

Southeast Regional Homeless Action Plan 2023 - 2026

Objectives

Section 37 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) 2009 Act

- Prevention of homelessness
- Reduction of homelessness in its extent or duration
- Provision of services, including accommodation, to address the needs of homeless households
- Provision of assistance to persons who were formerly homeless
- Coordination of activities in the admin area (South-East)

South Eastern Area – Homeless Lead

- The South Eastern Region consists of Waterford City and County, Wexford, Kilkenny, Tipperary and Carlow
- Waterford City & County Council are designated Lead
- Action Plan required at minimum every 3 years
- Statutory provisions for homelessness (Housing Act 1988): -
 - Section 2 – Definition of Homelessness
 - Section 10 – Supports that may be provided (provision of funding)

Structure in the South East

- Dedicated Homeless Leads (Local Authority & HSE)
- Homeless Strategic Management Group
- South-East Homelessness Consultative Forum
- Homeless Coordinator funded for each LA
- Homeless prevention & support worker
- HAP Place Finder Service
- Care & Case Management Support Framework

Homeless Strategic Management Group

- Lead Authority, Director of Housing, Chairperson
- Lead Authority Regional Homeless Lead
- Directors of Housing HSE South-East Community Healthcare
- Regional General Manager, Social Inclusion
- General Manager, Mental Health,
HSE South-East Community Healthcare
- HSE Homeless Lead, Social Inclusion
- TUSLA

South-East Homelessness Consultative Forum

- Preparation and monitoring of the Homelessness Action Plan
- Review of homeless presentations across the region
- Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (HAP)
- Discharge Policy from hospitals and prisons
- Impact of Homelessness on Travellers
- National Quality Standards Framework for Homeless Services in Ireland
- Regional and Agency Updates

Homeless Co-ordinator Role

- Coordinator of Homeless Action Plan objectives locally
- Chair/Coordinator HAT & Monthly Review Meetings
- Oversee Care & Case Management
- S10 Finance: Monitoring & certification of S10 claims
- Oversight of PASS (Pathway Accommodation and Support System)
- Implementing SLAs, NQSF, KPI monitoring and applications

Homeless Prevention & Support Worker

- Conduct homeless assessments
- Carry out prevention and mediation work with those presenting
- Arrange temporary accommodation
- Provide care and case management key working and supports to households in EA
- Identify support needs and ensure linkage with required services.
- Provide settlement support moving into a new tenancy
- Make referrals to the Tenancy Sustainment & Support Service

Policy Context

- Housing for All: A new Housing Plan for Ireland
- Housing First National Implementation Plan 2018 – 2021
- National Quality Standards Framework (NQSF) for Homeless Services
- Guidance for Authorities: - Assisting Victims of Domestic Violence
- Traveller Accommodation Programme
- Sharing the Vision – Mental Health Policy
- National Drugs Strategy

Funding

- Section 10 – Homeless (90% Central, 10% Local)
- Section 39 - Social Inclusion (HSE Southeast Community Healthcare)

Key Performance Indicators

- New homeless individuals presenting and the primary reason
- People sleeping rough and the patterns of rough sleeping
- People in EA and the duration of stay in EA
- Repeated presentations
- Moves from EA to long term housing options

Kilkenny Context – Services 2023

- Good Shepherd Centre – 32 Units
- Hotel accommodation – 6 Bedrooms
- Cold Weather Units – 4 beds
- Own Front Door – 35 Units
- Greensbridge House – 5 Units

Key Challenges

- Increase in number of presentations -

HOMELESS SERVICES SUMMARY	2021	2022	2023(Jan-Oct)
Homeless Presentations	370	478	458
Homeless Assessment Outcomes			
Prevention & Interventions	193	246	326
Emergency Service	84	77	55
Not eligible / Did not avail of service	96	155	77

- Complexity of presentations – mental health, addiction etc.
- Lack of options for clients to exit emergency accommodation.
- Reactivation of notices of termination of tenancies in June 2023 –

Total number of Valid NTQ's received	115
NTQ's Accommodated in 2023 or solution found	88