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## Overview:

This report provides details of the individual services or initiatives which were funded by the DCLG Homelessness Prevention Grant in 2010-11. In each Area we will show the performance and outcomes of each initiative. Each area will show a recommendation to either:

- I. Discontinue Funding
- II. Reduce Funding
- III. Maintain current level of funding
- IV. Increase Funding
- V. Fund a New Initiative / Service

The services and initiatives will be grouped according to the above five areas.

Recommendations may also include intentions to remodel services to achieve better value for money and / or efficiency savings.

Specific details of funding amounts are detailed in APPENDIX B of this report.

Where funding is intended to be delivered through an external organisation this will be identified in the heading, otherwise it should be assumed the service or project is part of Brighton & Hove City Council.

## Definitions:

**BHCC** – Brighton & Hove City Council

**DCLG / CLG** – Department for Communities & Local Government

**RSSSRT** – CRI Rough Sleepers, Street Service & Relocation Team

**SC YMCA** – Sussex Central YMCA

**BHT** – Brighton Housing Trust

**ISP** – Integrated Support Pathway (mechanism to move people toward independence)

**ICT / IT** – Information & Communications Technology (general term)

**POAL** – Prevention of Offender Accommodation Loss

**NOMS** – National Offender Management Service

**ASB** – Anti Social Behaviour

**PRS** – Private Rented Sector

# 1. Recommendations to Discontinue Funding

## 1.1. *Housing Options Move-On*

Strategic Links	National Indicators	Council Priorities	Homeless Strategy priorities	Other Strategies
LAA L 27 Number in TA	Number in TA 156	Reduce inequality by increasing opportunities  A city where people can access the housing they need	Objective 3 Priority 11,12,13,14	Youth Homeless Strategy Objective 5 Priority 16,17 Single Homeless Strategy Priority 5 Objective 16

A post was created in 2008 to assist the Council in achieving the Temporary Accommodation Reduction programme. DCLG set a national target for all local authorities to reduce the number of households in temporary accommodation by 50% by March 2010. In Brighton & Hove our target was 333 households. The Move-On Officer post provided targeted interventions for households in temporary accommodation and ensured that people were aware of the Move-On options available to them. By March 2010 the target had been exceeded (achieving 316 households).

### **Outcomes for 2010/11**

In 2010/11 the post remained in place for three months as planned, hence there was only a partial year funding allocation. The postholder made seven qualifying offers to individuals in Temporary Accommodation in the first quarter of the year.

## 1.2. *Homelessness Partnership IT Development Fund*

Since 2006/07, DCLG have endorsed use of homelessness grant funds to deliver improvements in ICT within homelessness services. Each year we have allocated varying amounts of the Homelessness Grant to an IT Development Fund and have been authorised to accumulate and carry forward these amounts to build up enough funds to deliver larger pieces of work. This work has been 'seed funded' and projects are now either embedded or are being delivered through our external partners. There is a focus on building capacity within the community and voluntary sector to lead the way with developing new systems and improvements.

### **Outcomes for 2010/11**

In 2010/11 we have been able to deliver funds across the following projects.

- Strategic Planning ICT System (Interplan).
  - Following on from a successful pilot project in BHCC, where the Interplan business planning system was piloted within the Housing Needs & Social Inclusion Section, we were able to embed the strategic plans and performance indicators of the Homelessness Strategy, Single Homeless Strategy and Youth Homeless Strategy within the system and effectively monitor performance and progress against work targets across both internal and external providers in the partnership.

- Integrated Support Pathway Customer Relationship Management System (Inform)
  - We were able to market test and research the use of a new system which could manage customer information across the services within the Integrated Support Pathway, recording all casework and processes that are involved in the prevention of homelessness; assessment of housing and support needs including initial skills audits; allocation of vacancies in supported housing and the sharing of needs and risk information with providers.
  - At the time of writing, we had commissioned an external provider to purchase and pilot the software. This will be evaluated in early 2012 which will inform future commissioning options for a fully integrated system with all services in the pathway benefiting.

There is no requirement to allocated funds from the 2011/12 budget as projects are already sufficiently funded, however this will need to be reviewed in early 2012 on assessment of progress in the current workstreams.

## 2. Recommendations to Reduce Funding

### 2.1. *Psychology Service*

Strategic Links	National Indicators	Council Priorities	Homeless Strategy priorities	Other Strategies
LAA L24		reduce inequality by increasing opportunities  A city where people can Access the housing they need	Objective 1 Priority 1	Single Homeless Strategy Objective 2,4 Priority 13,14

The aim of the Psychology Service (Behaviour Support Service) has been to work with people at risk of homelessness due to psychological behaviour issues often arising from substance use or rough sleeping. The team also works with service providers in delivering learning programmes that will achieve the goals of changing clients' thinking and behaviour in order to address cyclical homelessness and a move away from street culture. The team developed and promoted a new support model of working with the client group that is based on proven clinical interventions such as Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, Solution Focused Brief Therapy and Motivational Interviewing.

#### Outcomes for 2010/11

The clinical psychologist post which was being funded was a vacancy during 2010/11 as we were unable to recruit a replacement for the previous postholder. Funds remained available to provide essential clinical supervision for frontline workers. At the end of quarter 3 the following outcomes had been achieved by the frontline workers:

Target	Outcome
Achieve and then maintain an open case load to 90% of a maximum 21 clients throughout the year	54% achieved by the end of Q3

Reduce the potential for evictions	In the first three quarters of 10/11, 11 cases were closed and 8 of them maintained accommodation for over 6 months (73%)
Maintain usage 'traffic' on the Mortarnet website	Hits on the website have reduced over the last year achieving an average of 55 hits per month.
Maintaining the Mortarnet Website to generate new enquiries and referrals	There have been 112 referral enquiries to Mortar website April-Dec 2010

### **Intentions for 2011/12 and 2012/13**

Provision of evidence based psychological interventions and training of key workers in these skills is a key element of our Homelessness Strategy and an innovative approach that Brighton & Hove City Council has championed in housing and homelessness services, receiving national interest and acclaim.

The intention going forward is to continue joint funding a remodelled Behaviour Support Service but without Clinical Psychologist post. Frontline staff costs are to be met by the Supporting People grant. The funding allocation from the Homelessness Grant is intended to cover essential clinical supervision costs for workers and a Development Fund to support further Link Worker Training Events and increase the use of website resources.

## **3. Recommendations to Maintain Current Funding**

### **3.1. Work & Learning Access**

<b>Strategic Links</b>	<b>National Indicators</b>	<b>Council Priorities</b>	<b>Homeless Strategy priorities</b>	<b>Other Strategies</b>
Adult Learning Strategy City Employment & Skills plan Supporting People strategy	Participation in volunteering N6 Health and wellbeing N119 Working age on benefits N152	reduce inequality by increasing opportunities  Better Use of Public Money	Objective 5 Priority 21,22,23	Single Homeless Strategy Objective 3 Priority 7,8,9,10,11,12

The aim of Work & Learning Access work is to provide a strategic overview of Work & Learning based services in the city and to ensure that services meet the employment and training needs of single homeless people. This ensures partner agencies are aligned with the Homelessness Strategy outcomes and priorities and that there is a strategic lead from the Local Authority in developing work & learning opportunities for single homeless people and rough sleepers.

### **Outcomes for 2010/11**

The main outcome for this financial year has been the co-ordination of the redevelopment of Palace Place and First Base Day Centre into centres for work & learning activities. These two projects represent a £1m capital investment in the city by the Homes & Communities Agency (HCA), spread across the two projects. First Base is a Brighton Housing Trust property and the redevelopment is being managed by them, however the bid for funding was a joint bid and funds have been drawn down for both projects through

the local authority. Both projects are scheduled for completion by the end of March 2011. The Palace Place refurbishment has been a considerable project to manage, with the entire building being closed for the works from September 2010. The new building will include a computer training suite, a training kitchen, a café/social meeting area, a new reception, 1-1 rooms and a new lift which is a major improvement in accessibility for both service users and staff alike.

This workstream has also developed the Stepping In service, which is due to be launched in 2011 at the newly refurbished Palace Place. The aims of the Stepping In service are to:

- reduce the number of households living in temporary accommodation;
- address skills deficits and get people back into work;
- reduce numbers claiming welfare benefits;
- promote social and economic mobility;
- facilitate access to the private rented sector and divert demand away from the social housing sector
- prevent homelessness

This will be delivered through a framework of personalised and responsive services that address the individual's motivational issues, basic skills, life skills and works skills needs and provide a clear progression pathway into employment and the private rented sector. Referral will be conditional upon the individual's success in having addressed other support issues particularly around substance and alcohol misuse and severe mental health. Participation and engagement will be agreed in a contract detailing rights and responsibilities, with milestones being identified as part of the comprehensive assessment and individual action plan. Non-engagement or inappropriate behaviour will result in exclusion from the programme.

### **Intentions for 2011/12 and 2012/13**

The intention is to continue fully funding the above work and to increase numbers of people in employment, training or education:

- The opening of the redeveloped Palace Place / Old Steine and the new Stepping In service
- Redevelopment of work and learning actions from the Single Homeless Strategy 2009-14 into the reviewed and refreshed Homelessness Strategy which will be re-launched in 2011.
- Oversee the delivery of work and learning strategic actions in the refreshed Homelessness Strategy through the Homelessness Partnership Working Groups, ensuring timely reporting to the Homelessness & Social Inclusion Steering Group (HSISG) and Lead Commissioner for Housing.
- Identify and address gaps in work and learning provision and initiate funding bids to develop new projects and services (See Work & Learning Scheme Page 24).

## 3.2. Sanctuary Scheme

Strategic Links	National Indicators	Council Priorities	Homeless Strategy priorities
2020 Community Strategy Reducing crime and improving safety Community Safety Strategy	151: Number in TA 52: Repeat incidents of DV	reduce inequality by increasing opportunities  A city where people can Access the housing they need  A city where people are safe and feel secure	Objective 2 Priority 8

The Scheme has been in operation since 2007/08 and remains a key component in the city's Domestic Violence Strategy. The Sanctuary Scheme is a multi-agency project which enables victims of domestic violence to choose whether to remain in their own home with professionally installed security measures. The increased security increases confidence to remain securely in the home and avoids disruption to education, employment and family and other social networks. In addition to the social benefits, the cost can be considerably less expensive than the provision of emergency accommodation. The expenditure from grant is exclusively for security measures to the persons home the officer cost having been mainstreamed in 2008/09 to provide specialist support to households who are threatened with homelessness due to domestic violence, harassment or hate crime.

As part of the review of the service in 2009/10 the criteria for referral was reviewed to include lower risk groups with an aim of preventing cases from escalating to the higher risk category. The introduction of monitoring the number of days from referral to completion within a 21 day target was also introduced. The service has undertaken a number of reviews to ensure that the scheme remains effective and accessible to vulnerable households who wish to remain in their own homes as a result of domestic violence or hate crime. The scheme funding is used as a 'last resort' funding stream, after all other avenues to secure safety measures have been explored.

### **Outcomes for 2010/11**

To the end of Quarter 3, ten clients had been supported through the scheme and 66% of the funding for the year had been committed. Following on this trend we predict that we will have committed around 88% of the annual funds by the end of the financial year. It remains a challenge to conclude cases within the target deadline of 21 days. This is in the main due to the nature of dealing with domestic violence cases.

### **Intentions for 2011/12 and 2012/13**

The outcome achieved for each individual supported by the scheme means that homelessness is prevented and the person is able to remain securely and safely in their home. This represents a good value for money outcome considering the costs of added security measures which are comparably low (an average £500. per intervention) compared with the cost of rehousing. Hence, the intention is to maintain the current level of funding, carrying forward any underspend remaining at the end of 10/11.

### 3.3. **Sussex Central YMCA: Young People's Housing Advice Service**

Strategic Links	National Indicators	Council Priorities	Homeless Strategy priorities	Other Strategies
LAA Indicator: Reduce Rough Sleeping to as Near a Zero as Possible  2020 Community Strategy: Improving Housing & Affordability	Reduce Number in TA 156  Young people that are NEET N147  Substance Misuse by Young people N115	reduce inequality by increasing opportunities  A city where people can Access the housing they need	Objective 2 Priority 6 Objective 3 Priority 11	Youth Homeless Strategy Objectives 1,2,3,4,5,6 Priorities 1,2,3,4,6,7,8,11,13,15,16,17  Single Homeless Strategy Objective 1 Priority 2

This service aims to reduce the number of young people who present as homeless, particularly as a result of family breakdown, and is strongly linked to the aims of the city's Youth Homelessness Strategy. The service works in partnership with the Council's Housing Options Young People and Families Team to advise young people appropriately and prevents rough sleeping and homelessness, contributing a significant amount of prevention outcomes toward the whole local authority area results. It provides very strong links to the Respite Scheme and aims to relocate or reconnect as appropriate young people who arrive from outside of the City to areas where they have networks and connections.

#### **Outcomes for 2010/11**

There is now a one stop shop service for all young people between the ages of 16 and 25 who need housing advice at Ovest House (where Sussex Central are based) This means that the number of people presenting at the council's City Direct offices is reduced, and that young people receive tailored support in dealing with their housing issues. Joint working between the council's Housing Options Officers and Sussex Central Family Support Team is improving homelessness prevention of 16 and 17 year olds.

Use of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) is allowing vulnerable young people aged 16 and 17 to access more joined up and cohesive support from agencies who are working with them. Sussex Central YMCA have performed well under the terms of the contract that they hold. There has been no cause for concerns at the regular contract review meetings.

Target	10/11 Q1	10/11 Q2	10/11 Q3
Reduce rough sleeping of under 25 year olds to under 4 (recorded on the regular street counts)	2	0	0
To prevent homelessness in 60% of all cases where homelessness is threatened	69%	81%	72%
To successfully relocate 45 young people to a place they have a connection with, over the course of the year	25	26	45
Deliver 10 housing information sessions in schools	0	0	10
Deliver 2 basic lifeskills / independent living courses to young people at risk of homelessness	0	1	1
To reduce the number of referrals to BHCC to make a homeless application, with a target of no more than 48 per annum	12	27	31



One area which has highlighted a challenge for the service over the last year is an increase number of referrals from SC YMCA to BHCC for people to make homeless applications. This is due to the increasing numbers of young people using the service at Ovest House, which resulted from an operational change at the local authority City Direct offices. The change ensured all under 25 year olds were correctly referred in the first instance to the Young Peoples Housing Advice Centre at Ovest House, rather than being seen at City Direct. This accounts for the increase in referrals for those under 25 considered to be in Priority Need and who may need to make a homeless application. The increase is sharp, however this is a manageable change to operations and not a contractual concern. If demand for the Advice Centre remains at these levels during quarter four this will show around 25% increase from the previous year. However, using the same predictions method, the number of 16/17 years presenting at the service has actually fallen by around 10% on the previous year's figures, which is a positive outcome of partnership working and delivering outcomes through the Youth Homeless Strategy for under 18s.

### **Intentions for 2011/12 and 2012/13**

- Hove YMCA were successful in competing for a five year tender and will therefore continue to provide this service from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009 until March 2014. The targets will therefore be the same as those above.

### **3.4. CRI: Rough Sleepers Street Services & Relocation Team**

<b>Strategic Links</b>	<b>National Indicators</b>	<b>Council Priorities</b>	<b>Homeless Stragy priorities</b>	<b>Other Strategies</b>
LAA L24  2020 Community Strategy: Reducing crime and improving safety / Improving Housing & Affordability	Number in TA N156 Number Achieve independent living N141 Offenders in accommodation N143 Perceptions of Anti- Social Behaviour N 17	reduce inequality by increasing opportunities  A city where people can Access the housing they need	Objective 1 Priority 1	Single Homeless Strategy Objective 1,2,4,5,6 Priorities 2,4,5,13,14,15,16,17

The reduction of rough sleeping and related street based anti-social behaviour is a high priority for the City Council and the Local Strategic Partnership. It is of critical importance to the organisations who work toward delivering the Homelessness Strategy and associated action plans and a significant amount of resource is allocated toward achieving positive results in this area.

CRI are the lead agency addressing issues such as Third Party Reporting (a Sussex Police initiative) which monitors and takes action against perpetrators of offences carried out against rough sleepers and street drinkers. CRI also monitor a Community Responsibility Protocol which looks at how hostels and day centre's manage the local environment to reduce anti social behaviour of residents and how the local community can be encouraged to assist in identifying and reporting problems to the team.

The provision of a grant to CRI to provide assertive outreach and relocation services to rough sleepers is aimed at the reduction of rough sleeping within the City, an activity which has links to antisocial behaviour. CRI are actively engaging with people to reduce the amount of time that they spend on the street; they carry out rough sleeper counts and work closely with Police, Mental Health, Substance Misuse Service and other agencies to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour.

## Outcomes for 2010/11

CRI have performed consistently well in maintaining low levels of rough sleeping in the city and consistently achieve the target of below 5 for people with a local connection. The last rough sleepers count in November 2010 found 14 people sleeping rough of which only 2 had a local connection.

The main outcome for this service is to keep the number of rough sleepers as near to zero as possible. This is achieved by continual assertive outreach with the rough sleeping community. This year saw very high numbers of rough sleepers arriving in the city from outside the area. While the proportion of rough sleepers who have a local connection has been falling, the proportion of people who come in to the city from other areas has been increasing. The number of people the RSSSRT work with has been slowly increasing and Summer 2010 saw the highest 'hot spot' count figures we have recorded in two years.

However, even though 'demand' for the RSSSRT has been high this has been met with a very organised and innovative approach. Over the last three years the team have reduced the average amount of time a person spends on the street in Brighton & Hove from 19.5 days to 15.3 days in a continuing trend. The percentage of rough sleepers relocated out of area rose from 39% in 08/09 to 49% in 09/10 and we are hoping to see maintained or improved levels at the end of this financial year.

Target	Q1 Apr-Jun 2010	Q2 Jul-Sep 2010	Q3 Oct- Dec
To reduce rough sleeping to as near zero as possible but at least below <b>10</b>	26	25	14
To reduce rough sleeping to as near zero as possible but at least below <b>5</b> for those with a local connection	6	12	2
<b>66%</b> of all rough sleepers to have a positive accommodation, treatment or care outcome	74%	92%	90%
<b>90%</b> of rough sleepers with a local connection to have a positive accommodation, treatment or care outcome	85%	88%	100%
No more than <b>25%</b> of people helped by RSSSRT into treatment or accommodation, to return to the streets within two weeks	0%	2%	0%
<b>80%</b> of new arrivals returning home / other positive diversionary measures to help new arrivals leave the streets	77%	90%	90%
To successfully re-locate <b>200 (50 per quarter)</b> verified rough sleepers out of Brighton & Hove.	56	79	52

## Intentions for 2011/12 and 2012/13

CRI were successful in competing for a five year tender and will therefore provide this service from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009 until March 31<sup>st</sup> 2014. The targets will therefore be the same as those above. The contract will continue to have an emphasis on reducing the number of rough sleepers to as near to zero as possible, and providing relocation or reconnection for

those people without a local connection. In addition to the contractual requirements and targets, CRI have agreed to provide the following added value within contract price:

- Delivery of co-ordinated work to integrate the Alcohol Pathway with the Integrated Support Pathway
- Co-ordination of Street Count events
- Co-ordination of SWEP provision
- Provision of a specialist mental health worker
- To provide street shifts at weekends/bank holidays in peak periods rather than Mon-Fri service only
- Collation of statistics around offending and substance misuse to maximise the contribution of the Integrated Support Pathway in fulfilment of the Local Area Agreement targets.
- Carry out internal quality audits to ensure highest delivery of service
- Continue to provide training for frontline staff in supported housing bands 1,2 and 3 covering substance misuse, assertive in reach and anti-social behaviour

This added value will provide a seamless service for entrenched rough sleepers who often present with complex needs including Mental Health, Substance Misuse or Dual Diagnosis.

### 3.5. **Sussex Central YMCA: Family Solutions & Respite Scheme**

Strategic Links	National Indicators	Council Priorities	Homeless Strategy priorities	Other Strategies
LAA L24  DCLG end use of B&B for 16/17 year olds  2020 Community Strategy: Improving Housing & Affordability	Number in TA N156 16/17 year olds not in education employment or training (NEET)	reduce inequality by increasing opportunities  A city where people can Access the housing they need	Objective 2 Priority 6,7,11	Youth Homeless Strategy Objective 1,2,3,5,13,16,18

Eviction of young people from the family home continues to be one of the main causes of homelessness in Brighton and Hove. This Scheme was piloted as a result of consultation with the parents of young people locally, which identified that provision of short term respite accommodation to take the heat out of the crisis may have enabled the young person to return home.

Through the Youth Homelessness Strategy, the respite scheme has remodelled the existing units of supported accommodation to provide 5 short terms “crash pads” for young people. Designed to give a short term accommodation option following a family breakdown in order to provide both respite from the situation and therapeutic support to both the young person and the family on a whole family approach; The aim is to return the young person to family home after an agreed period.

The scheme became operational in October 2008. The Scheme has added to the projects dealing with youth homelessness in the city and has provided two workers dealing with the needs of young people and more importantly their families. This is key project in ensuring that 16 and 17 year olds are not placed into Bed and Breakfast except in an emergency and not for periods exceeding 6 weeks.

## **Outcomes for 2010/11**

Where Family Support and Mediation is in place for young people to be supported to remain at home (where no emergency respite accommodation placement is made), the outcomes for the Respite Scheme have been good. In 2010/11, out of 22 young people who were referred (and were living at home) 19 were able to remain at home. Over the lifetime of the project (October 2008 to current) the total number of families the Family Support Workers have engaged with is 101. 82 of these cases have subsequently been closed, so on average 9 families per quarter are being worked with and at the point of closing the case, many young people were sustained in their family home. In most other cases Sussex Central YMCA have worked jointly with the Council to support young people to find alternative accommodation.

However after intensive review over the last year it is acknowledged that the model for delivering the Respite Scheme accommodation set by the local authority is not delivering the outcome of getting young people to return to the family home long term, to the levels and numbers intended. Although a review of the referral process in the second half of the year achieved some improvements in outcomes toward the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter it remains clear that the service could be remodelled to provide better value for money.

		<b>Target</b>	<b>10/11 Q1</b>	<b>10/11 Q2</b>	<b>10/11 Q3</b>	<b>10/11 Q4</b>
1	Number moved into Scheme	15 per Quarter	7	8	10	
2	Number moved out of Scheme		7	6	8	
3	Returned Home Long Term	15% of 2	1 (14%)	0 (0%)	2 (25%)	
4	Returned Home Short term with planned access	20% of 2	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (13%)	
5	Accessed Supported/ PRS or friends relatives	65% of 2	4 (57%)	4 (67%)	0 (0%)	
6	Number of YP in respite and Families engaged in Family solutions	70%	4 (57%)	3 (50%)	7 (88%)	
7	Number of YP and Families engaged in Family liaison	70%	2 (29%)	3 (50%)	4 (50%)	
8	Number of YP living in respite actively engaged with support	85%	Not supplied	Not supplied	Not supplied	
9	Number of young people that are EET	40%	1 (14%)	5 (83%)	3 (38%)	
10	Number of new families engaged in Family Support not in Short Stay Beds		13	20	18	

### **Intentions for 2011/12 and 2012/13**

As the current contract expires on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 the intention is to fund a remodelled service for 1 year with an option to extend into year two depending on prevention outcomes. It is proposed that the name of the service is changed from the Respite Scheme to the Family Solutions Team and the focus is switched from the 'respite accommodation model' to achieving increased homelessness preventions through sustaining young people in the family home through family mediation and support. We are also seeking approval remodel the service against the current contract value and to split the payments to a basic management fee and an outcomes based payment for sustaining clients in the family home. The service could develop prevention outcomes (mediation and family support) in these areas:

- Identifying 15 year olds at risk from eviction on their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday
- Increase links and direct referrals with schools and colleges throughout Brighton and Hove and with youth and community centres
- Identify families where they have previously evicted 16 year olds and there are other younger siblings in the family and undertake targeted work

### **4.5 Homelessness Partnership Providers: Cash Incentive Scheme**

Strategic Links	National Indicators	Council Priorities	Homeless Strategy priorities	Other Strategies
LAA Target Reduce Rough Sleeping to as near a Zero as Possible	Number of vulnerable people living independently N141	reduce inequality by increasing opportunities  A city where people can Access the housing they need	Object 3 Priority 11,13,14	Single Homeless Strategy Objective 1,5 Priority 1,16

This funding increases the amount of rough sleeper "move on" accommodation available for residents in the Integrated Support Pathway (ISP) who are ready to move on to more independent living. The ISP provides a clear route for service users to move-on towards independence. Current practice is to issue 'Assured Shorthold Tenancies' in ISP properties, however in the past some Assured Tenancies have been issued, meaning that there is a reduction in the amount of 'move-on' accommodation available for new people entering the banded accommodation path. This can result in the pathway becoming 'silted up' and prevents some people from moving on when they are ready. There are a small number of service users in Assured Tenancies in RSL supported housing who have achieved a good level of independence but who are reluctant to move on to alternative accommodation and so free up places in the pathway.

This scheme provides cash incentives to service users in Assured Tenancies to relocate to alternative accommodation either in the private sector or general needs RSL housing and allow movement for other service users in Bands 2 and 3 of the ISP. These incentives can be used by providers to offer key work support, purchase 'home start up' equipment and pay for removal costs or deposit guarantees. Each agreement with a service user is tailored to their individual needs.

### **Outcomes for 2010/11**

This year's fund was committed to incentivising three service users in the pathway who are scheduled to have moved on to alternative accommodation by the end of March 2011. The remainder of the funds was allocated as contingency funding for to deliver the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP – see Page 20).

### **Intentions for 2011/12 and 2012/13**

We intend to maintain the current level of funding for the 11/12 and 12/13 financial years in order to continue to free up placements in the ISP.

## ***4.6 Homelessness Partnership Innovation Fund***

To promote the work of the City's Homelessness Partnership and provide funding for small pieces of work detailed on the Homelessness Strategy Action Plans to be undertaken by partner agencies.

### **Outcomes for 2010/11**

The Innovation Fund has committed funding for one project in the current financial year which was to part fund a specialist nurse post to work specifically with people with alcohol issues. This has been jointly supported by NHS Brighton & Hove PCT and the intention is to mainstream the work of this service and deliver a fully funded project. This follows 15 week pilot project funded under the South East Alcohol Innovation Programme's High Impact Change Grant. The project's aim is to provide clinical support to hostel providers working with alcohol dependent clients. By doing so the project seeks to provide increased opportunities for alcohol dependent clients living in a hostel environment to address their substance misuse, mental and physical health issues. Due to being heavily alcohol dependent, and chaotic, this group has a history of not accessing existing services. The project will fund a clinician to provide clinical support for clients and training for hostel staff to support previous rough sleepers with alcohol dependency to reduce their drinking and address attendant health problems, within a 24 hour supported environment. The project specifically targeted this group for whom inpatient detox does not work – usually ending with a return to the hostel environment and resumed drinking. The project seeks to replace this cycle with personalised, gradual detox within the hostel environment.

### **Intentions for 2011/12 and 2012/13**

It is proposed to roll over any remaining funds into the next financial year to increase the capacity of this fund. The Homelessness Strategy is undergoing a review during Spring 2011 and this will necessitate consultation with partner organisations and a public re-launch of the strategy during the financial year. This fund will partially be allocated toward this work. IN addition there will be individual innovations identified by the Homelessness Partnership Working Groups which may need 'seed' funding to get off the ground in order to be able to deliver against new priorities within the refreshed strategy.

## 4.7 *Sussex Nightstop: Emergency Supported Lodging Scheme*

Strategic Links	National Indicators	Council Priorities	Homeless Strategy priorities	Other Strategies
LAA L24 Target Reduce Rough Sleeping to as near a Zero as Possible	CLG use of B&B for 16/17 year olds  Numbers in TA N156	reduce inequality by increasing opportunities  A city where people can Access the housing they need	Objective 1,2,3, Priority 1,6,7,11,12	Youth Homelessness Strategy Objective 1,2,4,5 Priority 1,2,3,5,13,16,18

The Council has worked with Sussex Nightstop to develop an emergency/ supported lodging scheme for under 25 year olds. Sussex Nightstop has affiliated to the De Paul Trust who link into a national network of emergency lodging schemes for young people. The aim is to assist young single homeless people to access accommodation with host resident landlords who will be willing to let out a spare room. Some of the placements will respond to emergency situations and if appropriate will become supported lodgings offering longer term housing solutions. This may also provide the homeowner with a much needed income in the current financial climate.

### **Outcomes for 2010/11**

Sussex Nightstop was first funded by the local authority in 2009/10 and has been developed throughout 2010/11 to eventually go live in November 2010, with 3 placements happening in December 2010. There are 3 volunteer hosts trained, and a further 4 have been recruited, and will be trained in January 2011.

It's acknowledged that this service has been slow to start, however setting up a young peoples service has involved a great deal of preparation to ensure it operates safely for young people placed and this has meant careful screening and training of hosts as well as creating safeguarding policy and procedure specifically for this service from scratch.

Nightstop has only been fully operational since November 2010 and therefore only a few service users have benefited from the service. We do not yet have enough outcomes data to produce meaningful statistics, however as the following case study shows, running this very cost efficient service can have excellent outcomes for individuals, who would otherwise be accessing the local authority's statutory homeless services at a much bigger impact and cost to the city (names have been changed):

### **Intentions for 2011/12 and 2012/13**

We intend to continue funding the service to ensure there is sufficient opportunity to build the number of referrals and recorded positive outcomes. As a relatively low cost option we are hoping that Nightstop will become another option available for young people in a secure and supportive environment instead of the more costly and less supported environment of B&B accommodation, which we are aiming to reduce use of.

## 4.8 *Sussex Central YMCA: Voicemail4all*

Strategic Links	National Indicators	Council Priorities	Homeless Strategy priorities	Other Strategies
LAA L24 Target Reduce Rough Sleeping to as near a Zero as Possible	Number in TA N156 Number Achieve independent living N141 Offenders in accommodation N143	reduce inequality by increasing opportunities  A city where people can Access the housing they need	Objective 1 Priority 1	Single Homelessness Objectives All Priorities All

This project is aimed at providing rough sleepers and single homeless people with voicemail accounts that can be accessed by the person using a free phone number. The scheme has been used in London for a number of years to enable rough sleepers and single homeless people to remain in contact with service that they are engaging with such as accommodation providers. The project has been funded as a pilot in the City and will be one of the first to be run outside of London

### **Outcomes for 2010/11**

In the first half of the 10/11 year, 29 customers were registered with the service and we hope to see that doubled by the end of the financial year. Voicemail 4 All is an essential service for those who use it; however uptake has been slow in the city despite regular promotion of the service. For those using the system it is a lifeline, allowing them to keep in touch with family and make appointments with potential employers or health services for example.

### **Intentions for 2011/12 and 2012/13**

To continue funding the service at the same level for 2011/12 and review registrations in Autumn 2011.

## 4.9 *Homelessness Partnership Working Groups Administration*

Strategic Links	National Indicators	Council Priorities	Homeless Strategy priorities	Other Strategies
LAA L24 Target Reduce Rough Sleeping to as near a Zero as Possible		reduce inequality by increasing opportunities  A city where people can Access the housing they need	Objective 1 Priority 1	Single Homeless Strategy & Youth Strategy Support to deliver

The City has developed a number of strategies with partner agencies to forward the work of prevention of homelessness, reducing rough sleeping and young people at risk of homelessness. In order to maintain the well developed partnership a number of working groups have been formed, each with their own action plan to ensure delivery of the key objectives. They comprise the Day and Street Services, Youth Homelessness, Integrated Support Pathway, Work and Learning and Recession Impacts Working Groups.



All of the above groups report to the Housing and Social Inclusion Steering Group. These groups require some administrative support to assist in the smooth operation of their meetings. It is proposed to fund a 0.2 full time equivalent to assist with organisation of meetings, and liaising with the chair of each meeting to ensure the timely distribution of papers and other homelessness related material to the working group members.

**Outcomes for 2010/11**

Organisation and minutes of 30 meetings for the working groups during the financial year.

**Intentions for 2011/12 and 2012/13**

To continue funding the service at the same level for 2011/12 and 2012/13, assuming the frequency and number of meetings remains the same.

**4. Recommendations to Increase Funding**

**4.1. *Housing Options Plus Project***

Strategic Links	National Indicators	Council Priorities	Homeless Strategy priorities	Other Strategies
LAA L27	Reduce TA 156	reduce inequality by increasing opportunities  A city where people can Access the housing they need  Make Better use of public money	Objective 3 Priority 11,12,13,14	

In 2010/11 the Housing Options Plus project commenced, led by the Homelessness Strategy Officer. Currently the front line customer facing services in Housing Options have a successful advice service, which operates from the City Direct Centre in Brighton. This service provides advice and assistance to those in housing need across the City. It also prevents homelessness through timely, good quality advice across the range of issues which our customers face, by addressing the underlying causes of housing need. The Housing Options Plus project extends this approach across Council housing stock Tenancy Management Services, in order to maximise the options available to our Council tenants. The intention is to develop a ‘right first time’ culture where customers are offered appropriate advice and assistance at the first encounter with a council housing service without being referred to another department.

In the present environment of welfare reforms brought about by the new coalition government, it is timely to review the way we use our current resources of social housing stock and consider whether they are being used in the most effective way for the customers who are in the most need. Linking with the Council’s drive to improve the customer experience, we need to put the customer at the heart of what we do, and consider their needs in a holistic way rather than in isolation. It is necessary to consider that housing need is more than ‘a roof’ and includes all the underlying issues which go to make up a ‘housing need’. It is necessary to offer more choice and opportunity in social

housing particularly in response to the effects of the recession where job losses can force many to think about their housing situation and to look for support for a way to get them back into work, manage their money better and help improve their life chances.

### **Outcomes for 2010/11**

The project is still in the delivery stage and we are set to review outcomes from the first stage of the programme at the end of March 2011.

### **Intentions for 2011/12 and 2012/13**

Work to extend the Housing Options approach into the other neighbourhood offices is planned for 2012/13 and the intention is to continue funding this programme of work for the next two financial years.

## **4.2. Homelessness Prevention & PRS Access Strategy Fund**

<b>Strategic Links</b>	<b>National Indicators</b>	<b>Council Priorities</b>	<b>Homeless Strategy priorities</b>	<b>Other Strategies</b>
LAA 127	Reduce Number in TA 156	<p>reduce inequality by increasing opportunities</p> <p>A city where people can Access the housing they need</p> <p>Make Better use of public money</p>	Objective 3 Priority 8	

Along with other local authorities the council has adopted a “spend to save” approach in developing a Homelessness Prevention strategy for commissioning and in assisting people on low incomes to access the Private Rented Sector.

The Prevention Fund was originally set up to provide loans for a Rent Deposit Scheme, paying for the deposit element of a planned move from one property to another. This was often used for people that were moving for the first time or needed to move for reasons beyond their control and did not have access to the necessary funds in time. In January 2008 the Council changed their approach and piloted a Deposit Guarantee Scheme, which has been in place since. This aims to indemnify a landlord until the tenant has saved sufficient funds with the Credit Union to meet the deposit. At this point the tenant’s funds are transferred to the Landlord and the Guarantee with the Council is withdrawn. The Deposit Guarantee Scheme has several advantages over the former Rent Deposit Scheme as it only pays out for claims submitted by the landlord at the end of the tenancy and local authority officers can check the validity of claims. The claim rates on this type of scheme means that a higher number of lettings can be achieved for the same amount of money. In order to make the Deposit Guarantee Scheme more attractive to landlords the cover on new claims has been increased to six week and now covers rent loss and disrepair to the property.

Over the last two financial years the Prevention Fund has also been used to finance Tenancy Set Up costs in order to assist individuals on low incomes meet the demands of moving into a new home. As the scheme that have been set up are repayable loans this also means that any money that is returned to the Council is put back in to the scheme to increase the number of moves that can be achieved each year and ensure that any risk to the council is sufficiently covered to meet any future claims.

## **Outcomes for 2010/11**

### **Deposit Guarantee Scheme funded clients:**

2008/09 – 139

2009/10 – 224

2010/11 – 108

### **Tenancy Set Up funded clients:**

2008/09 – 102 (including 19 Qualifying Offers)

2009/10 – 116 (including 35 Qualifying Offers)

2010/11 – 35 (including 22 Qualifying Offers to end of Q3)

Actual Spend of Tenancy Set Ups to end of Q3 - £21,955.87

Actual Spend of Qualifying Offers to end of Q3 - £5,020.00

Projections to the end of the financial year predict that the full allocation of funds for 10/11 will have been committed to positive outcomes through these schemes.

## **Intentions for 2011/12 and 2012/13**

National changes to welfare benefits and general social housing reforms being driven by the Coalition Government will undoubtedly present challenges for a portion of our city's residents. As a local authority there is a need to prepare to meet those challenges and in homelessness services this is about extending the prevention agenda and the city's capability to assist people in accessing the right kind of available accommodation and support. The intention is to significantly increase the Prevention Fund and for it to accommodate enough flexibility to meet the challenges the city will face. Within the increase in this fund there needs to remain enough flexibility to mitigate against potential risks arising from the national changes, which have so far not been fully assessed or scoped.

The increase will also include sufficient funds to deliver a new Private Rented Sector Access Strategy over the next two years. There are a number of successful pilots and projects being initiated and delivered by both the local authority and community and voluntary sector agencies in the city, which seek to improve market share of private rented accommodation for people on low incomes or who have become homeless or insecurely housed. These separate projects will benefit from a coordinated strategic approach to be led by the local authority and this need has been identified by partner agencies throughout the Homelessness Partnership. This remains one of the city's key outcomes, which needs to be achieved in order to effectively deliver the Homelessness Strategy.

The increase to the fund in will include a sum in year one (Appendix B) to deliver a review of statutory homelessness functions within the authority in order to improve the customer experience of services. This is a key corporate objective which is driving improvements to front line services and adding value to the customer experience. It's proposed to use a Systems Thinking methodology for the review which is a relatively new approach to creating value for the customer within service delivery. The method focuses on 'end to end' time from the customer's perspective ("when did I get what I asked for and did this meet my expectations?") rather than focusing on target and performance indicators built around activity monitoring (small parts of a service process). Systems Thinking has been shown to improve the customer experience and build value into services without 'salami slicing' budgets. There have already been a number of successes within BHCC in Housing Management and Housing Benefit departments and we hope to extend this success into the above linked areas of Housing Options.

### 4.3. Brighton Housing Trust: Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP)

Strategic Links	National Indicators	Council Priorities	Homeless Strategy priorities	Other Strategies
LAA L24 Target Reduce Rough Sleeping to as near a Zero as Possible	Perceptions of anti-social behaviour N17	reduce inequality by increasing opportunities	Objective 1 Priority 1	Single Homeless Strategy Objective 1,4 Priority 1,2,14

The DCLG advise that SWEPs should be activated by a weather forecast predicting three consecutive nights, or more, of a temperature of zero degrees Celsius or lower. BHT is the organisation currently responsible for co-ordinating SWEP on behalf of the Brighton & Hove City Council and the Single Homeless Strategy Partnership. The delivery of SWEP is the responsibility of RSSRT (CRI) and other partner organisations working within the partnership. The aims of the service are:

1. To prevent loss of life
2. To reduce rough sleeping to as near zero as possible by:
  - i. Using SWEP to engage with entrenched rough sleepers with a local connection who would normally be resistant to coming inside
  - ii. Using SWEP to engage rough sleepers who do not have a local connection with relocation services

This year the country has experienced one of the worst winters for many decades and this was reflected locally in the coldest November and December since we began operating SWEP in 2005. This resulted in the night shelter being opened both earlier and longer than in previous years.

#### **Outcomes for 2010/11**

The key targets for this service are:

- Open an emergency 20 place shelter every time that the need is presented according to the SWEP Protocol weather forecast.
- Every person who is a verified rough sleeper and who presents at the service to have an offer of somewhere to stay when SWEP is activated

So far this season the above key targets have been met. BHT, CRI and partner agencies are expected to work with individuals whilst in the shelter to reduce the likelihood of people returning to the streets once the shelter is closed.

#### **Intentions for 2011/12 and 2012/13**

This essential service reduces the risk of fatalities and provides a very real life line to those who would not normally have access to services in the city. Particularly harsh winters over the last two years running have meant that the allocation of funds has not met the needs of delivering this service and we have had to divert contingency finance from other areas of the business to meet the needs of SWEP. We are therefore recommending a significant increase to the SWEP budget to avoid the need to divert funds in future years. A reduction in planned commitments from the Homelessness Partnership IT Development Fund in 2010/11 is to be carried forward to fund SWEP in 2011/12 and therefore there is no required allocation of funding from the Homelessness Prevention Grant for 2011/12, however the increased allocation is recommended for 2012/13 onward.

#### 4.4. *Sussex Central YMCA: Private Rented Access Scheme*

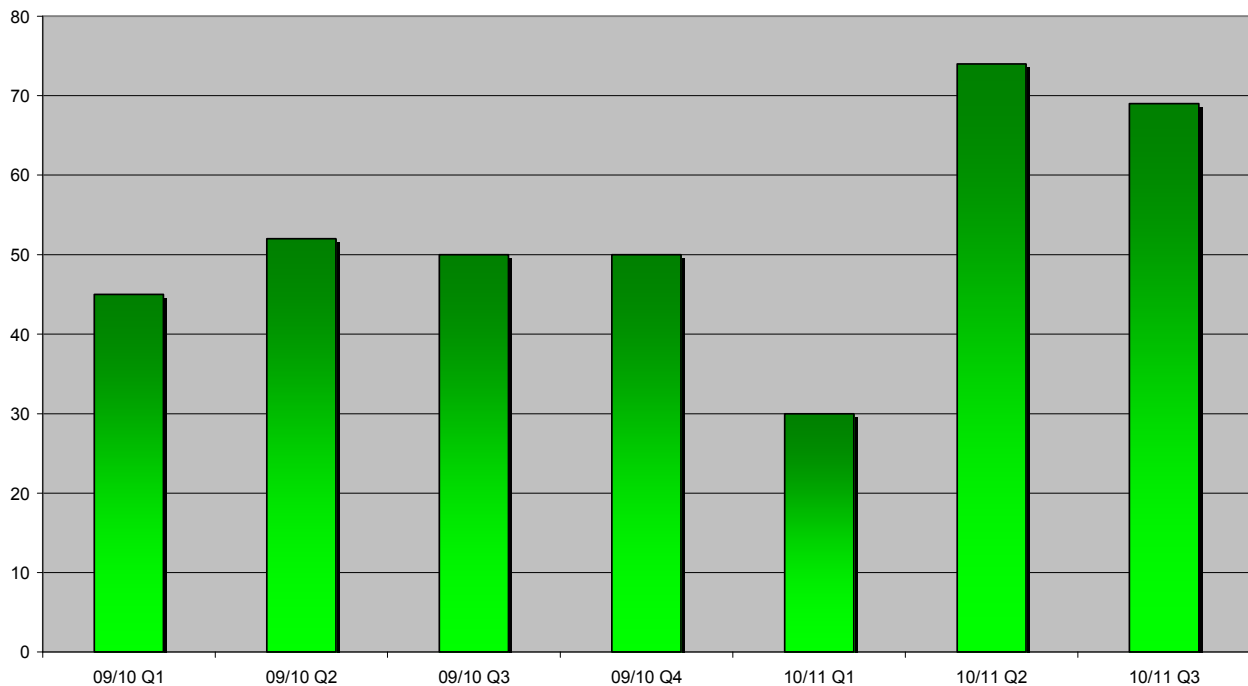
Strategic Links	National Indicators	Council Priorities	Homeless Strategy priorities	Other Strategies
LAA Target Reduce Rough Sleeping to as near a Zero as Possible	Achieving independent living N141	reduce inequality by increasing opportunities  A city where people can Access the housing they need	Objective 1,3 Priority 1,11,12,13,14	Single Homeless Strategy Objective 4, 5 Priority 16 Youth Homeless Strategy Objective 1,2,4,5 Priority 1,7,13,16,17,18

A priority of the Council’s homelessness strategies is to ensure that maximum use is made of the private rented sector as a housing option. With 23% of accommodation in Brighton & Hove being provided in this sector, it plays an important role as an accommodation solution. Sussex Central YMCA are given supplementary funding to their main Housing Advice Centre grant which enables them to employ a specialist PRS worker part time. They also employ volunteers to work with young people in helping them apply for PRS tenancies, such as helping them search on the internet and prepare for phone calls with landlords.

#### **Outcomes for 2010/11**

The target for this service is to achieve 40 placements per quarter into PRS accommodation. This has been consistently achieved over the first three quarters of the year and throughout the previous financial year:

Number of Moves into PRS initiated by Sussex Central YMCA



#### **Intentions for 2011/12 and 2012/13**

The intention is to continue this supplementary funding and to extend the work to include more hours as the post is currently only part time. The extra funding will go some way toward developing this value for money work-stream further and securing more PRS accommodation in the city.

#### 4.5. CRI: Peer Mentoring (Mutual Aid Buddy Scheme)

Strategic Links	National Indicators	Council Priorities	Homeless Strategy priorities	Other Strategies
LAA L24	Alcohol harm related hospital admissions N39 Drug Users in effective treatment N40 Adults in contact with secondary mental health N150	reduce inequality by increasing opportunities  A city where people can Access the housing they need	Priority 1 Objective 1,2	Single Homeless Strategy Objective 4 Priority 13,14

Based on a previously used model and funded by BHCC in 2010/11, CRI have developed a Mutual Aid Buddy Scheme in response to evidence based research that ‘recovery champions’ and mutual aid support is crucial to people making effective changes in their lives. Research has demonstrated that positive change can be ‘contagious’ and that people are more likely to change positively if their social and recovery capital is increased. Strong role models, especially those who have experienced similar lifestyles are key to sustained change.

The service aims to fill the support gaps in the evenings and weekends at hostels in the city. The Peer Mentoring Scheme in conjunction with other agencies seeks to reduce the use of substances illicit and licit, drug related deaths, relapse, rough sleeping and street based anti-social behaviour activity. The service is popular with service users who are able to deal with mentors that have been through similar life experiences to themselves.

As part of the *No One Left Out*, national rough sleepers strategy, peer mentoring is noted as being an area that can be used to give support to residents who face evictions. The foundation peer mentoring looked to change the use of peer mentors in this area and work more closely aligned with the Integrated Support Pathway.

Below are some of the support and interventions the Buddies provide:

- Weekly one to one encouragement and listening support to people new onto programme
- Facilitation in peer led aftercare provision
- Outreach support to ‘hard to reach’ groups or those not yet engaged with substance misuse services
- Support to those newly moved in to hostels
- Support to sustain hostel placements
- Advocacy support to service users
- Support to service users on service user forums or with feedback initiatives
- Escort to appointments
- Workshops and conferences
- Signposting to projects and services
- Knowledge of referral process onto Buddy training

#### **Outcomes for 2010/11**

8 mentors have been trained against a target of 6 for the year and these have now been assigned to ‘mentees’. The training programme which is an accredited course, concluded in October 2010 and mentees can have up to 12 months of support following on from being matched to a mentor. Positive results have already been achieved through the programme:

- 2 mentors gained independent accommodation

- One mentor who has secured independent accommodation has also been reunited with her children who were previously in care and has been awarded joint custody with her ex-partner as a result of her achievements on the training, on-going abstinence and engagement with services.
- Another mentor is in the process of being given full custody of his 2 sons for the above reasons and his ex-partner has been inspired to fully engage with services based on his achievements and new found commitment and enthusiasm
- Another mentor has secured independent accommodation with his wife and son and whose wife is due to give birth to another child any day. He has also been selected to chair a weekly service user group in West Sussex based on his continued success.
- Other mentors have engaged with volunteering at other agencies

### **Intentions for 2011/12 and 2012/13**

The intention for 2011/12 is to increase this small grant by just over 40% on the 10/11 sum, to enable the service to expand and reach more individuals within the Integrated Support Pathway.

## **5. Recommendations to Fund New Initiative / Service**

### **5.1. *Single Homeless & Rough Sleepers***

This workstream ensures that the Homeless Strategy Partnership in the city is maintained and continues to deliver action plans identified in the Homelessness Strategy. As well as taking a strategic lead in developing partnership work with internal and external agencies such as the Primary Care Trust, Sussex Partnership NHS Trust, Adult Social Care and Children & Families, the work drives the value for money agenda through homelessness services by identifying efficiencies and potential savings through intelligent commissioning. In 2011/12 the focus of the work will be on:

- Procurement and contract monitoring of all internal and external commissioned services relating to the Homelessness Prevention Grant.
- Redevelopment of single homelessness outcomes and actions from the Single Homeless Strategy 2009-14 into the reviewed and refreshed Homelessness Strategy which will be re-launched in 2011.
- Overseeing the delivery of strategic actions in the refreshed Homelessness Strategy through the Homelessness Partnership Working Groups, ensuring timely reporting to the Homelessness & Social Inclusion Steering Group (HSISG) and Lead Commissioner for Housing.

### **5.2. *Prevention of Offender Accommodation Loss (POAL)***

The project was originally funded by the DCLG and Ministry of Justice and is funded to the end of this financial year by the National Offender Management Service (NOMS) as part of the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) service. Through this funding we have provided a 'Link Worker' to support service users in Lewes Prison and ensure they have adequate housing options when they are discharged. The project looks to prevent homelessness where accommodation exists and to 'close down' tenancies in a managed way where this is not possible, finding alternative accommodation for this group; many of

whom may otherwise become street homeless on release which is known to be a factor in people re-offending. The worker assesses the needs of remand and short term offenders; preventing homelessness, reducing rough sleeping and assisting partner agencies to reduce re-offending rates in the City. Our intention is to fully fund this work for the next two years from the Homelessness Prevention Grant as the outcomes and unit costs represent good value for money prevention work and they also reduce the impact significantly on other services in the city through supporting a reduction in re-offending.

### **5.3. DCLG Champions Fund**

Part of the increase in funding through the Homelessness Prevention Grant was an acknowledgment by the DCLG that Brighton & Hove City Council is a leader in the UK in terms of homelessness prevention and delivering a 'Spend to Save' approach to homelessness issues in the city. The work of CRI Rough Sleepers, Street Service & Relocation Team who are commissioned by the local authority to undertake assertive outreach with rough sleepers is regularly highlighted in good practice publications and the development of the Homelessness Strategy Partnership Working Groups, the Integrated Support Pathway and the Housing Options Service are all recognised as good practice. The DCLG are keen for BHCC to share their knowledge and good practice with other local authorities and this fund is intended to support work around this. We will develop an information pack and 'toolkits' to share with other local authorities, attend local homelessness forums in other localities.

### **5.4. 'Stepping In' Incentives Fund**

As part of the Stepping In Service (detailed above on Page 5 under Work & Learning Access) clients must agree to engage fully with the services and be willing to seek and gain employment and to be housed within the private rented sector. In return, they will receive an individualised package of support and a monetary incentive paid in stages. i.e. a "Home Start" Grant when they move into their private rented sector accommodation, and a further "graduation" payment at a 6 month follow-up stage if they have maintained both their employment and their tenancy.

### **5.5. Work & Learning Scheme**

Alongside development of the Stepping In service and 1<sup>st</sup> Base redevelopment as centres for work and learning in the city; a scheme will be supported in the wider community link with the work and learning and social inclusion agenda. The aim will be to ensure all sections of the community have opportunities to develop their potential through learning and to participate fully in the economic and social life that the city has to offer. The scheme will include learning packages and support offered to individuals. It's understood from needs analysis of social exclusion or deprivation areas in the city that some people find it harder to access support services in the city centre because of the added cost of transport and the intention is to fund a service located away from the city centre. The scheme will offer a range of support services including job clubs, IT facilities, networking and peer support as well as opportunities to develop personal skills through volunteering opportunities and courses.



## **5.6. CRI: A10 Rough Sleepers Project**

During 2009/10 and 2010/11 the Council has worked in partnership to deliver a two year project which addresses the needs of vulnerable A10 nationals in the city, who may be rough sleeping and / or homeless. This followed on from a successful bid for Migration Impact Fund monies which was supported by the Local Strategic Partnership. Two workers with eastern European language skills have been employed to engage with the client group and ensure they receive appropriate support and relocation or repatriation where necessary. The project aims to reduce the impact that individuals have on emergency health care and police resources and to reduce anti-social behaviour a street based crime within this client group. The project is integrated with the established CRI Rough Sleepers Team and since commencement has worked with 69 Eastern European service users. Of these, 28 are currently active on the team's caseload. The intention is use grant funds to ensure we can continue to employ at least one specialist worker within CRI and keep funds available for support and relocation. Outcomes will be reviewed in December 2011 with an opportunity to review the budget profile for the next financial year at that point.

## **5.7. Positive Role Model Scheme**

There is a strong correlation between the levels of youth homelessness, NEETs and engagement in/being at risk of anti social behaviour and criminal behaviour within the more deprived areas of the city. Research has identified that there is a lack of positive male role models for young males from socially excluded backgrounds, making this group more likely to be at risk of eviction from the family home.

As part of our preventative work, the role of this workstream is to develop a cohort of positive male role models/mentors to work with and support vulnerable young males at risk of homelessness, social exclusion and/or anti social or criminal behaviour.

The aim is to address behavioural issues that could lead to eviction and impacts negatively on the individual, household and community; improve self confidence and self esteem; and provide access to Education, Employment and Training. The intention is for this project to be tendered out to build capacity in the community and voluntary sector in the city. Key elements of the service will include:

- Recruitment of cohort of positive male role models/mentor and young males to work with
- Training and assessment
- Supervision and Support Planning
- Activities/training/support
- Interventions e.g. counselling
- Outcomes e.g. prevention of homelessness, reduction in ASB; positive behaviour change e.g. anger management, increased participation, improvements in self confidence/self esteem; engagement in EET; volunteering/community engagement
- Impact of interventions through client tracking

