

# Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

## Informing our approach to fairness

<b>Name of proposal</b>	Life Chances: Commissioning for Crisis Response and Homelessness Prevention
<b>Date of original assessment</b>	September 2016
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<b>Review date</b>	January 2017

### Version control

<b>Version</b>	1
<b>Date</b>	4 October 2016
<b>Replaces version</b>	0

This is our assessment of the potential equality and other impacts of this 2017-18 Budget proposal, based on the available evidence. It is a 'living document' and we will review it throughout the consultation period. A formal review will take place on all proposals when consultation closes to consider comments and information from all stakeholders, research or new and emerging policy.

## Section A: Current service

### 1. What does the service do?

Homelessness is used to describe a range of circumstances in which people have no safe and/or secure accommodation. People who find themselves homeless or at risk of homelessness are some of the most marginalised people in our communities, and are often disadvantaged by much more than simply the lack of a roof. For many people, the risk of homelessness relates to financial exclusion, the transition to a reduced welfare state and individual disadvantage, rather than a simple housing shortage.

In 2014, we worked with partners to develop a new commissioning structure for homelessness prevention support based around the following four 'service systems' (referred to as the Crisis Response commissioning programme). Each 'service system' includes a range of practical responses in order to respond flexibly to individuals' needs:

**Support for single homeless people, couples and homeless families including those with multiple needs (such as, but not limited to, those with problematic drug and alcohol use, offending behaviour, mental health problems, learning disabilities, refugees, older homeless people, veterans)**

- [Crisis accommodation and support in the West end of Newcastle](#)
- [Crisis accommodation and support in the East end of Newcastle](#)
- [City wide supported accommodation and resettlement support - provider partnership](#)
- [City wide supported accommodation and resettlement support - provider partnership](#)
- [City wide floating support.](#)

**Support for young people aged 16-24 at risk, including those with chaotic lives, care leavers, teenage parents and young LGBT people**

- [City wide supported accommodation, resettlement support and crisis responses](#)

**Support for people with mental health problems who need housing related support associated with their mental health needs**

- [City wide supported accommodation](#)
- [City wide floating support](#)

**Support for people with complex needs who are multiply excluded**

- [Assertive Outreach support and Housing First accommodation of people who are multiply excluded](#)

The services detailed above are delivered by third party providers. Together, these services provide 727 units of accommodation based support at any one time, floating support for 228 clients at any one time, as well as assertive outreach and Housing First accommodation for up to 120 people per year.

These services deliver over 5,100 hours of front line support per week.

The majority of the services are delivered through partnership arrangements, which comprise a prime contractor with sub-contractor arrangements; only 2 of the services are delivered by a sole provider. In total, 15 organisations provide support (either as a prime or sub-contractor) across the Crisis Response programme.

Access to these services is through [Newcastle Gateway](#), a secure web based system that acts as a single point of access to housing-related support services in Newcastle.

## 2. Who the services are for?

The services are for people who find themselves homeless or who at risk of homelessness.

In 2015-16, a total of **1,467 individuals** were supported by the services delivered as part of the 4 'service systems' outlined above, broken down as follows:

- Support for single homeless people and couples – 1,032 individuals
- Support for young people at risk – 185 individuals
- Support for people with mental health problems 107 individuals
- Support for people who are multiply excluded – 143 individuals

The needs of individuals accessing these services are varied and complex. The table below shows, by 'service system', the prevalence of needs across key categories for individuals accessing services in Newcastle in 2015-16.

Service System	Mental Health	Drugs	Alcohol	Offending
Single homeless and couples	67%	48%	37%	60%
Young People	49%	43%	20%	56%
Mental Health	98%	23%	18%	26%
Multiple Exclusion	71%	75%	47%	77%

In 2015-16:

- There were 1,217 new admissions recorded for crisis and supported accommodation noted above and a further 104 admissions into the floating support services. The primary reason for admission into supported housing was relationship breakdown; the second highest recorded reason was a move from another hostel or other supported housing scheme.
- 302 individuals were found to be sleeping rough – with an average of 6 people sleeping rough on a given night.

See here <https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/housing/housing-advice-and-homelessness/information-for-professionals/active-inclusion-forum> for our quarterly briefings which provide more information on homelessness trends in Newcastle.

## 3. Do you have any statutory requirements?

The housing function in our Active Inclusion Service provides the statutory homelessness services which meet our specific statutory duties under Part VII of the Housing Act 1996 and the Homelessness Act 2002. The Active Inclusion Service also responds to our statutory powers under the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 and the Protection from Eviction Act 1977. These duties include meeting the statutory requirements to provide housing advice, an emergency out of hours service, assessments of need and emergency accommodation.

The Active Inclusion Service also leads partners in the delivery of the statutory [Homelessness Strategy](#). The Homelessness Act 2002 created a statutory duty for local authorities to develop a strategy for:

- Preventing homelessness in their district;
- Ensuring that sufficient accommodation is and will be available for people in their district who are or may become homeless;
- Securing the satisfactory provision of support for people in their district who:
  - Are or may become homeless; or
  - Have been homeless and need support to prevent them becoming homeless again.

The accommodation and support services delivered by third party providers as part of our Crisis Response commissioning programme play a vital role in helping us to deliver our [Homelessness Strategy](#) and meet our statutory duties.

The Supreme Court in Hotak (Appellant) v London Borough of Southwark (2015) clarified that councils have a wider duty to accommodate single people than was previously understood to be the case, based on R v Camden London Borough Council, Ex p Pereira (1998).

There is a likelihood that the statutory homelessness duties will be extended in England to follow the Housing Act 2014 (Wales) which extends the requirements to provide accommodation and support.

The Homelessness Reduction Bill 2016/17 is a Bill to amend the Housing Act 1996 to make provision about measures for reducing homelessness, and will mean that we will have a duty to provide accommodation to all single people who are homeless. The Bill – a Private Member’s Bill - was presented to Parliament on Wednesday 29 June 2016. This is known as the first reading and there was no debate on the Bill at this stage. The Bill is expected to have its second reading debate on Friday 28 October 2016.

#### 4. How much do you spend on this service?

Gross expenditure	Gross income	Net budget	Capital projects
£4,233,680	£339,000	£3,894,680	0

#### 5. What workforce delivers this service?

Posts	FTEs	Comments
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Services are delivered by Third Party providers, and further work will be undertaken with these providers during the consultation period to understand the impact of these reductions.

### Section B: Change proposal

#### 1. What is the proposal to change the service?

This proposal will be delivered in two phases:

##### **A: Reducing spend on Crisis Response services to save £1.015m in 2017/18**

We will work with existing providers to achieve savings of £1.015m in 2017/18 on existing contract spend. To mitigate against the adverse impact of these savings, we will seek to extend further our approach to preventing homelessness and to reducing crisis presentations to a minimum. We will

work with providers and partners to manage this significant transition as a staged approach that further develops our culture that prevention and stability is wherever possible the norm and crisis the exception in Newcastle.

We will work collaboratively with current providers to negotiate reductions to the current contract values and work together to collectively agree how the reduced resources should be targeted to prevent homelessness, reduce crisis and support the most vulnerable.

We will work with existing providers to develop and implement the savings, in consideration of a joint understanding of:

- the impact on frontline support for service users – including both service capacity (number of units/clients supported) and level/intensity of intervention
- organisational and staffing impacts
- provider modelling regarding rent subsidy
- potential impact on buildings and assets

The proposal will result in less capacity in specialist homelessness service provision. We will continue to build on and strengthen our Active Inclusion Newcastle partnership approach to improve the coordination and consistency of information, advice and support to facilitate more partners to tackle financial exclusion and homelessness and to innovate, reduce duplication, increase prevention and provide more effective responses for vulnerable people. The following information shows the support provided in 2015-16 for professionals and volunteers who are not specialists in financial inclusion and homelessness prevention, which seeks to build a culture of homelessness prevention and maximise the role of non-specialist homelessness providers to mitigate against the adverse effect of cuts:

- **Communications and information** – 2,864 people receive our information updates
- **Website** – 34,148 visitors to [welfare rights](#), [debt](#) and [homelessness](#) information from October 2015 to March 2016
- **Trigger point conversations** – [information](#) to support councillors, professionals and volunteers to talk to residents about money, housing and employment issues
- **Financial Inclusion Triage** – structured workforce development to support staff to talk to residents about digital, financial, employment and housing issues
- **Spectrum of advice** – 959 professionals and volunteers participated in training
- **Welfare rights and debt consultancy advice** – for 472 professionals and volunteers
- **Partnerships and governance** – 94 different services and organisations participated in our Financial Inclusion Group and Homelessness Prevention Forum
- **Quarterly forums and published reviews** – led by the our Portfolio Holders to create consensus about the impact of the cuts and the effectiveness of our responses for [homelessness prevention](#) and [financial inclusion](#)

**We will build on the current Active Inclusion Newcastle current offer** by moving from coordination to integration, which will include specifically:

- A continued focus on prevention and early intervention – improving the coordination and consistency of information, advice and support; developing tools, approaches, training and skills which prevent homelessness; coordinating communication campaigns
- Supporting all agencies to adapt their care and support plans to include an assessment of the risks of sustaining independence and to plan and develop the actions needed to overcome these risks – making homelessness everyone's business
- Working with public services to flag at-risk individuals of homelessness – developing homelessness prevention plans

- Establishing a new Inclusion Commissioning Board – strengthening the joint accountability of all statutory partners for ensuring that homelessness is prevented wherever possible
- Developing a framework for a ‘team around the individual’ to provide clear and robust multi agency working arrangements clearly formed around individual needs
- Smarter use of data to identify individuals at risk, enabling early intervention
- Developing trauma informed approaches and psychologically informed environments for responding to those when crisis does occur
- Encouraging and supporting practices and procedures that promote sustainable ways of life – developing sector specific accreditation

#### Other challenges and risks

- Services are now operating in the context of a seismically changed welfare state – **we have to adapt all city interventions to contribute to preventing avoidable crisis**
- Impacts of welfare reform – residents facing challenges related to moving from welfare dependency to sustainable employment – **this means £139m per year less in the pockets of over 36,000 city residents by 2021**
- Changes to Local Housing Allowance rent subsidy

### **B: Recommissioning our Crisis Response services for 2018/19**

From April 2018, we plan to move to a redesigned system that provides a differentiated response based on needs. We will do this across two main projects:

- Life Chances – School Years and Transition to Adulthood: We will focus on providing earlier targeted support to young people across education, employment and training, housing and wider support. Our ambition here is to support more of the city’s vulnerable young people to move successfully and sustainably in to adulthood; reducing demand for crisis services in the future.
- Life Chances – Excluded Adults: We will adopt a new approach which seeks to better recognise and provide differentiated responses to individuals, based on their need. This will include opportunities to:
  - provide therapeutic and psychologically informed interventions to reduce crisis
  - develop new multi – agency responses for people with high risk and complex needs with additional risk factors
  - review Housing First in Newcastle
  - move from a crisis model to a prevention model
  - reshape accommodation and support to promote sustainable independence
  - build on our citywide evidence base to facilitate sustainable independence and reduce crisis

When seen together these projects are at the heart of moving towards earlier intervention, improving outcomes and sustainably reducing cost. We recognise that to make transformational change for these groups requires a collaborative citywide response; we will work with partners to further align services. Where appropriate we will also pursue additional funding to do more targeted work with vulnerable children, young people and adults.

## **2. What evidence has informed this proposal?**

<b>Information source</b>	<b>What has this told you?</b>
Newcastle Homelessness Strategy 2014-2019	We review our Homelessness Strategy with partners in the city through our quarterly

<p><a href="https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/sites/default/files/wwwfileroot/communities-and-neighbourhoods/newcastle_homelessness_strategy_2014_-_executive_summary_2.pdf">https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/sites/default/files/wwwfileroot/communities-and-neighbourhoods/newcastle_homelessness_strategy_2014 - executive summary 2.pdf</a></p> <p>and Homelessness Quarterly Reviews</p> <p><a href="http://www.newcastle.gov.uk/housing/housing-advice-and-homelessness/information-for-professionals/active-inclusion-forum">http://www.newcastle.gov.uk/housing/housing-advice-and-homelessness/information-for-professionals/active-inclusion-forum</a></p>	<p>Homelessness Prevention Forum and our published reviews. This helps us to create consensus about causes of homelessness and the effectiveness of our responses to prevent and respond to crises.</p>
<p>Housing Benefit: Written Statement – HCWS154, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, 15 September 2016</p> <p><a href="http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2016-09-15/HCWS154">http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2016-09-15/HCWS154</a></p>	<p>The Secretary of State for Work and Pensions made an announcement about supported accommodation on 15 September 2016. It says that they will be “deferring the application of this policy for supported accommodation until 2019-20. At this point (they) will bring in a new funding model which will ensure that the sector continues to be funded at current levels, taking into account the effect of Government policy on social sector rents, taking into account the effect of Government policy on social sector rents, taking into account the effect of Government policy on social sector rents”. The statement goes on to say “In England, we will devolve funding to local authorities to provide additional ‘top up’ funding to providers where necessary, reflecting the higher average costs of offering supported accommodation, compared to general needs. This will give local authorities an enhanced role in commissioning supported housing in their area. This will also allow local authorities to ensure a more coherent approach to commissioning for needs across housing, health and social care, using local knowledge to drive transparency, quality and value for money from providers in their area.</p> <p>Different types of supported housing provision and services are commissioned by different bodies locally, such as Clinical Commissioning Groups. It will be important to ensure that these bodies can access funding to deliver their commissioning objectives. We will work with relevant agencies and Departments across Government to design this fund to make sure that we maximise the opportunities for local agencies to collaborate.”</p>

<p>DCLG Homelessness Select Committee 2016</p> <p><a href="https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/communities-and-local-government-committee/news-parliament-2015/homelessness-report-published-16-17/">https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/communities-and-local-government-committee/news-parliament-2015/homelessness-report-published-16-17/</a></p> <p>DCLG Homelessness Reduction Bill 2016 examination</p> <p><a href="https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/communities-and-local-government-committee/news-parliament-2015/homelessness-reduction-bill-evidence-16-17/">https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/communities-and-local-government-committee/news-parliament-2015/homelessness-reduction-bill-evidence-16-17/</a></p>	<p>We have taken account of the Government's consideration of their proposal to change the homelessness legislation.</p>
<p>The Homelessness Monitor England 2016 (Crisis, January 2016)</p> <p><a href="http://www.crisis.org.uk/data/files/publications/Homelessness_Monitor_England_2016_ExecSummary_v1.pdf">http://www.crisis.org.uk/data/files/publications/Homelessness_Monitor_England_2016_ExecSummary_v1.pdf</a></p>	<p>The homelessness monitor series is a longitudinal study providing an independent analysis of the homelessness impacts of recent economic and policy developments in England and elsewhere in the UK. This fifth annual report updates on how homelessness stands in England in 2016, or as close to 2016 as data availability allows.</p>
<p>Young and Homeless 2015 (Homeless Link 2015)</p> <p><a href="http://www.homeless.org.uk/sites/default/files/site-attachments/201512%20-%20Young%20and%20Homeless%20-%20Full%20Report.pdf">http://www.homeless.org.uk/sites/default/files/site-attachments/201512%20-%20Young%20and%20Homeless%20-%20Full%20Report.pdf</a></p>	<p>Fifth annual report exploring the reasons young people become homeless, the support available to them, and areas that need to be improved</p>
<p>Support for single homeless people in England: Annual Review 2015 (Homeless Link 2015)</p> <p><a href="http://www.homeless.org.uk/sites/default/files/site-attachments/Full%20report%20-%20Single%20homelessness%20support%20in%20England%202015.pdf">http://www.homeless.org.uk/sites/default/files/site-attachments/Full%20report%20-%20Single%20homelessness%20support%20in%20England%202015.pdf</a></p>	<p>This report provides analysis of support available for single people in the homelessness sector. It is the eighth consecutive year the research has been conducted and it examines support services available to single people experiencing homelessness, funding for these services, their capacity, and changes to the provision of this support. The research is intended for use by service providers, local authorities, commissioners and policy makers to understand where services fit into the national picture, and provide key evidence on the characteristics of people who become homeless and their support needs.</p>
<p>New insights in to improving outcomes for at risk youth – the Newcastle Experience</p>	<p>This report and the underpinning analysis provides us with an unprecedented level of detail to the drivers, journeys and longer term</p>

[http://www.socialfinance.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Insights\\_1\\_Newcastle\\_corrected\\_4.pdf](http://www.socialfinance.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Insights_1_Newcastle_corrected_4.pdf)

outcomes associated with children and young people in the city.

It identifies a number of different 'at risk' groups that we now know (and can evidence) are at greatest risk of a range of poorer longer term outcomes in early adulthood – including homelessness.

**3. How much will you spend on this service?**

	<b>Gross expenditure</b>	<b>Gross income</b>	<b>Net budget</b>	<b>Capital projects</b>
<b>Year 2017/18</b>	£3,218,680	£339,000 Public Health	£2,879,680	£0

**4. What will the net savings be of this proposal?**

	<b>Gross Saving</b>	<b>Implementation Cost</b>	<b>Net Saving</b>
<b>Year 2017/18</b>	£1,015,000	£0	£1,015,000

**5. What impact will this have on the workforce?**

	<b>No. FTEs</b>	<b>% workforce</b>
<b>Year 2017/18</b>	Services are delivered by Third Party providers, and further work with these providers will be undertaken during the consultation period to understand the impact of these reductions.	

6. Who have you engaged with about this proposal?			
Date	Who	No. of people	Main issues raised
Consultation to date:			
6 September 2016	Current Providers	5 prime contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to the nature of the contracting arrangements, the prime contractors asked for the opportunity to further consult with their sub-contracted partners before considering how to respond to the 24% saving.</li> <li>• Some prime contractors were of the view that some sub-contractors will be more agile than others in responding to the saving.</li> <li>• Some concerns were raised regarding potential future cuts in this area.</li> <li>• The prime contractors recognised the need to move towards a more needs led approach to commissioning crisis intervention services, noting that more service users are presenting with more chaotic and complex needs than in previous years, particularly an increasing number of those with mental health problems.</li> <li>• The prime contractors agreed that 2017-18 should lay the foundations for a transition to the new service model in 2018 and beyond.</li> </ul>
7 September 2016	Newcastle Homelessness Prevention Forum	35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposal was positively received by those at the Forum amongst an acceptance from most in attendance of the need for a cut in the budget. It was seen as encouraging that new / negotiated contract aims would not just be seen from a purely housing perspective, but came with the caveat that people would like to see investment from other parts of the sector for example criminal justice, health, etc.</li> <li>• The idea of earlier intervention and 'wrap around' support to provide a more holistic service was widely welcomed, and prevention at an earlier stage seen as vital. There were questions as to whether there was scope to have services that were delivered differently depending on low level / high level needs of clients and to be more specific about that threshold.</li> <li>• There were obvious concerns that that changes could result in less bed spaces, with this taken in conjunction with potential changes to rents in the</li> </ul>

			supported housing, the ability for the sector to cope was a concern with a couple of contributors feeling that any cuts should be applied proportionally based on need and with more funding for those most complex. There was an acknowledgement that evidence would be needed to substantiate this.
12,13,14 September 2016	Current Providers	5 prime contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current providers presented potential areas they intend to explore to achieve savings.</li> </ul>
Future consultation still to take place:			
October 2016 – December 2016	Current Providers	15 contractors (prime and sub- contractors)	Future consultation
October 2016 – December 2016	NCSV / On the Hoof (monthly publication)	TBC	Future consultation
October 2016 – December 2016	Active Inclusion Unit Weekly Briefing	Circa 2,000	Future consultation
October 2016 – December 2016	User Carer Forum	TBC	Future consultation
14 October 2016	Adult Treatment Group	TBC	Future consultation
November 2016	Advice Compact	TBC	Future consultation
7 December 2016	Newcastle Homelessness Prevention Forum	TBC	Future consultation

<b>7. What are the potential impacts of the proposal?</b>				
<b>Staff / service users</b>	<b>Specific group / subject</b>	<b>Impact</b> (actual / potential disadvantage, beneficial outcome or none)	<b>Detail of impact</b>	<b>How will you address or mitigate disadvantage?</b>
<b>People with protected characteristics</b>				
Service users	Younger people and / or older people (age)	Potential disadvantage	<p>The proposal includes a reduction in resources for commissioned services to prevent homelessness – this includes specific homelessness support for young people at risk aged 16 to 24 years old (including those with chaotic lives, young people who are leaving the care system, teenage parents and young LGBT people). This could lead to younger people (aged 16 to 24 years old) being disadvantaged as there may be less capacity to provide this support and a limited range of options to signpost people to if this proposal is implemented, due to the level of savings.</p> <p>There is a relatively low number of older people experiencing homelessness. This is partly due to the lower</p>	<p>We will mitigate this by supporting younger and older people at risk of becoming homeless by providing them with advice and assistance, accommodating those who are in priority need, and helping those who aren't in priority need to secure accommodation and other support services, working in partnership with the relevant agencies.</p> <p>Through our work on 'Life Chances – School Years and Transition to Adulthood', we will focus on providing earlier targeted support to young people across education, employment and training, housing and wider support. Our ambition here is to support more of the city's vulnerable young people to move successfully and sustainably in to adulthood; reducing demand for crisis services in the future.</p>

			life expectancy of homeless people.	
Service users	Disabled people	Potential disadvantage	<p>The proposal includes a reduction in resources for commissioned services to prevent homelessness – this includes specific homelessness support for people with mental health problems who need housing related support associated with their mental health needs. This could lead to people with mental health problems being disadvantaged as there may be less capacity to provide this support and a limited range of options to signpost people to if this proposal is implemented, due to the level of savings.</p>	<p>We will mitigate this by supporting people with mental health problems who need housing related support associated with their mental health needs and are at risk of becoming homeless by providing them with advice and assistance, accommodating those who are in priority need, helping those who aren't in priority need to secure accommodation and other support services, and working in partnership with mental health services.</p> <p>Our 'Life Chances – Excluded Adults' project is to develop new multi-agency responses for people with multiplicity of need, including mental health problems. In adopting a new needs based lens to our commissioning approaches, we will seek to deliver interventions which can provide therapeutic and psychologically informed interventions to reduce crisis.</p>

Service users	Carers	None	There is no evidence to suggest the proposal will have a disproportionately negative impact on people because they are a carer.	Not applicable
Service users	People who are married or in civil partnerships	None	There is no evidence to suggest the proposal will have a disproportionately negative impact on people because of their marital or civil partnership status.	Not applicable
Service users	Sex or gender (including transgender, pregnancy and maternity)	None	There is no evidence to suggest the proposal will have a disproportionately negative impact on people because of their sex or gender.	Not applicable
Service users	People's sexual orientation	Potential disadvantage	The proposal includes a reduction in resources for commissioned services to prevent homelessness. This could lead to LGBT people being disadvantaged as there is a provider delivering services to young people aged 16-24 years old in the LGBT community that is within the scope of this proposal.	We will mitigate this by supporting young LGBT people who are at risk of becoming homeless by providing them with advice and assistance, accommodating those who are in priority need, and helping those who aren't in priority need to secure accommodation and other support services.
Service users	People of different races	Potential disadvantage	The proposal includes a reduction in resources for commissioned services to prevent homelessness. This	We will mitigate this by supporting refugees who are at risk of becoming homeless by providing them with advice and

			could lead to refugees being disadvantaged as there are providers delivering services to the refugee community within the scope of this proposal.	assistance, accommodating those who are in priority need, and helping those who aren't in priority need to secure accommodation and other support services.
Service users	People who have different religions or beliefs	None	There is no evidence to suggest the proposal will have a disproportionately negative impact on people because of their religion or belief.	Not applicable
<b>People vulnerable to socio-economic disadvantage</b>				
Service users	People living in deprived areas	Potential disadvantage	The proposal includes a reduction in the resources available for commissioned services to prevent homelessness. People living in deprived areas suffer disproportionate disadvantage and, therefore, suffer proportionately more from the risk of homelessness because they are more likely to be in, or near, financial crisis. This is partly because these areas have higher levels of benefit claimants who are affected by the Government's welfare reforms, as shown by the following data at 31 August 2016:	We will mitigate this by supporting people living in deprived areas who are at risk of becoming homeless by providing them with advice and assistance, accommodating those who are in priority need, and helping those who aren't in priority need to secure accommodation and other support services.  We also use our data on the households who are adversely affected by the Government's welfare reforms to target proactive support, e.g. welfare rights, debt, budgeting, housing and employment advice to support those households who are affected by the current benefit

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10.5% of the city's residents affected by the <a href="#">"bedroom tax"</a> lived in the Walker ward (464), 8.8% lived in Byker (387) and 8.5% lived in Elswick (375)</li> <li>- 28% of the total number of households in the city affected by the <a href="#">benefit cap</a> (71) lived in the Byker and Walker wards</li> </ul>	cap and will be affected by the lower benefit cap. This includes carrying out targeted work for a geographical area if it is disproportionately affected by these changes, e.g. as has been done with pilots on the "bedroom tax" and on Discretionary Housing Payments in the Walker ward.
Service users	People in low paid employment or in households with low incomes	Potential disadvantage	The proposal includes a reduction in resources for commissioned services to prevent homelessness. This could lead to people in low paid employment or in households with low incomes being disadvantaged due to the fact that they are already at risk of homelessness due to the current economic climate.	<p>We will address this by supporting people who are in low paid employment or in households with low incomes who are at risk of becoming homeless by providing them with advice and assistance, accommodating those who are in priority need, and helping those who aren't in priority need to secure accommodation and other support services.</p> <p>In addition, the Newcastle Employment Support Compact has developed a Newcastle Employment Support Protocol which focuses on Newcastle residents who are at risk of destitution and homelessness due to their employment status or low income. The protocol</p>

				<p>supports services to act proactively to identify and then target support for residents in this situation as they are less likely to be close to securing higher paid employment. It aims to achieve the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support vulnerable residents affected by the welfare reforms to avoid homelessness and destitution by improving the allocation of employment support and the coordination of support with benefit, housing, budgeting and debt advice services</li> <li>• To better identify and understand the individual, systemic and structural challenges residents face and develop joint responses to support them to overcome these barriers</li> <li>• To facilitate opportunities for partners to work together to improve and innovate to overcome these barriers</li> </ul>
Service users	People facing barriers to gaining employment, such as low levels of educational attainment	Potential disadvantage	The proposal includes a reduction in resources for commissioned services to prevent homelessness. This could lead to people facing barriers to gaining employment	We will mitigate this by supporting people who are facing barriers to gaining employment and are at risk of becoming homeless by providing them with advice and assistance,

			<p>being disadvantaged due to the change in the emphasis of the role of the welfare state from meeting basic needs to reducing welfare dependency, stemming from the Government's policy direction that employment is the route out of poverty.</p>	<p>accommodating those who are in priority need, and helping those who aren't in priority need to secure accommodation and other support services.</p> <p>In addition, the Newcastle Employment Support Compact has developed a Newcastle Employment Support Protocol which focuses on Newcastle residents who are at risk of destitution and homelessness due to their employment status or low income. The protocol supports services to act proactively to identify and then target support for residents in this situation as they are less likely to be close to securing employment. It aims to achieve the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support vulnerable residents affected by the welfare reforms to avoid homelessness and destitution by improving the allocation of employment support and the coordination of support with benefit, housing, budgeting and debt advice services</li> <li>• To better identify and understand the individual,</li> </ul>
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				<p>systemic and structural challenges residents face and develop joint responses to support them to overcome these barriers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To facilitate opportunities for partners to work together to improve and innovate to overcome these barriers</li> </ul>
Service users	Looked after children	Potential disadvantage	<p>There is a strong correlation between future homelessness and poor transitions from care. As this proposal includes a reduction in resources that will be available for commissioned services to prevent homelessness – including support for young people at risk aged 16 to 24 years old – this could lead to care leavers being disadvantaged.</p>	<p>We will mitigate this by supporting looked after children and care leavers at risk of becoming homeless by providing them with advice and assistance, accommodating those who are in priority need, and helping those who aren't in priority need to secure accommodation and other support services.</p> <p>Our work on 'Life Chances – School Years and Transition to Adulthood', will have a specific focus on improving longer term outcomes for children and young people previously known to children's social care and additionally those that exhibit challenging behaviour. These cohorts were identified following <a href="#">ground breaking analysis</a> in to the drivers of NEET and other longer term poorer outcomes. We</p>

				<p>understand that amongst these groups the impact of family dysfunction (and how the young person responds to it) is fundamental. Our Life Chances – School Years and Transition to Adult’ work will seek to make support available to these at risk groups which are age and need appropriate and which focus on making a successful to adulthood.</p>
<p>Service users</p>	<p>People facing multiple deprivation, through a combination of factors such as poor health or poor housing / homelessness</p>	<p>Potential disadvantage</p>	<p>The proposal includes a reduction in resources for commissioned services to prevent homelessness – this includes specific homelessness support for people with complex needs who are multiply excluded. This could lead to people facing multiple deprivation being disadvantaged as there may be less capacity to provide this support and a limited range of options to signpost people to if this proposal is implemented, due to the level of savings.</p>	<p>We will mitigate this by supporting people facing multiple deprivation who are at risk of becoming homeless by providing them with advice and assistance, accommodating those who are in priority need, and helping those who aren’t in priority need to secure accommodation and other support services.</p> <p>Part of our Life Chances – Excluded Adults project is to develop new multi-agency responses for people with high risk and complex needs with additional risk factors, part of which will be to work with those people who sleep rough.</p>

<b>Businesses</b>				
Service users	Businesses providing current or future jobs in the city	Potential disadvantage	<p>Our contracts for commissioned services are delivered by third party providers and the proposal may result in staff reductions within these organisations.</p> <p>Reducing the funding to these services by the proposed £1.015 million (24%) will have a negative impact on the viability of some of the partnerships in the scope of the proposal. Implementing the savings will ultimately result in the loss of bed spaces and support, the closure of services and, consequently, job losses.</p>	There is mitigation available due to the level of savings proposed. We will continue to work with our voluntary and community sector partners to understand the impact of this proposal on their funding model and to attract external funding where possible.
<b>Geography</b>				
Service users	Area, wards, neighbourhoods	Potential disadvantage	<p>The proposal includes a reduction in the resources available for commissioned services to prevent homelessness. People living in more deprived wards are more at risk of homelessness because they are more likely to be in, or near, financial crisis. This is partly because these areas have higher levels of benefit claimants who are</p>	<p>We will mitigate this by supporting people living in all areas of the city who are at risk of becoming homeless by providing them with advice and assistance, accommodating those who are in priority need, and helping those who aren't in priority need to secure accommodation and other support services.</p>

			<p>affected by the Government's welfare reforms, as shown by the following data at 31 August 2016:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10.5% of the city's residents affected by the <a href="#">"bedroom tax"</a> lived in the Walker ward (464), 8.8% lived in Byker (387) and 8.5% lived in Elswick (375)</li> <li>- 28% of the total number of households in the city affected by the <a href="#">benefit cap</a> (71) lived in the Byker and Walker wards</li> </ul>	<p>We also use our data on the households who are adversely affected by the Government's welfare reforms to target proactive support, e.g. welfare rights, debt, budgeting, housing and employment advice to support those households who are affected by the current benefit cap and will be affected by the lower benefit cap. This includes carrying out targeted work for a geographical area if it is disproportionately affected by these changes, e.g. as has been done with pilots on the "bedroom tax" and on Discretionary Housing Payments in the Walker ward.</p>
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**Community cohesion**

Service users	Community cohesion	Potential disadvantage	<p>The proposal could bring householders and homeless people into greater contact with each other because it creates a risk of increased homelessness (because of the proposed reduced capacity in commissioned services which provide bed spaces in the city). This could cause conflict and tension between these groups.</p>	<p>We will mitigate this by supporting people at risk of becoming homeless by providing them with advice and assistance, accommodating those who are in priority need, and helping those who aren't in priority need to secure accommodation and other support services.</p> <p>We will also plan how we communicate the outcome of</p>
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				these proposals to the wider community to support an understanding of the issues faced by vulnerable people and the concerns of residents in the wider community.
<b>Community safety</b>				
Service users	Community safety	Potential disadvantage	<p>This proposal could affect actual levels of crime and anti-social behaviour, as well as the fear of crime, the perception of crime and community confidence in the city.</p> <p>Some of the local rough sleeping population experience prolonged periods on the streets interspersed with short stays in emergency accommodation, prison or hospital. There is a high rate of evictions and abandonments from supported accommodation for this group, often for violence. Finding these individuals accommodation and support services can be problematic due to the perception of risk and their previous behaviour. These individuals have some contact with drug and alcohol services, notably prescribing</p>	Part of our Life Chances – Excluded Adults project is to develop new multi-agency responses for people with high risk and complex needs with additional risk factors, part of which will be to work with those people who sleep rough.

			and harm reduction services. However, the most chronically excluded rough sleepers continue to use drugs and alcohol in a harmful and hazardous way. Most of these individuals also have involvement with the criminal justice system. In 2015-16 two of the top four reasons for rough sleeping in Newcastle were abandonment or eviction from supported accommodation and release from custody / hospital.	
<b>Environment</b>				
Environment		None	There is no evidence to suggest the proposal will have a disproportionately negative impact on the environment.	Not applicable