

Contents

Introduction	2
Commissioning Activities / Service Developments 2019/20	5
Learning Disability Services	5
Mental Health Services	5
Gypsy and Traveller Services (Pilot Study)	6
Domestic Abuse Services	6
Support for Male Victims of Domestic Violence	7
Substance Misuse Services	7
Mental Health Dual Diagnosis Support	8
Private Rented Sector Enforcement Officer	8
Needs Analysis	9
Supporting People Outcomes	10.
Outcomes Analysis January – June 2019	11
Homeless Status at Start and End of Support	12
Consultation Evidence	16
Service User Engagement	16
Joint West Glamorgan Mental Health Engagement Exercise	18
Gypsy Traveller Engagement Event	20
Planned Service Developments/Commissioning Priorities 20-21	21
Spend Plan (2020/21)	21
Integrated Impact Assessment	21
Further Information	22

Contact

This Local Commissioning Plan is available for download on Neath Port Talbot Council's website www.npt.gov.uk

If you require a hard copy or need this information in larger print or in an alternative format (including in the Welsh Language), please contact the Supporting People Team on **01639 763159** or email supportingpeople@npt.gov.uk

Introduction

This document should be read in conjunction with the 3-year Supporting People Local Commissioning Plan (2017/20) and the Annual updates of 2018 and 2019.

Programme Changes – Housing Support Grant (HSG)

Changes to the Supporting People Programme came into effect as at 1st April 2019 following a Welsh Government Funding Flexibilities Pathfinder Project, where a Ministerial decision was made to form two grants from the Early Intervention, Prevention and Support Grant work, separating the housing-related grants from non-housing elements for all Local Authorities.

The two established grants were:

1. **Children and Communities Grant (CCG)** which encompasses Flying Start, Families First, the Legacy Fund, Promoting Positive Engagement for Young People, St David's Day Fund, Communities for Work Plus, and Childcare and Play; and
2. **Housing Support Grant (HSG)** which encompasses Supporting People, Homelessness Prevention and Rent Smart Wales Enforcement.

Welsh Government have set clear expectations that both the CCG and HSG should work in a seamless fashion, providing integrated services where appropriate.

The Housing Support Grant is an early intervention grant programme to support activity which focuses on homelessness prevention - preventing people from becoming homeless, stabilise their housing situation, or help potentially homeless people to find and keep accommodation.

It supports vulnerable people to address the sometimes multiple problems they face, such as debt, employment, tenancy management, substance misuse, mental health issues, violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence.

Support is person centred, aimed at supporting people to secure and maintain sustainable housing, helping to improve their health and well-being and/or helping them progress into, or nearer to, a job or training opportunities.

The Housing Support Grant has a clear and shared Vision, is underpinned by strong values and its strategic objectives include how it works with and complements other Welsh Government Programmes.

Housing is a key priority area in the Welsh Government's *Prosperity for All* National Strategy, which sets out the vision that:

“We want everyone to live in a home that meets their needs and supports a healthy, successful and prosperous life”.

The Housing Support Grant supports the aim of working together to prevent homelessness and where it cannot be prevented, ensuring it is rare, brief and un-repeated. To do this, there is a need to tackle the root cause of homelessness and work to enable people to stay in their own homes longer. Therefore, the Housing Support Grant seeks to secure:

“A Wales where nobody is homeless and everyone has a safe home where they can flourish and live a fulfilled, active and independent life”.

The Programme continues to be influenced by a number of key national legislative drivers for change, including:

- Housing (Wales) Act 2014
- Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014
- Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
- Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015
- Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016
- Supporting People Programme Practice Guidance 2018

As well as a number of local strategies, including:

- Shaping NPT – Neath Port Talbot Council’s Corporate Plan 2018-22
- Neath Port Talbot Council’s Homelessness Strategy 2018-22

Local vs National Programme

In 2018/19,

- A total of 3,341 periods of Housing Related Support were provided to 2,714 individuals in Neath Port Talbot (387 more than the previous year).
- Floating support was provided to 2,834 individuals, with 1,963 starting support and 1,646 ending support in the same year.
- Fixed support was provided to 507 individuals, with 201 starting support and 198 ending support.

Welsh Government figures have indicated that more than 57,000 people each year are supported through the Supporting People Programme to live as independently as they can and aims to prevent problems by providing help as early as possible.

These include older people, vulnerable young people, care leavers, families fleeing domestic abuse, people with mental health problems, people with learning disabilities, people with substance misuse problems and more.

The Supporting People Programme funds Housing-Related Support Services that include homelessness hostels, domestic abuse refuges, supported accommodation projects and floating support to people in their own homes.

Over three quarters of a million lives have been transformed through the Supporting People Programme in Wales since 2003.

Welsh Government have invested over £124.4m in the Programme annually, and for 2018/19 Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council has had the responsibility of administering a Programme Grant worth around £4.7m. This means that Neath Port Talbot has just under a 4% share of the total Supporting People Programme Budget across Wales.

- **We received £4.7m of Supporting People Programme Grant (SPPG) from Welsh Government in 2018/19, representing 3.7% of national funding**
- **We used the grant to fund 17 organisations to deliver 23 housing related support services**
- **These 23 services provided support to 2,714 vulnerable adults during the year, an increase of 14% on the previous year**

The Programme has provided 57,643 Contracted Units of Support across the 22 Local Authorities (All-Wales), of which Neath Port Talbot provides 1,048* of those Contract Support Units – which equates to approximately 2% of the total number of Support Units in Wales.

**2018/19 contracted units*

Commissioning Activities / Service Developments 2019/20

The following summarises the commissioning activity during 2019/20, with some of this work continuing into 2020/21.

Learning Disability Services

At the time of writing the last annual update, the Authority was out to tender for a Framework for Supported Living Services for Adults with a Learning Disability in the Neath Port Talbot Unitary Authority Area.

This framework went live in May 2019 and 26 Service Providers were successful in obtaining a place on the framework and are likely to remain on the framework for a period of 2 years (to 2021), with the option to extend for a further 24 months (up to 2023).

The framework allows both the Council and Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board (ABMU Health Board) to purchase new supported living schemes or recommission existing supported living schemes, including those schemes for people who may be considered as having complex and/or challenging needs or for people in receipt of continuing healthcare.

Mental Health Services

Work has commenced in re-commissioning Mental Health Services and a Joint West Glamorgan Mental Health Engagement Exercise was held at the end of September 2019 facilitated by the Regional Development Co-ordinator, to obtain the views of both current and former Service Users.

Also as part of Commissioning activity, a Mental Health Market Engagement Workshop was held with current and prospective Suppliers in early October with the aim of bringing together Key Stakeholders and Partners to discuss and consider new housing related support service models for people with Mental Health issues in Neath Port Talbot.

Aside from this, a separate consultation exercise via questionnaire was undertaken in September with current Support Staff from the following Organisations:

- Local Area Co-ordinators
- The Housing Options Service (Generic Homelessness Support)
- The Wallich (Generic Floating Support)
- Family Housing Association (Current Support Provider for Mental Health)
- Platform (Current Support Provider for Mental Health)

Gypsy and Traveller Services (Pilot Study)

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council in 2019 commissioned the Wales School for Social Care Research based at Swansea University to undertake a study of the needs of the local Gypsy and Traveller Community. The research was funded via virement monies to the Supporting People Programme from Communities for Work+.

Neath Port Talbot has the third largest Gypsy and Traveller Community in Wales and the purpose of the study was to provide the Local Authority with a much better picture of the local community's needs and it is intended that information obtained from the research will be used to strategically plan services, where there are gaps in service provision.

The Study was undertaken alongside a Pilot Project which has consisted of dedicated Staff (from the Authorities Local Area Co-ordination Team and The Wallich) working across the two main Gypsy and Traveller sites in Neath Port Talbot to provide support and advice to the community, as well as working with identified Gypsy and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation. Thrive (Domestic Abuse Agency) have also recently commenced working across the sites delivering the EDGE Project to address and support the needs of Roma, Gypsy and Traveller Women providing emotional support and assistance in accessing services within the local community.

The aim of the Pilot Project included:

- Offering positive engagement with the local community including providing opportunities to obtain direct feedback on strategies / changes that impact on the local community
- A more co-ordinated and robust approach to identifying the needs (both support and housing) of the local Gypsy Traveller Population including those living in bricks and mortar accommodation
- Providing better wellbeing outcomes (including health) to Gypsy Traveller Children, Young People and their Families
- Increasing school engagement and early years parenting support
- Enabling signposting and referral to relevant services to help those requiring support to maintain a tenancy and remain independent with the home

Domestic Abuse Services

Work is ongoing in this area, following a recently published report by a Consultant commissioned by local Domestic Abuse Organisations to identify a suite of domestic abuse service proposals, which will help meet the needs of clients in the area.

The proposed models aim to provide equal access to a range of accommodation and domestic abuse support options, for individuals and families with varying levels of risk and need. The proposals are intended to provide a continuous and seamless transitional level of support through service provision and providers.

Support for Male Victims of Domestic Violence

Data indicates that 1 in 8 men will experience domestic abuse in their lifetime and over 500,000 men every year suffer abuse from their partner.

A project has been set up to specifically support male victims of domestic violence with support provided by a male support worker.

The Project will offer the following provision:

- Emotional support
- Support with benefits
- Help reporting incidents
- Support finding accommodation
- Support with parenting
- Group work
- Men's Sheds contacts

The project will span the whole of the Neath Port Talbot Borough via Floating Support and it is intended that this work will continue into the next financial year.

Substance Misuse Services

In 2018, 131 people who received a Supporting People funded service identified alcohol and/or substance misuse as an area in which they needed support. Furthermore, Support Providers have reported that substance use amongst clients being supported is rising.

Although many existing Supporting People funded services will be supporting people with substance misuse issues, currently there is no Supporting People Programme Grant allocated for the delivery of specialist substance misuse housing related support in the Neath Port Talbot area. This lack of Supporting People Programme Grant funded provision was identified in the Council's Homelessness review published in December 2018.

In response to this identified need, the Local Authority has been working with the Welsh Centre for Action on Dependency and Addiction (WCADA) to develop a service to address this need. As the Council has not commissioned a service of this type previously, Officers believe that it is important to undertake first a pilot of the proposed model. The pilot will be reviewed between 6 and 9 months after implementation. Results of this review will help Officers to identify if directing funds into a specialist floating support service is the best way to meet the intended outcomes and if so, what the final model should look like.

The pilot will deliver a localised housing related support service that complements and works alongside a number of other community based services. It is intended that the service will help people at risk of homelessness to maintain their tenancy and reduce repeat episodes of homelessness. This will be achieved by WCADA delivering a tier 1 and tier 2 substance misuse outreach service. Services to be delivered as part of the pilot will include;

1. One-to-one support - personalised around the specific needs of the person;
2. Community hubs – offering drop-in support and appointment based services to individuals and groups;
3. “Light touch” support – consisting of information advice and assistance (IAA), signposting and support in addressing specific one-off issues.

The Council’s Homelessness Strategy 2018-22, which was developed in response to the Homelessness Review, recognises the need for specialist individualised targeted support for people with complex needs.

It is believed that services of this type will help prevent people from experiencing repeat episodes of homelessness. The proposed pilot aims to respond to the identified gaps in provision and support the implementation of the Homelessness Strategy.

[Mental Health Dual Diagnosis Support](#)

A Mental Health Dual Diagnosis Service has been set up as a Pilot to provide short-term intensive support to enable individuals to secure and maintain a tenancy.

The Service will provide a range of social, emotional and practical support for people with Mental Health issues including co-occurring drug and/or alcohol problems.

Support will be provided for a period of 3 months with an option to signpost individuals on to longer term services, where appropriate.

The post will support between five and eight individuals at any one time, depending on the complexity of needs.

This post will be funded into the next financial year until the point of re-commissioning Mental Health Services.

[Private Rented Sector Enforcement Officer](#)

A Private Rented Sector Enforcement Officer post has been created in order to help raise standards within the Private Rented Sector. The post was joint-funded between Rent Smart Wales Enforcement, Housing Support Grant and Homelessness Prevention Grant.

The post will continue to provide education, training and advice to agencies and local lettings agents that manage property within the County Borough. The post was responsible for re-establishing Neath Port Talbot's Private Landlord Forum to address local issues relating to the Private Rented Sector and with an aim to improve Housing Conditions locally. The post will continue to facilitate this Forum on an ongoing basis.

There is an intention of the post to also develop a Private Rented Information Pack on property standards, environmental health and trading standards legislation and available grants. As well as develop policies and procedures from an Environmental Health perspective to ensure complaints relating to property conditions with the Sector are dealt with consistently and strategically, to ensure safe, good quality housing is provided to tenants.

In continuing the good work, this post will receive funding for a further 12 months from 1st April 2020.

Needs Analysis

A needs mapping exercise is undertaken annually in conjunction with the various Supporting People funded service providers, the purpose of which is to identify the needs of service users and analyse the profile of individuals accessing services.

This information helps provide a better understanding of the priorities for service development in the coming year.

The following table provides a summary of service demand according to lead, secondary, and tertiary need. Generic homelessness prevention, and women experiencing domestic abuse are the highest lead needs for people accessing Supporting People services.

	Lead Need	Secondary need	Third need	Total (% of total no supported)	
Families with support needs	2	194	37	233	7%
Generic Homeless Prevention	2,321	194	15	2,530	76%
Domestic Abuse (Men)	17	19	10	46	1%
People over 55	166	122	45	333	%
Chronic Illnesses	3	16	11	30	1%
Criminal Offending	0	77	33	110	3%
Developmental Disorders	5	21	18	44	1%
Learning Disabilities	192	41	4	237	7%
Mental health Issues	154	695	222	1,071	32%
Physical and/or Sensory Disabilities	17	251	87	355	11%
Refugee Status	0	0	2	2	0%
Substance Misuse (alcohol)	1	43	42	86	3%
Substance Misuse (drugs)	0	51	59	110	3%
Single Parent families	0	320	64	384	11%
Single People (25-54)	6	275	50	331	10%
Domestic Abuse (Women)	391	202	42	635	19%
Young People (Care Leavers)	1	46	3	50	1%
Young People (16-24)	65	186	30	281	8%
TOTAL	3,341	2,753	774	6,868	-

Outcomes Analysis

Neath Port Talbot Supporting People Programme

2019/20 contracts have provided 1,048 units of Housing Related Support in Neath Port Talbot, of which 329 units (31%) are Fixed Site Supported Accommodation and the remaining 719 units (69%) provide a Peripatetic Support Service (Floating Support).

Local services included 329 supported housing bedspaces, representing 31% of the total “units” of support funded.

The remaining 719 units (69%) provided support to either help people find / move to a more suitable home or remain in their own home.

Breakdown of units by Client Group (Lead Need) is as follows:

Client Group	Type of Support Fixed	Type of Support Floating	Total No. of Units of Support
Domestic Abuse	38	31	69
Generic Homelessness Prevention	30	519	549
Learning Disabilities	97	-	97
Mental Health Issues	6	27	33
Pan-Disability	-	142	142
People over 55 Years	115	-	115
Young Persons Support	43	-	43
Total	329	719	1,048

Outcomes Analysis January – June 2019

Measurement of support provided is measured under the Welsh Government's Outcomes Framework consisting of 4 main and 11 sub headings:

Promoting Personal and Community Safety

- Feeling safe
- Contributing to the safety and wellbeing of themselves and others

Promoting Independence and Control

- Maintaining accommodation
- Managing relationships
- Feeling part of the community

Promoting Progress and Control

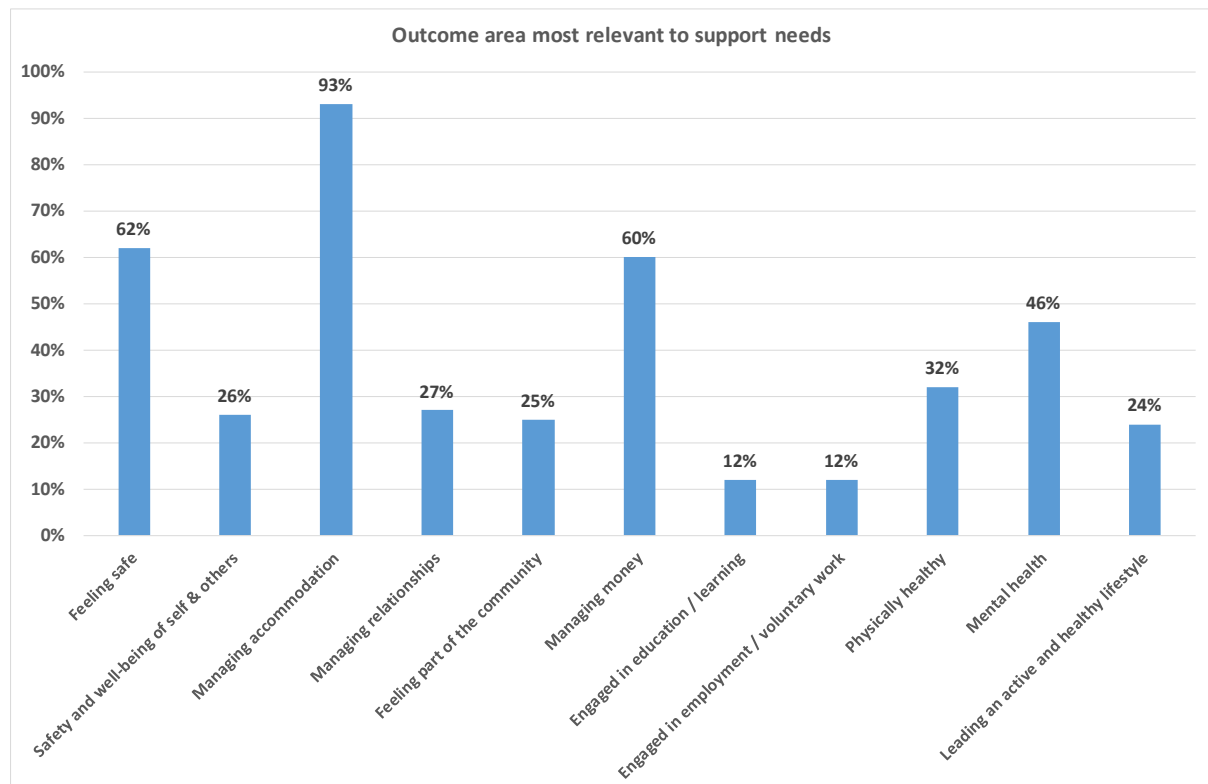
- Managing money
- Engaging in education/learning
- Engaged in employment/voluntary work

Promoting Health and Wellbeing

- Physically healthy
- Mentally healthy
- Leading a healthy and active lifestyle

The following analysis was completed utilising Provider Outcome Returns for the reporting period January – June 2019, of which there were 1,687 individuals who were reported on and receiving a Supporting People funded service. Of this figure, 1,210 individuals were receiving floating support services and 477 were in fixed site supported accommodation.

Between the 1,687 individuals there were 7,709 outcomes recorded as relevant to an individual’s needs. The following figures are based on clients’ lead needs:



Homeless Status at Start and End of Support

From 2016, Providers have been asked to report on the homeless status of individuals at the start of support and again at the end of support. There are four options to choose from at the start of support (homeless, at threat of homeless within 56 days and need support to remain in own home) with a further option of maintaining stable accommodation independently also available at the end of support.

The following information is based on the individuals reported on via Provider Outcome Returns for the reporting period January – June 2019, of which there were 1,687 individuals who were reported as receiving a Supporting People Funded Service.

- **At the start of support, 23% of those supported were homeless and 37% threatened with homelessness**
- **At the end of support these had fallen to 19% and 12% respectively**
- **61% of those who received support were maintaining stable accommodation independently**

Long Term Services

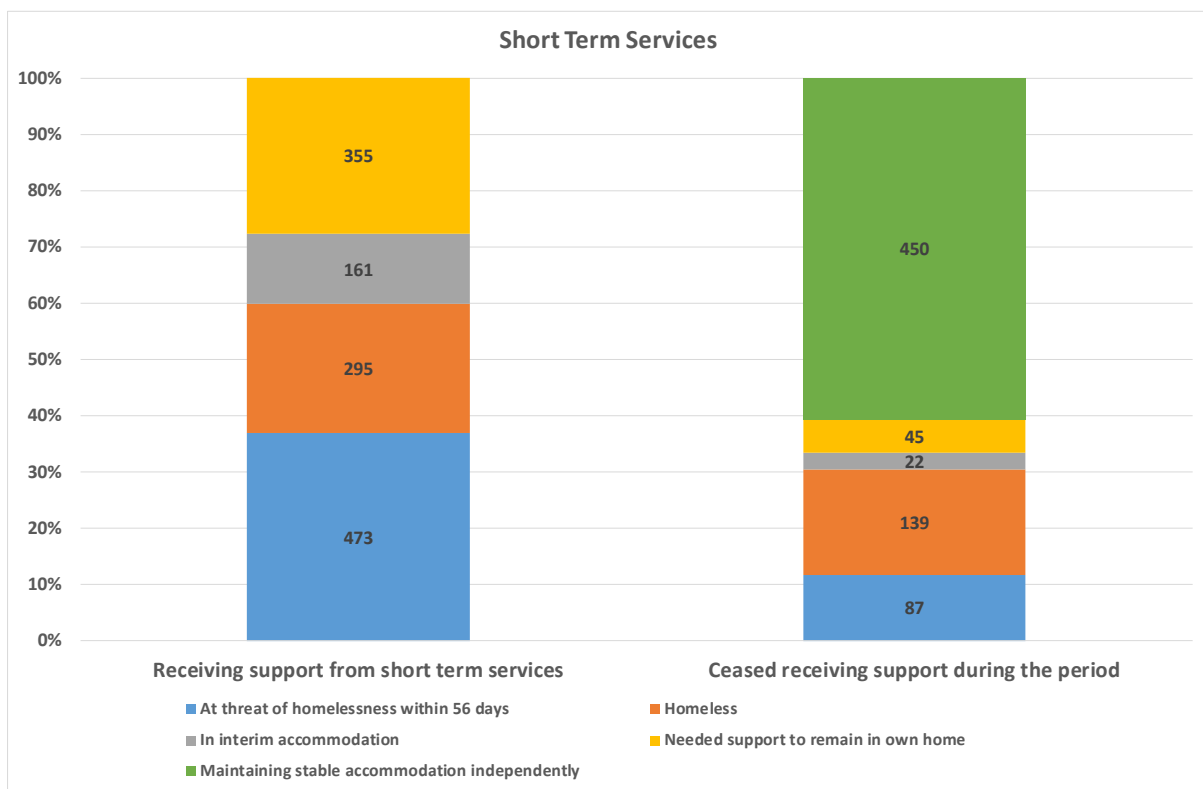
While all providers are required to report on the homeless status of individuals, it is recognised that within longer-term services, individuals are unlikely to have experienced homelessness, but have been placed in services as part of a package of care.

This is reflected in the returns, which show that approximately 98% of individuals needed support to remain in their own home at the start of support. Without this support, those clients would be at risk of homelessness.

Short Term Services

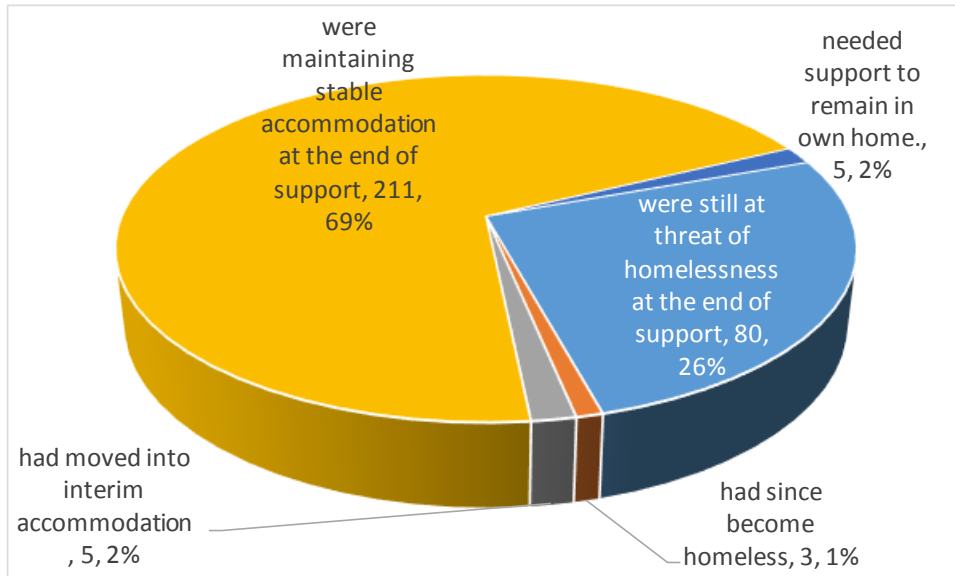
1,284 individuals were reported as receiving support from short term services, while 743 had ceased receiving support during the period.

Outcomes achieved by each of these are summarised in the chart below:



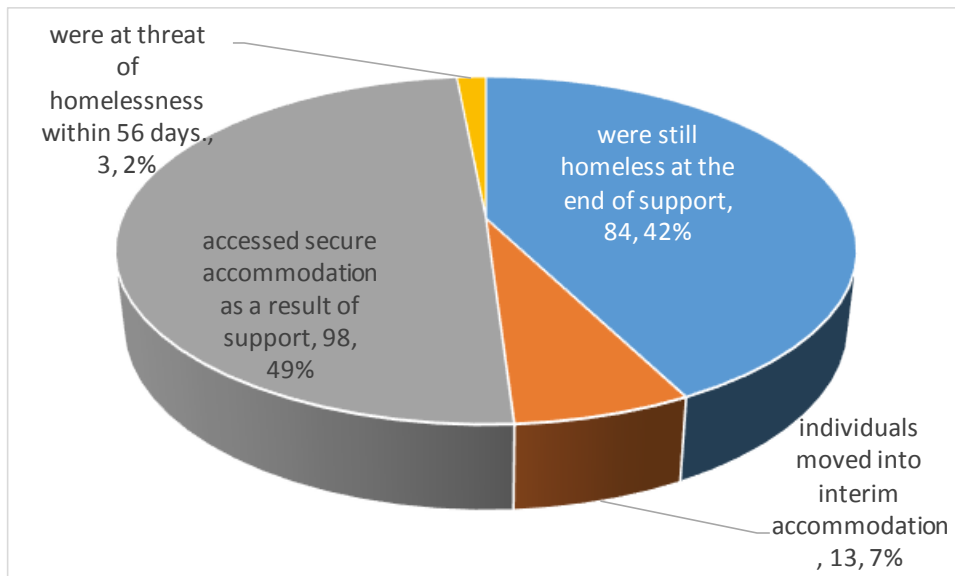
At Threat of Homelessness within 56 days

473 individuals were reported to be at threat of homelessness within 56 days, at the start of support, with 304 ending support during the reporting period. Of those 304 individuals:



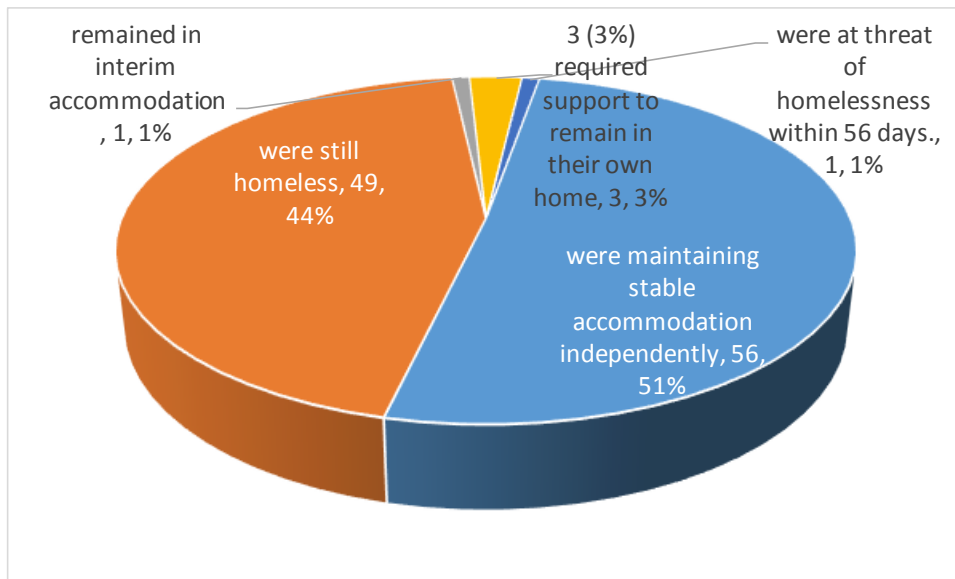
Homelessness

295 individuals were reported as homeless at the start of support. Of the 198 individuals who ceased receiving support during the reporting period:



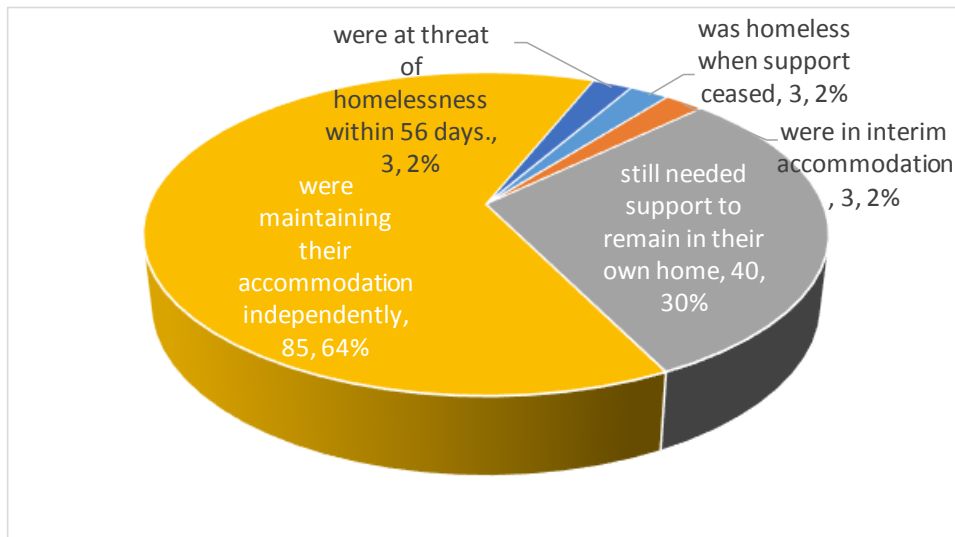
In Interim Accommodation

161 individuals were in interim accommodation at the start of support, with 107 individuals ending support. Of these:



Need Support to Remain in Own Home

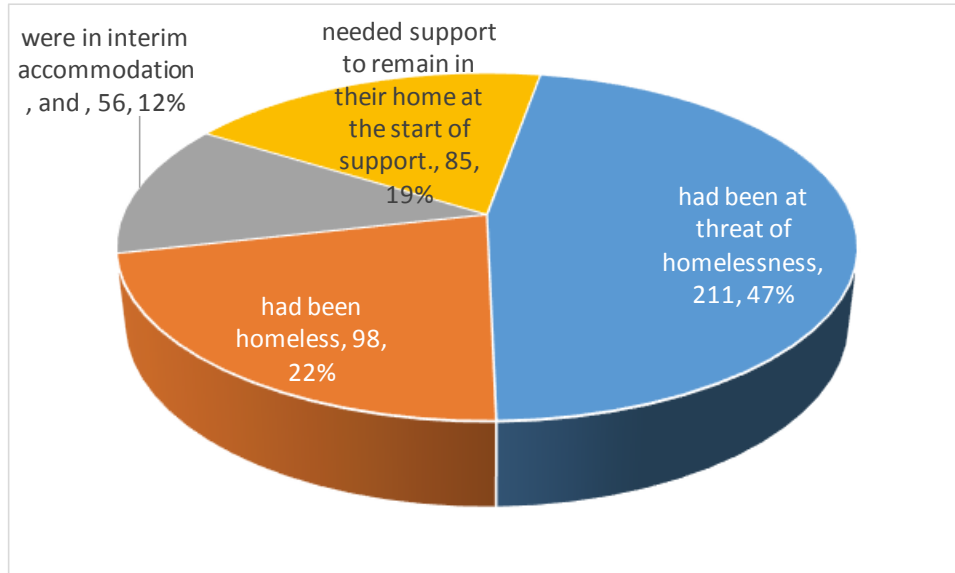
355 individuals required support to remain in their own home, at the start of support, with support ending for 134 individuals during the reporting period. Of those 134 individuals:



Maintaining Stable Accommodation Independently (6 months+)

This option is only available where individuals have ended support.

The data shows that of the 450 individuals who were maintaining accommodation when support had ceased:



Consultation Evidence

Consultation and engagement remains an essential part of the Supporting People Programme.

Service User Engagement

All Supporting People providers are subject to ongoing monitoring and review and continue to engage and consult with Service Users as part of their Contract.

Service Providers are expected to share examples of client engagement on a 6-monthly basis within their Project Updates and the following examples have been taken from Providers' last returns for April – September 2019:

Q. Has there been any specific Service User Involvement / Consultation exercise carried out (if yes, please give details, including topics below):

- Regular House meetings where residents are asked what changes they would like to see to support within the Scheme
- Exit questionnaires are carried out with every service user at end of support
- Suggestion boxes are provided within each project and discussed in every team meeting
- Tenants consulted about plans to redevelop/design the reception area of a scheme

- Tenants consulted on a planning application to develop a catering facility within a scheme
- Tenants consulted on a Health and Well-being project in conjunction with a local school
- Tenants consulted about how both Support Provider and Tenant can support the local community
- Expressions of interest were requested from Service Users for involvement in a Client Participation Committee
- A walking event was held with clients and staff dogs
- Clients have been consulted on a change in the hours of service delivery
- Production of a Satisfaction Survey Action Plan which has derived from a Client Satisfaction Survey undertaken with clients and staff
- Service User Participation Group – monthly group meetings to arrange outings to cinema, theatre, Tribute nights and days out/overnight stays/weekend breaks and holidays
- Coffee Mornings with attendance from other Services including Local Area Co-ordinators and Welfare Rights Team to provide information on what is happening within local areas/benefits advice
- Women’s Group - weekly group sessions supporting individuals in building confidence/drug & substance misuse /mental health awareness/relationships and domestic abuse
- A ‘Hearing Voices’ Group has been developed and due to be implemented.

Q. Please provide details of any changes, or planned changes to the service as a result of consultation:

- As part of PIE (Psychologically Informed Environment) implementation, there is an acknowledgement that the physical environment is one of the key areas, and residents communicated their keenness to change the colour of walls and have been supported to do so. This has included creating their own artwork.
- Residents requested that more support sessions take place outside of the Scheme, as they felt they could “open up more” and feel at ease in alternative environments. The Scheme has established a petty cash ‘coffee’ fund which allows support workers to go out into the community with clients, to a location of their choice, and ensures equality in approach regardless of what benefit/rate of benefit clients’ receive in the household. This has resulted in more successful support sessions – client’s opening up and discussing issues and plans going forward.
- Looking to introduce volunteers to solely run activities for service users and support them with engaging in consultations.
- Development of a calendar of activities for the Coffee Morning Ladies to support them to arrange and partake in various activities.

- Continuing to improve garden/ relaxation area.
- Changes to maintenance response times.
- Promote access to health and wellbeing sessions.
- Creation of a bulletin board to be positioned within the reception area of the Project, to share latest Organisation information with both Staff and Service Users.
- Promote access to Youth Parliament Consultations.
- Development of 'Hearing Voices Group' in partnership with Local Area Co-ordination.
- Restructure Staffing Locations to allow for greater familiarity with individuals and ward areas.
- Implementing a service which will be digital by 2020, with remote area working within the community.

Joint West Glamorgan Mental Health Engagement Exercise

As part of Commissioning activity a Joint West Glamorgan Mental Health Engagement Workshop was held at the end of September, facilitated by the Regional Development Co-ordinator (Supporting People), with the purpose of obtaining the direct views of both current and former Service Users residing in both Swansea and Neath Port Talbot Boroughs.

A total of 87 individuals attended this event, which included 17 current or former Support Users. The following feedback was obtained:

Q1. What Support have you needed/ or do you need to help you keep your home and live a full healthy life?

1. No counselling available.
2. Need activities to fill the day.
3. Access to Move-On (preferably Social Housing) when have previous rent arrears/ poor housing history.
4. Help with practical things such as prompting to clean home and shopping reminders
5. Support for medical appointments
6. Training needed for 'staff to understand'
7. Someone understanding, supportive and compassionate
8. Involving services/ staff who need to be involved e.g. O.T

9. Not enough support from Ward 7 to Resettle into the community/ not enough links to services.
10. More drop-in's required for those with mental health issues incl. day trips. Felt that drop-in's were '*Better than Medication*'.
11. Referrals to mental health support services take too long. Need a quicker response/ turnaround time.
12. Need continuity of support with only 1 Support Worker / Not change in Support Worker as have to keep re-telling my story and eventually I don't want to speak anymore OR ensuring Staff are fully prepared prior to visit and 'know my story'.

Q2. What would a GOOD Support Service look like to you, to help you keep your home and live a full healthy life?

1. Support on demand/ when needed
2. Access to support evenings/ weekends/ 24-7
3. All staff to be mental health trained
4. Need flexibility of support/ no restrictions
5. More options for counselling – waiting times are too long
6. Easy access to mental health services – no waiting times
7. Support outside of the house
 - Go out with staff's dog
 - Go cycling with staff
8. Access to surgeries – other organisations attending such as DWP or health professionals
9. 'Whole family support'
10. Peer group support – having the chance to meet other people going through the same things

Q3. What do you feel hasn't worked well for you in keeping your home and living a full healthy life?

1. Lack of emotional support
2. Not enough support on Universal Credit
 - Clearer details
 - Drop In required

3. Clearer communications needed when approaching HOPs
 - Face to Face
4. Poor communication from staff (across whole of support services)
5. Staff hours
6. Having a Support Worker who I don't connect with
7. Having someone who doesn't listen and not realising the affect this has on me
8. Needing support when away visiting family/ friends (out of area)
 - Clearer details
 - Drop In required
9. Isolation
10. People thinking I'm lying because '*I don't look Autistic*' (Staff/ Service sensitivities)
11. Dynamics within Projects/ Properties
12. Lack of information about Housing e.g. how to swap houses; can't swap if arrears; barriers
13. Not knowing what is out there
14. Lots of processes to navigate (cyclical)
15. Time limits on support provided by Support Providers
16. NHS waiting lists for Mental Health (terrible)
17. Services not joined up Mental Health and Physical Health
18. Having different Doctors is destabilising
19. Difficulty in being discharged even when you feel you still need support (Mental Health Services)

Gypsy Traveller Engagement Event

Following the research work, an event took place in October to present the study findings and recommendations. 94 delegates attended the event with representation from Welsh Government, Emergency Services, Housing Associations, Third Sector Organisations and Supporting People Funded Services along with colleagues from Social Services, Health and Housing, Environment and Education Directorates.

The Deputy Minister for Wales, Jane Hutt, provided an opening speech for this event via video link and presentations were delivered by Professor Fiona Verity, Director of Wales School for Social Care Research (Swansea University) and Stephanie Watts, Research Development Officer. As well as presentations received from West

Glamorgan's Community Cohesion Co-ordinator who discussed the Regional Action Plan and an empowering speech made by a Gypsy Traveller Pupil Engagement Mentor (Pembrokeshire), Team Leader for the Traveller Education Service (Pembrokeshire) and a Key Stage Four Pupil and Member of the Welsh Youth Parliament.

Workshops were also held to give delegates the opportunity to provide their ideas and suggestions on how the local authority can progress the recommendations from the study and who should be involved going forward.

Planned Service Developments / Commissioning Priorities 2020-21

- Recommission mental health services
- Recommission domestic abuse services
- Complete service review of young people services
- Complete service review of Wallich PAWS
- Mobilisation of substance misuse contract
- Develop Housing Support Programme Strategy and Delivery Plan
- Complete service review of extra care scheme
- Implement HSG
- Implement HSG Outcomes / Performance Management Framework

Spend Plan (2020/21)

Supporting People Spend Plan for 2020/21 is currently being finalised. Therefore, at the time of writing, we were unable to include the detail here. However, should you require a copy, please contact the Common Commissioning Unit on **01639 763159** or email supportingpeople@npt.gov.uk

Integrated Impact Assessment

Supporting People Programme Grant services are designed to support individuals to address many of the challenges experienced by groups referred to within the equality legislation.

An Integrated Impact Assessment is required to be undertaken when making commissioning decisions which may affect the protected characteristics.

The purpose of the Impact assessments is to ensure that Local Authorities are aware of the impact of potential decisions and that those with protected characteristic are not disproportionately affected by them.

An Integrated Impact Screening and Assessment will be undertaken as part of the development of this Local Commissioning Plan and will accompany the Report to Cabinet Board for their approval.

Further Information

The Neath Port Talbot Supporting People Team can provide you with further information on the local programme. Please email supportingpeople@npt.gov.uk. You can also follow the Programme on Twitter; **@NPT_SupP**

Alternatively, you can visit Welsh Governments Website;
<https://gov.wales/topics/housing-and-regeneration/services-and-support/supporting-people/?lang=en>