

OFFICIAL



Glasgow City Council Annual Assurance Statement

Glasgow City Council welcomes the opportunity to report to the Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR) on compliance with the Regulatory Framework, which requires Local Authorities and registered social landlords (RSLs) to submit an Annual Assurance Statement.

As previously reported Glasgow City Council faces particular challenges in relation to the provision of settled and temporary accommodation. Since our last assurance statement for 2019/20 the Council has continued to make good progress in addressing the challenges faced in relation to the provision of homelessness services. During 2021/22 we have continued to meet demand for emergency accommodation, consistently discharging our duty in relation Section 29 of the Housing (Scotland) Act at the point of need. However, on one occasion the Council has not been able to fulfil our statutory duty in relation to the provision of emergency accommodation at the point of initial presentation. However, accommodation was secured the following morning. For the period 1st April to the 27th October 2021 6917 offers of temporary accommodation have been made and there were 1 instance where accommodation was not offered at the point of initial presentation. This is 0.014% of all offers made over this period.

The Council also made good progress in relation to our target to increase the number of settled lets secured from the City's housing associations for homeless households. The support from the City's Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) has led to a settled let out turn figure for 2020/21 of 3288. This total represents an increase of 876 lets on the previous full year total of 2412. The Assistant Chief Officer Public Protection & Complex Needs and Head of Housing & Regeneration wrote to all RSLs operating within the City requesting an allocations target of 60% of their lets to homeless households for 2021/22. The service continues to work with partners to secure lets for homeless households.

The increase in letting activity has allowed the Council to reduce its overall level of bed and breakfast use whilst continuing to meet our duties in relation to the provision of emergency accommodation.

On the 1st of October 2021 the Unsuitable Accommodation Order was extended to preclude the use of bed and breakfast type accommodation to all households beyond seven days. The Council faces particular challenges in complying with the order. An implementation plan has been developed setting the actions that the Council will take to reduce its reliance on bed and breakfast type accommodation and routinely comply with the order over time.

We continue to work with the SHR implementing our improvement plan following the review of Homelessness Services published in November 2020. We are making good progress in taking forward the actions set out within the improvement plan. The HSCP continues to invest significant new resources in order to transform how we deliver services to people affected by homelessness and to reduce the length of time people stay within temporary accommodation.

We are developing a Temporary Accommodation Strategy that will set out how we will meet the needs of homeless households as we meet our objectives set out within our Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan. Our RRTP will be revised early in 2022 to reflect the progress and challenges faced by the HSCP in relation to the Public Health Emergency.

On an ongoing basis, the Integrated Joint Board and Council Committee consider the performance of the Homelessness Service to ensure appropriate oversight and routine governance.

OFFICIAL