

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

meeting date: THURSDAY, 31 AUGUST 2023
title: HOMELESSNESS AND REFUGEE UPDATE
submitted by: NICOLA HOPKINS – DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
principal author: RACHAEL STOTT – HOUSING STRATEGY OFFICER

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To provide Committee with some information about the level of homelessness and refugees in the borough.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – To meet the housing needs of all sections of the Community.
- Corporate Priorities – To match the supply of homes in our area with the identified housing needs.
- Other Considerations – None.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Members previously requested that a standard item be included on the Committee agenda which provides the Committee with a general overview of the housing need demands in the borough. This data will be reported to Committee on a quarterly basis.

3 HOMELESS UPDATE – Quarter 1 (1st April 2023 – 30th June 2023).

3.1 Number of homeless applications taken in Quarter 1 = 26 applications.

3.2 Number of positive prevention outcomes in Quarter 1 = 4 applicants were prevented from becoming homeless.

3.3 Snapshot of number of households in temporary accommodation on 30th June 2023:

- Total of 10 households including 13 children in temporary accommodation provided by RVBC.
- Total 3 single persons in B & B accommodation.

3.4 Of the households currently in temporary accommodation the longest length of stay – 9 months. This involved a family of 4.

3.5 Housing Needs Service currently have 76 active cases open. These are households that are at risk of homelessness and have approached RVBC for assistance.

3.6 Number of rough sleepers reported during this period was 2. These were 2 single males who have refused out of borough hostel accommodation.

3.7 HOMES FOR UKRAINE SCHEME

Total number of guests arrived in Ribble Valley - 122

Total number currently still living with hosts - 54

Total number relocated into their own accommodation – 39

3.8 AFGHAN RESETTLEMENT SCHEME

LCC have secured 2 private rent properties to provide accommodation for Afghan refugees.

4 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

4.1 Note the contents of the report.

RACHAEL STOTT
HOUSING STRATEGY OFFICER

NICOLA HOPKINS
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC
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BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

For further information please ask for Rachael Stott, extension 3235.

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