will probably be referred to the area where they do have a connection
- Someone is defined as having a local connection to an area if they have:
  - Lived in that area recently - 6 of last 12 months / 3 of last 5 years
  - Employment in that area
  - Lived in asylum accommodation in the area at point of positive decision
  - Receive Care Leavers support in that area
  - Close family connection in the area (& family member has local connection). Strong family connection is usually restricted to, mother, father, brother, sister or adult child, although other family members may be considered in exceptional circumstances. There also needs to be ongoing relationship.
- Local connection to an area does not apply if the person is in prison or an institution in that area unless one of the criteria above applies.
- Local connection requirements may be disregarded in cases where a person is fleeing violence and is at risk in that area.



# Homelessness duties in Middlesbrough

Chart Title

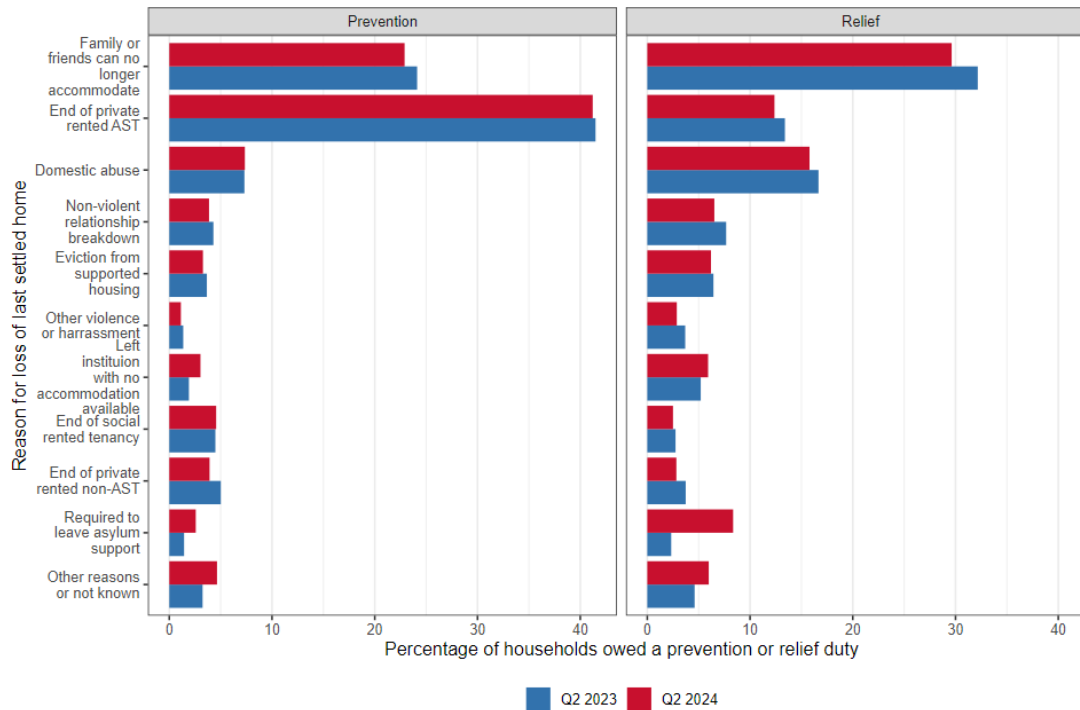


# Reason for loss of last settled home

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 Q1
<b>Preventio Duty cases</b> Page 34	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate – 36.5%</li> <li>2. Domestic Abuse – 22.8%</li> <li>3. Other/Unknown – 9.3%</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate – 31.6%</li> <li>2. Domestic Abuse – 19.9%</li> <li>3. End of Private Rented Assured Shorthold – 13.7%</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Domestic Abuse – 23.9%</li> <li>2. End Private Rented Assured Shorthold – 22.6%</li> <li>3. Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate – 18.1%</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. End Private Rented Assured Shorthold - 30.7%</li> <li>2. Domestic Abuse – 24.1%</li> <li>3. Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate – 15.9%</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. End Private Rented Assured Shorthold 33.7%</li> <li>2. Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate 23.8%</li> <li>3. Domestic Abuse – 16.1%</li> </ol>
<b>Relief Duty cases</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate 29.9%</li> <li>2. Left Institution – 15.6%</li> <li>3. Other / not known – 15.1%</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate – 28.9%</li> <li>2. Domestic Abuse – 10.9%</li> <li>3. End of Private Rented Assured Shorthold – 9.9%</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate - 31.8%</li> <li>2. End Private Rented Assured Shorthold – 13.4%</li> <li>3. Domestic Abuse 12.2%</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate – 25.8%</li> <li>2. Domestic Abuse – 14.2%</li> <li>3. End Private Rented Assured Shorthold – 12.6%</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate 20.7%</li> <li>2. Eviction from Supported Accommodation 15.7%</li> <li>3. Domestic Abuse 13.6%</li> </ol>

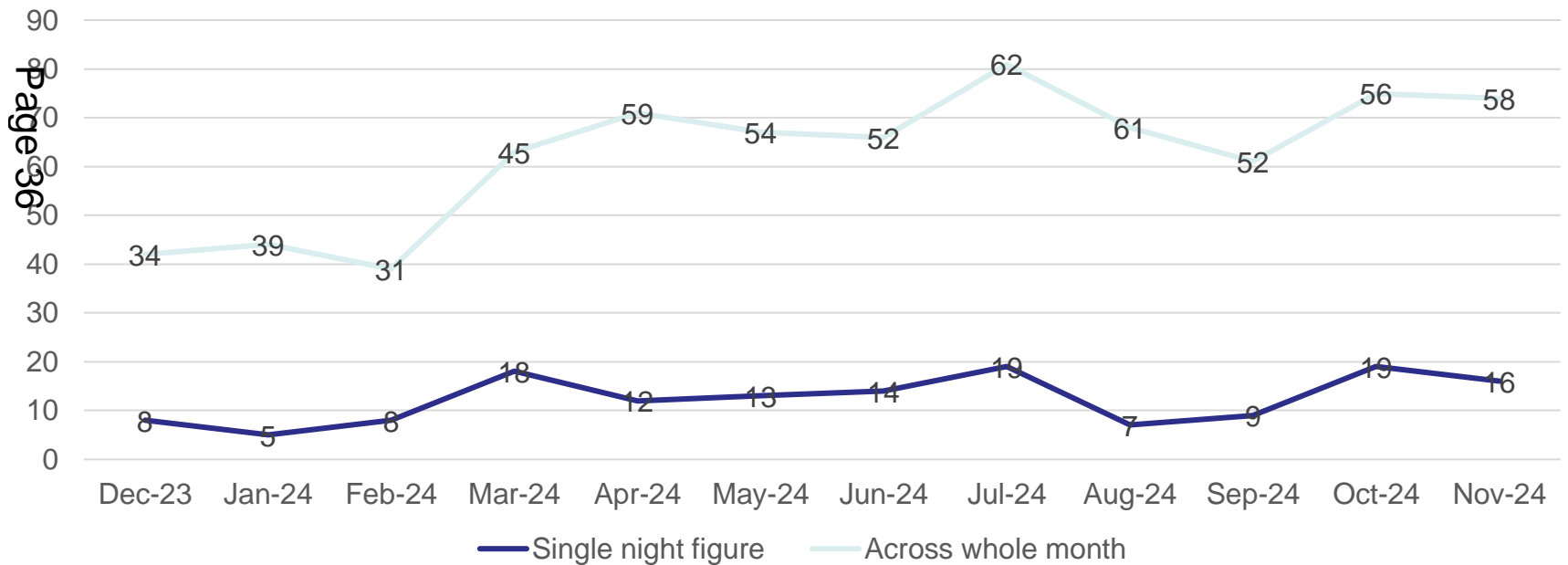
# National picture April-June 2024 – most recent published data

Page 35



# Rough Sleeping

Chart Title



# What impacts our ability to prevent and relieve homelessness effectively?

Changes to:

Page 37

Social Housing

- Private Rented Sector
- Supported accommodation move on

# Social Housing

- Out of 65,236 dwellings in the borough, 15,154 are social rented
- Stock has dropped 1% since 2009 due to right to buy, but population has risen 7% over the same time
- 29 social housing providers operate within the borough
- 3 biggest providers are: Thirteen Group (11,849), North Star (939), Home Group (878). The remaining providers have 1488 properties between them.
- Turnover of properties becoming available to let dropped from 12 to 5% between 2019-2024 – so less movement.
- Evictions dropped by half from 2019 to 2024 in social rented sector
- Awab's Law – damp and mould - Causing a delay in properties being available to let (18 months) affecting about 250 properties

# Social Housing continued

- There is a consensus that due to changes in mortgage rates and local market, less people are leaving the social sector to buy properties or rent in the private sector. This slow down can be demonstrated by North Star's information below on how many properties were available to let during the last three financial years :

Page 39

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
General Needs	75	67	50

# Social Housing – Waiting times 2023/24

Page 46

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
<b>Band 1</b>	<b>362 days</b>	<b>242 days</b>	<b>167 days</b>	<b>232 days</b>
Band 2	375 days	347 days	419 days	318 days
Band 3	409 days	54 days	526 days	208 days
Band 4	488 days	144 days	182 days	182 days
All Bands	397 days	236 days	224 days	244 days



# Social Housing – Bidding

Table 4 – Data from TVHF about the average number of bids per property type advertised 23/24

	Average no of Bids per property type advertised			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
1 Bed Bungalow	21	9	6	28
1 Bed Flat	26	29	52	89
1 Bed House	45	20	136	89
2 Bed Bungalow	60	60	15	73
2 Bed Flat	18	20	35	77
2 Bed House	83	49	72	227
2 Bed Maisonette		19	38	26
3 Bed Maisonette	8			31
3 Bed Bungalow	23			17
3 Bed House	37	35	40	115
4 Bed House	16	13	70	66
5 Bed House	26	15		
Studio Flat	3		5	7

# Private Rented Sector

- Out of the 65,236 dwellings in the borough 12,863 are private rented
- 19.99% of the housing stock in the borough is private rented and broadly aligns to the national picture.
- In Middlesbrough large proportions of the PRS accommodation is in densely populated areas such as Newport, University and North Ormesby.
- Not subject to the housing regulator so standards are variable

# Private Rented Sector - Challenges

- Rents continue to increase and the Local Housing Allowance rate remains static
- Section 21 (no fault) notices are a leading cause of homelessness.
- Increase in accommodation aimed at students and ‘serviced accommodation’ market, which formerly general needs homes.

# Improvements to service delivery:

- Delivering face to face service from Middlesbrough House, telephone appointments available too.
- Intention to have a data led approach to improve service delivery
- Ongoing work with Pathways to improve the offer to Care Leavers
- Recently consulted on proposed changes to local housing register to benefit vulnerable and homeless applicants.
- Weekly support and advice sessions for Early Help and Stronger Families staff (to be rolled out wider across Childrens Services)
- Weekly Young Persons Supported Accommodation Panel
- New Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy soon to be published.

# Improvements to service delivery continued

- Successful support of SHAP bids – further 35 supported bed spaces should be online before end of current financial year (DePaul, Beyond & New Walk)
- Continued outreach work with Rough Sleepers
- Specialist Domestic Abuse officers in Housing Solutions and Community Interventions improving offer to victims and survivors.

# End.