



Homelessness Response to COVID-19

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Homelessness in NI – Pre COVID-19

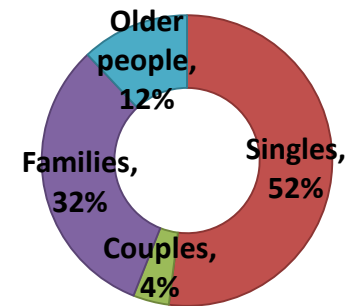
16,802 households presented as homeless last year
(11,323 accepted)

36 rough sleepers identified in 2019/20 street count

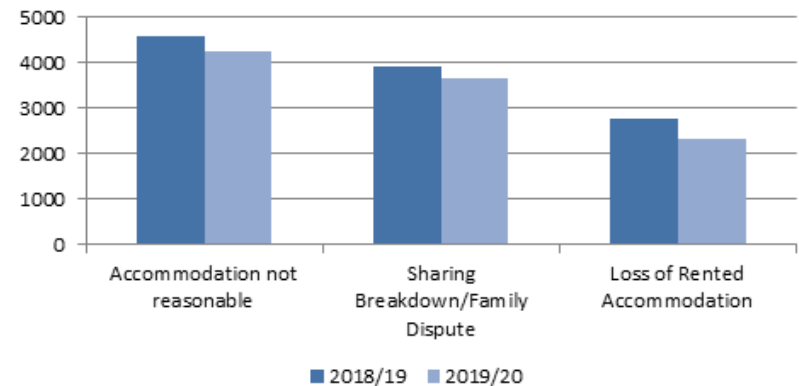
4,527 temporary accommodation placements in 2019/20

21,955 households registered on waiting list for social housing as homeless

£21 million funding this year



Top 3 Reasons - Presentations

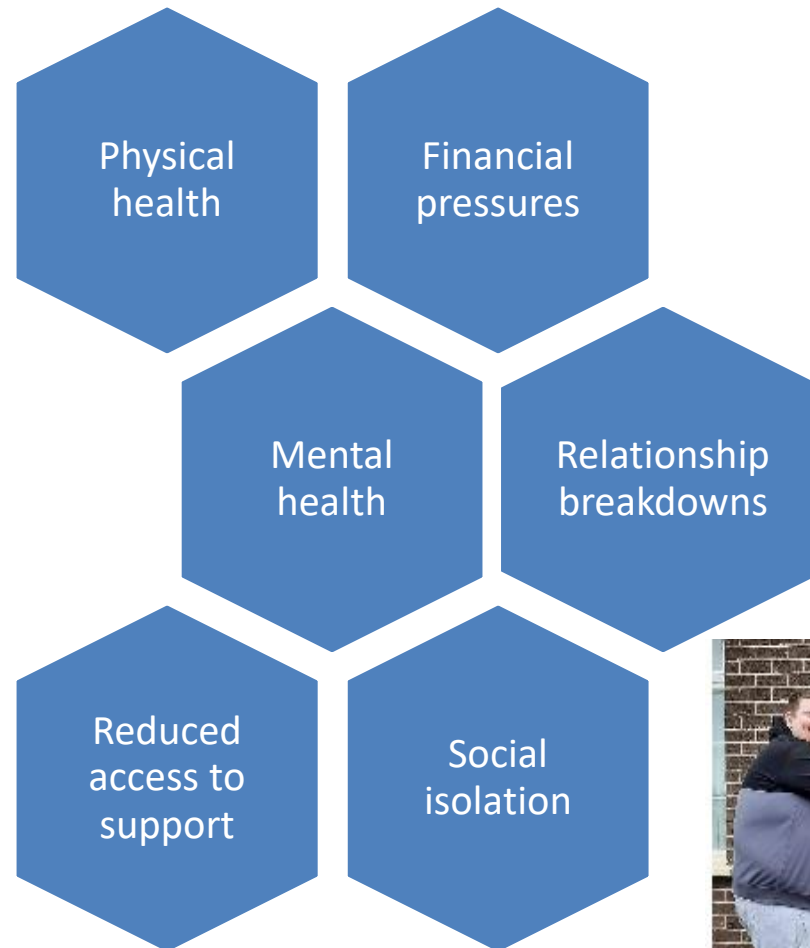


Aim of COVID-19 Response

- To **safeguard** as many homeless people as we can against COVID-19 ensuring they have the same chance as other vulnerable people to **self-isolate and receive care, protection and treatment** where necessary
- To enable homeless services to **work effectively** and **respond safely**



Impacts of COVID-19 on our customers



Impacts of COVID-19 on homelessness trends

Homeless presentations ↓

Temporary accommodation demand ↑

Social housing relets reduced so throughput from temp accommodation limited

Young people have been disproportionately impacted

‘Everyone in’ approach adopted to accommodate rough sleepers

Availability and throughput in standard temporary accommodation have reduced, necessitating an increase in the use of hotel/B&B accommodation.

Change in homeless reasons during pandemic



- **Sharing breakdown/family dispute**
- **Neighbourhood harassment**
- **Relationship breakdown**
- **Domestic violence**



- **Accommodation not reasonable**
- **Loss of private rental**
- **No accommodation in NI**
- **Intimidation**
- **Mortgage default**

Covid-19 responses to date

Increased supply of temporary accommodation

Lockdown of Night Shelters and Day Centres

Provision of additional support and shift from in-reach to assertive outreach

Publication of 'The Way Home', Reset Plan

Appointment of a Co-ordinator and an Emergency Relief Panel

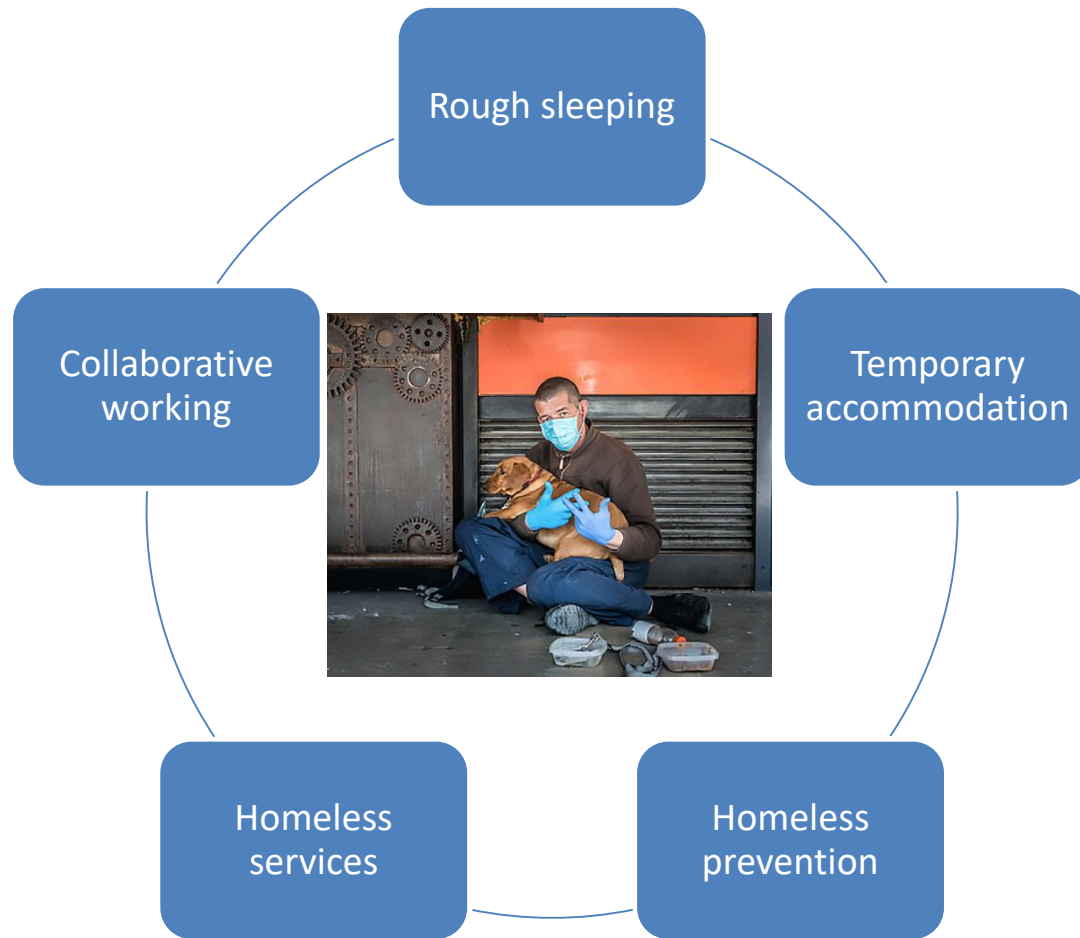
'Everyone In' approach



New arrangements for multi-agency consultation and collaboration



What next? – Our ambitions in the Reset Plan



Theme 2 – Temporary Accommodation

Provide customers with accommodation which meets both their accommodation and support needs

Priority Actions

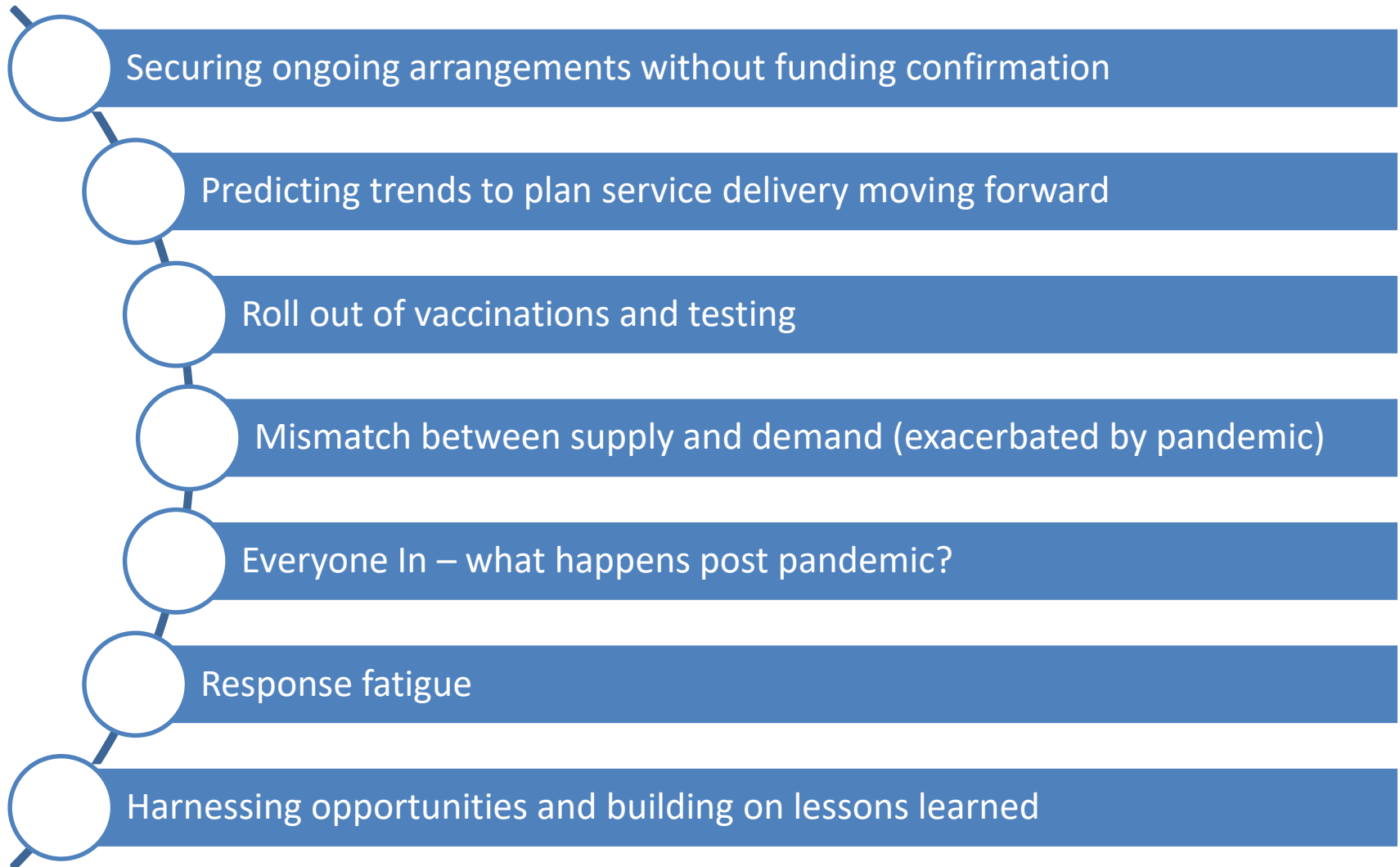
- Work with accommodation providers to sustain placements and reduce exclusions
- Acquire additional temporary accommodation units
- Block booked/retained units to be held as contingency option in order to respond to an emergency scenario
- Support homeless sector to review COVID-19 contingency arrangements



Considerations for Strategic Review of Temporary Accommodation

- Reviewing **long term suitability** of accommodation which has had to restrict services during the pandemic (e.g. shared rooms).
- **Remodel/reconfigure** services
- Consider commissioning priorities for **new services**
- Continue to **test new models**
- Review current use of **social housing stock** for homeless households (Housing First/Led)
- Private sector **leasing** arrangements
- Reduce reliance on non-standard accommodation

Challenges Moving Forward



THANK
YOU

ending homelessness **TOGETHER/**

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