

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

meeting date: THURSDAY, 21st March 2024
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 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 HOMELESS UPDATE – Quarter 3 (1st Oct – 31st Dec 2023)

2.1 Number of homeless applications taken in Quarter 3 = 20 applications.

2.2 Number of positive prevention outcomes in Quarter 3 = 7 applicants were prevented from becoming homeless.

2.3 Snapshot of number of households in temporary accommodation on 29/2/2024:

- Total of 12 households including 13 children in temporary accommodation provided by RVBC.
- Total 1 single persons in B & B accommodation.

2.4 Of the households currently in temporary accommodation the longest length of stay – 7 months. This is a family of 5.

2.5 Housing Needs Service currently have 96 active cases open. These are households that are at risk of homelessness and have approached RVBC for assistance.

2.6 Number of rough sleepers reported during this period was nil.

2.7 HOMES FOR UKRAINE SCHEME

Total number of guests arrived in Ribble Valley - 91
Total number currently still living with hosts - 39
Total number relocated into their own accommodation – 43

2.8 AFGHAN RESETTLEMENT SCHEME

LCC have secured 2 private rent properties to provide accommodation for Afghan refugees. These properties are in Longridge and Sabden. RVBC have approved for LCC to secure 3 properties and they are actively looking for a 3rd.

3 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

3.1 Note the contents of the report.

RACHAEL STOTT
HOUSING STRATEGY OFFICER

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

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

REF: RS/H&H/31 August 2023