Greater Manchester – A Sub-Regional Approach to Homelessness and the Homelessness Reduction Act

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Greater Manchester

£56 Billion GVA
Fastest growing LEP in the country

2.7 Million People
Growth of 170,000+ in the last decade

104,000 People Unemployed
7.8% (above UK average of 5.5%)

77.7 Male Life Expectancy
England average: 79.3

81.3 Female Life Expectancy
England average: 83.0

112,000
People on long-term sick and inactive

Map of Greater Manchester showing: Wigan, Bolton, Bury, Rochdale, Oldham, Salford, Manchester, Trafford, Stockport, Tameside and Glossop

Greater Manchester

- Advanced devolution agenda and agreement

- Long history of engagement, partnership, collaboration and joint working

- Existing and emerging governance and infrastructure in GM Combined Authority

- Major programme of Public Service Reform and system-change
  - i.e. Place-based integration; Life Chances Programme

- We want to shift our position from being a **cost centre** to a **net contributor** to national public finances

- Mayoral Election with new powers

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           BURY   OLDHAM   SALFORD   TAMESIDE   WIGAN

Homelessness - The GM Context

- 09/10 to 15/16 - A story of growth?

Homelessness decisions 62%

Homelessness acceptances 40%

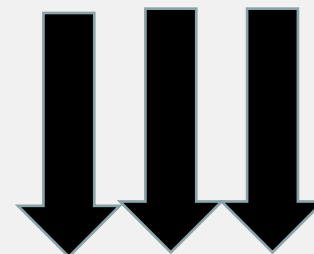Homelessness preventions 95%

Temporary accommodation 179%

Rough sleeping 361%

- Or contraction?

Supported housing bedspaces ?%

Waiting lists……..! 18%

Social Housing voids

Approach to Homelessness in Greater Manchester

- Organic

- History of practical collaboration and joint-working outside of devolution

- Focus on local circumstances fitting into GM Agenda

- Mix of providers – in-house and commissioned

- Not always "All 10 at once"

- Practitioner-based governance group of Lead Officers – GM Housing Needs Group

- Acceptance of some movement across the sub-region

Practical Sub-regional Activity:

- Some shared services and some joint commissioning
  - i.e. emergency accommodation framework
- Shared information and intelligence – early warning
- Convergence on rough sleeping
  - Counts dates, shared information,
  - Cold Weather provision
- Joint funding bids, increasingly how we do business
- Joint consultation responses
- Joint Trailblazer bid

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The GM Trailblazer Bid

"Some of us think we might welcome the Bill, well most of it. But preferably not just yet. And it's not how we'd have done it. And despite the problems. But it might be all right in the end. Hopefully."

- Part of GM response to the Homelessness Reduction Act
- Original bids to all 3 elements of the programme – Prevention, RS Grant and SIB as a complementary 'whole'
- Combined bid from all 10 local authorities
- Unique - part of Public Service Reform and routed through the GM Life Chances Fund

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BURY OLDHAM SALFORD TAMESIDE WIGAN

Where we are up to:

- Still in negotiation with DCLG on the financial settlement
- DCLG outcomes inclusion in MoU for Life Chances Fund
- Combined 2 elements of original bid into a single programme (Prevention and Rough Sleeper Grant)
- Agreed 7 thematic areas of focus
- Max £1.8m approved for Social Impact Bond for Entrenched Rough Sleepers
- GM Team, workplan and practitioner-led workstreams developed
- Awaiting Mayoral election, political priorities and £££'s

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Homelessness Prevention Trailblazer Bid Outline

➢ Develop a common outcomes-focussed response to Homelessness Reduction Act

➢ Commonality but not 'once size fits all' – i.e. prevention, practice, paperwork

➢ 'Localise and personalise'

➢ Single data system across GM, linked to GM Connect

➢ Pathways approach

➢ Partnership emphasis on both demand and supply

➢ Commitment to co-design and independent evaluation

➢ Same <u>quality</u> of service offer across GM (level-up)

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Some Aims of the Programme:

- An increase in meaningful homelessness prevention
- A reduction in homelessness acceptances and the use of temporary accommodation
- A reduction in the level of evictions in both social and private rented sectors
- A reduction in rough sleeping
- A longer-term improvement in the life chances of households
- An increase in the level of economic activity for households in housing need at risk of homelessness
- An uplift in related public service performance in related areas, including increased life expectancy of rough sleepers and reduced reoffending rates of homeless ex-offenders
- An improved ratio of public-spend against long-term outcomes across the spectrum of public bodies
- A greater range of housing-related options, including take-up of different forms of offer including shared housing

It's about taking the chances offered, building on what we do well to fill gaps and create a better system

Theme 1 – Data, Systems and Information

- Baseline position to establish impact of activities
- Aim to use a single data recording system across GM
- Case management is critical
- Compliant with Homelessness Reduction Act
- Common Personal Housing Plan
- Common toolkit and documentation
- Common advice standard and approach

Theme 2 – Local Hub Development

- Originally part of Rough Sleeper Grant Programme

- GM-wide targeted network of local Hubs across GM

- Alignment with GM agenda of Place-Based Integration and neighbourhood public service reform

- Not a 'one-size fits all' approach – local discretion and leadership on what is needed

- Aim to utilise as homelessness/rough sleeping prevention tool

- Assessment centres with night-time facilities (city centre)

- Co-design group in Manchester

Theme 3 – Social Lettings Agency Approach

- Aim to tackle supply-side, including shared housing offer

- Partnership with housing providers

- Develop existing infrastructure

- Consistent approach to impacting on housing options

- Key tool for Homelessness Reduction Act

- Not a single service commission

- Different approaches required in different boroughs due to local housing markets

- Self-sustaining in 2 years

Theme 4 – Homelessness Action Network

- Develop infrastructure across GM in all boroughs

- Roll-out M-Think Database

- Forum for engagement with stakeholders, providers, 3rd sector agencies and local businesses

- Improve information-sharing, best practice, support and communication (expectations management)

- Direct support to all groups including web-based portal and training to build capacity

- Potential route for GM Mayoral Fund subject to electoral process and future decisions

Theme 5 – Roll-out of Housing First

- Make GM-wide offer
- Existing small-scale schemes in GM
- Not accessible in all boroughs
- No decision on roll-out process but joint commitment
- Evidence-base for future commissioning
- Concerns at push to scalability

Theme 6 – Develop Common Pathways

- Existing pathways in all boroughs but not consistent
- Examples of good and best practice
- Reviews of existing protocols and make fit
- Development of clear approaches for groups in housing need i.e. criminal justice and primary care
- Critical for local-connection blind aspects of Homelessness Reduction Act
- Widen approach to include education and financial inclusion

Theme 7 – Co-ordination/ integration of health and homelessness

- Major engagement with Health - critical issue of health impact

- Awareness of rough sleeping but less so of health and wellbeing of households in temp accom

- Pump-prime bespoke initiatives and test-beds
  - i.e. Spice, TB/Hep B screening

- Level-up current practice

- Integration/consideration of homelessness into GM agenda for Health & Social Care and shared outcomes

Social Impact Bond (SIB)

- For entrenched rough sleepers

- Payment by results up to £1.8m

- Support for 200 of the most complex cohort

- Procurement process for provider(s) and also to engage social investor(s)

- Implementation date October 2017

Beyond Trailblazer

- Evidence base and impact assessment for future approaches

- Impact of Homelessness Reduction Act (including perverse incentives) and New Burdens, TAMF funding

- Future GM approach to homelessness and rough sleeping (Reviews?)

- Development of the GM Network as a vehicle for delivery

- Build relationship with Health and housing providers

- Potential integration opportunities within PSR and joint commissioning across public service

To Finish:

"What a Time to Be Alive.........

In Homelessness 2017…..

But avoid Rustlers!"

Now Any Questions?
??????????