



Gwent Supporting People Regional Strategic Plan 2017 – 2020 Annual Update 2018-2019



Working Together for People with Support

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Glossary

LA:	Local Authority
LCP:	Local Commissioning Plan
RCC:	Regional Collaborative Committee
RSP:	Regional Strategic Plan
SPNAB:	Supporting People National Advisory Board
SPPG:	Supporting People Programme Grant
SP:	Supporting People
WG:	Welsh Government

Section 1 Introduction

The Supporting People Programme funds a wide range of innovative housing related support services for vulnerable people across Gwent, who may be at risk of losing their homes and their independence.

The preventative nature of the Supporting People Programme supports local, regional and national policy objectives that help people to live independently in the community. Supporting People services help prevent homelessness, social exclusion, isolation and institutionalisation. Services also help with the reduction of crime and disorder.

The Welsh Government vision for the Supporting People Programme is:

“A Wales where nobody is homeless and everyone has a safe home where they can flourish”

The types of services funded by Welsh Governments Supporting People Programme Grant include supported housing schemes such as homeless hostels, domestic abuse refuges and floating support services (housing related support provided within a person’s home or alternative suitable location).

During 2016/17 the Supporting People Programme in Gwent supported a total of 22,826 people.

Introduction to Gwent



Gwent comprises of the five local authority areas: Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen. Gwent benefits from following the same geographic footprint as the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board. Demographics of Gwent are varied and include rural countryside areas, urban centres and the most easterly of the south Wales valleys.

Blaenau Gwent is situated in the valleys of south east Wales and covers approximately 10,900 hectares with a population of 69,674*. It is an area with high levels of unemployment and a high percentage of people who are dependent on benefits.

Caerphilly with the largest population in Gwent of 179,941* its people are widely dispersed amongst fifty small towns and villages with the main settlements largely reflecting the area's coal mining heritage. Its demise has left a legacy of high unemployment and poor health.

Monmouthshire is classed as a 'semi rural accessible area'. There are four major towns, with a total population of 92,336*. Monmouthshire has the lowest level of unemployment in Gwent: however there are pockets of deprivation as evidenced in north Abergavenny.

Newport is the third largest urban centre in Wales with a population of 146,841*. The city has the second largest number of people from minority ethnic communities of all the Welsh counties (after Cardiff) and has continued to increase since 2009 when the figure was estimated at 6.6% of the population.

Torfaen is the most easterly of the south Wales urbanised valleys with a population of 91,609. There are three urban centres: Pontypool, Blaenavon, and Cwmbran. The largest number of traveller caravans was recorded in Torfaen during the January 2016 bi annual Gypsy and Traveller count with a total of sixty-one, which was 40.66% of the Gwent total.

* Stats Wales national level population estimates

Strategic Priorities

The Supporting People Programme is a cross cutting policy framework that links to a wide range of national, regional and local priorities and strategies. There are a range of policy and legislative initiatives that are influencing the future provision, direction and delivery of housing related support services for vulnerable people in Gwent. These are key drivers of the Gwent Regional Strategic Plan, which has been developed to encompass the aims of the Supporting People Programme.

National overview

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The Act seeks to strengthen existing governance arrangements for improving the social, economic and cultural well-being of Wales to ensure that present needs are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Public bodies listed in the Act need to think about the long term, work better with people and communities and each other and look to prevent problems and take a more joined-up approach.

With the introduction of Funding Flexibilities project from 2018/2019 it is anticipated that closer working and flexibility across the Supporting People, Flying Start, Families First and the Communities First Legacy Fund and the new Employability Grant. Tackling Poverty Programmes will be realised.

Two strands of work are proposed for the 2018/19 financial year both of which seek to build on the positive messages drawn from evaluation of the alignment project; the first is a 'Full Flexibility' pathfinder , the second is an 'Extended Flexibilities' programme.

The Full Flexibility pathfinder will give 100% flexibility across grants in order to achieve increased programme alignment, make more effective use of funding and meet local needs. This greater financial freedom and flexibility is expected to enable pilot areas to work differently, giving more scope to design services to support the Governments drive for more preventative, long-term approaches. The pilot will run in 7 local authorities across Wales. In Gwent Newport and Torfaen are pilot areas for full flexibility.

Local authorities who are not Full Flexibility pathfinders will have 15% flexibility across the original grants This 'extended flexibility' will enable them to plan more

strategically, align programmes and deliver more responsive services to meet the needs of their citizens.

Housing (Wales) Act 2014

The Housing Wales Act is a major piece of legislation that links housing with national strategies such as community safety, children and young people, health and social care, older people and business and economy. The Act prioritises that essential support should be provided to people to assist in finding and keeping a home and is having a far reaching impact on the services that are being developed under the Supporting People Programme in Gwent.

The duty on Local Authorities to take 'all reasonable steps to achieve a suitable housing solution for all households which are homeless or threatened with homelessness'; is leading to a significant increase in demand for Supporting People funded services. The Supporting People Programme is responding to this challenge by working closely with Local Authority housing teams across the region to remodel existing services, develop new specific support services and / or locate additional specialist support workers within the housing options teams to meet this strategic agenda.

Housing is represented on the Gwent Regional Collaborative Committee (RCC) by Local Authority representatives from Torfaen and Caerphilly; Landlord and Support Provider representatives. This enables the RCC to keep abreast of the changes proposed by the Act and the impact this is having on services funded by the Supporting People Programme. A priority for the Gwent RCC will be to contribute towards the development of the new Regional Homelessness Strategy as required from LAs by the end of 2018.

Social Services & Well-being (Wales) Act 2014

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act provides the legal framework for improving the well-being of people who need care and support, carers who need support, and for transforming social services in Wales.

The Act recognises the increase in the number of people accessing social services. In order to help meet and reduce the demand it outlines the need for increased comprehensive early intervention and intensive support services. Supporting People services will play a vital role in providing preventative support to vulnerable people in order to meet this strategic agenda.

Social Services representatives from Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Newport and Monmouthshire attend the Gwent RCC enabling the RCC to keep abreast of the changes being proposed by the Act and the impact this will have on the Supporting People Programme. In some areas Community Connector posts have been commissioned to ensure that preventative work is taken forward as required by the Act. A mental health support worker (commissioned as a pilot in Blaenau Gwent) is based within the Information, Advice & Assistance Team

within Social Services to further assist with the preventative duties of the Health and Social Services & Well-being (Wales) Act.

Supporting People funded services will feature significantly as part of Information, Advice and Assistance services that vulnerable people can access. Ensuring SP services are accessible to eligible vulnerable people in Gwent, and complement existing universal and community services and packages of care will be a key priority for the Gwent RCC.

Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015

This legislation focuses on the prevention of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence, the protection of victims and support for those affected by such issues.

The Act aims amongst other things to:

- Improve arrangements to promote awareness of, and prevent, protect and support victims of gender-based violence, domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Introduce a needs-based approach to developing strategies which will ensure strong strategic direction and strengthened accountability
- Ensure strategic level ownership, through appointment of a Ministerial Advisor who will have a role in advising Welsh Ministers and improving joint working amongst agencies across this sector
- Improve consistency, quality and join up of service provision in Wales

The Gwent RCC Chair is a member of the South East Wales VAWDASV Board to represent the Gwent RCC. This ensures that close links are maintained between the regional boards, whereby both fora are kept abreast of changes being implemented as a result of the Act and priorities and developments associated with the Gwent SP Regional Strategic Plan. The work streams that sit under the regional board are attended by the RDC and by RCC advisory members. Close links have been formed with the regional team enabling information to be shared about the services commissioned through the Supporting People Programme and the progress made in line with the recommendations from the Domestic Abuse Modernisation Report (Gwent) 2012. As the primary funder of Domestic Abuse services across Gwent, the sharing of information assists the SEW VAWDASV Board to collate the information it needs to map all domestic abuse services commissioned across the region.

As from April 2016 installation of target hardening equipment is now eligible for Supporting People Programme Grant funding. A pooled approach to the provision of target hardening equipment has been progressed in Gwent and is available through the housing options teams in each Gwent local authority.

Assisting with progressing and implementing the requirements of the VAWDASV Act in Gwent is a Gwent RCC priority.

Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016

The Renting Homes (Wales) Act will make it simpler and easier to rent a home, replacing various complex pieces of existing legislation with one clear legal framework.

The Act is due to be implemented in 2017/18. Once implemented, the Act will require landlords to issue a written statement of the occupation contract which clearly sets out the rights and responsibilities of landlords and those renting from them. To help landlords comply with this requirement, the Welsh Government will provide free model contracts.

People who find themselves in difficult circumstances will also benefit from the Act. It will help to prevent current homelessness situations where a joint tenant leaves the tenancy, thereby ending the tenancy for everyone else. The new approach to joint contracts will also help victims of domestic abuse by enabling the person carrying out domestic abuse to be targeted for eviction.

The White Paper correlates to other strategic agendas. It proposes a more effective response to the anti-social behaviour of some households and of dealing with domestic abuse by targeting action on the perpetrator and enabling the victim to remain in their home.

The Act plans to achieve equality for young people (aged 16 and 17 years old) by enabling them to rent on the same basis as an adult. The Supporting People Programme will need to respond to these proposed changes by ensuring that services are able to respond to increased demand.

Housing and Community Housing Cymru are represented on the Gwent RCC enabling the RCC to keep abreast of the proposed changes and the impact this will have on Supporting People Programme services. The RCC has also had the opportunity to feed into the Bill's consultation process through its Housing members.

Welfare Reform Act 2012

The Welfare Reform Act continues to introduce a wide range of reforms. The Act introduces the Universal Credit (UC) which replaces many existing benefits and limits the total amount of benefit a person can claim. The welfare reforms will impact on the way tenants receive benefit, in many cases, removing the option of having benefits paid direct to landlords.

The number of people approaching Supporting People services with benefit and money problems continues to increase and this has been reflected in the Gwent Needs Mapping Exercise (GNME) returns over the past few years which continue

to inform that managing money is one of the most required support needs requested by people.

The Welsh Government Acts and subsequent legislative and policy changes unique to Wales as a result are welcomed by the Gwent RCC and whilst they present some challenges, they are embedded into this Regional Strategic Plan as priorities for development over the next 3 years.

The scope and diversity of the Supporting People Programme is also reflected in a wide range of other national strategies and plans. The following have influence over the direction of the Regional Strategic Plan in Gwent and the delivery of Supporting People services to vulnerable people:

- Working Together To Reduce Harm – The Substance Misuse Strategy for Wales 2008 – 2018
- Welsh Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study
- The Strategy for Older People in Wales (2013/23)
- Ten Year Homelessness Plan for Wales

Supported Accommodation Review

Recent announcements from DCLG and Department for Work and Pensions on Supported Accommodation have significantly changed the UK Government position from the previous one set out. Welsh Government has broadly welcomed the changes as a significant reduction of the risks facing provision for vulnerable people. The key features of the announcement are;

- Confirmation that the decision not to apply LHA to the Social Rented Sector will not be revisited, the intention is that this is now 'off the table' long term.
- That funding for Sheltered and Extra Care Supported Housing will remain within the welfare benefit system. Claimants will continue to have their rent and eligible services charges paid through Housing Benefit There is no longer an intention to devolve funding in relation to this housing.
- Similarly, funding for long term / disabled supported housing will remain within the welfare benefits system for the time being but Department for Work and Pensions will be considering ways to merge into Universal Credit system.
- However, the intention still remains to devolve funding for 'short-term' supported housing to Wales. This will include both core rent and additional housing management costs meaning all the funding of these settings will be within Welsh control. However, this will now proceed at a slower pace with funding now planned to be devolved from April 2020 rather than 2019 as previously indicated.

Gwent RCC welcomes further consultation and engagement in relation to the recent announcements and will continue to contribute to the Supported Accommodation Review particularly for Wales.

Welsh Audit Office Review: The Welsh Governments Supporting People Programme

The Welsh Audit Office carried out a review of the Welsh Governments Supporting People Programme examining whether the Welsh Government has put in place effective arrangements to manage the Supporting People Programme and ensure it is delivering high-quality and appropriately-targeted services. Eight recommendations are made, which may affect future delivery of the Supporting People Programme; a copy of the full report can be viewed here:

<https://www.wao.gov.uk/system/files/publications/Supporting-People-2017-English.pdf>

Regional overview

The governance arrangements established through the RCC have helped to raise the profile of the Supporting People Programme across many of the regional forums, boards and initiatives that are established in Gwent. The groups and forums highlighted within this section are represented by either the attendance of Gwent RCC members who are able to ensure Supporting People priorities are considered and also hold responsibility of feedback of relevant items to the Gwent RCC meeting.

Regional Partnership Board

As set out in the Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015 local authorities and local health boards are required to establish a Regional Partnership Board (RPB) to manage and develop services to secure strategic planning and partnership working and to ensure effective services, care and support are in place to best meet the needs of their respective population.

The objectives of the Regional Partnership Boards are to ensure the partnership bodies work effectively together to:

- Respond to the population assessment carried out in accordance with Section 14 of the Act, and
- Develop, publish and implement the Area Plans for each region covered as required under section 14A of the Act.
- Ensure the partnership bodies provide sufficient resources for the partnership arrangements, in accordance with their powers under section 167 of the Act.
- Promote the establishment of pooled funds where appropriate.

Regional Partnership Boards (RPB) will also need to prioritise the integration of services in relation to:

- Older people with complex needs and long term conditions, including dementia.
- People with learning disabilities.
- Carers, including young carers.
- Integrated Family Support Services.
- Children with complex needs due to disability or illness.

The Greater Gwent Health, Social Care & Well-Being RPB became a co-opted member of the Gwent RCC during Quarter 3 of 2016 formalising the reporting structures between the RCC and the RPB. RCC Members attend many of the partnership boards and operational groups which sit under the RPB ensuring that strategic links are made.

Public Service Boards

The purpose of Public Service Boards (PSBs) is to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in its area by strengthening joint working across all public services in Wales.

Overview

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 establishes statutory PSBs which will replace the voluntary Local Service Boards in each local authority area. Each Board will:

- Assess the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in its area
- Set objectives that are designed to maximise the PSBs contribution to the well-being goals.

Each PSB must prepare and publish a plan setting out its objectives and the steps it will take to meet them. This is called a Local Well-being Plan. It must say:

- Why the PSB feels their objectives will contribute within their local area to achieving the well being goals
- How it has had regard to the assessment of local well-being in setting its objectives and steps to take.

The Supporting People Programme was recognised as a key initiative in respect of delivering many of the outcomes and objectives contained in the previous Local Service Boards Single Integrated Plans. It is anticipated that this recognition will continue. Supporting People teams are committed to working

with the PSBs to deliver against the key themes and priorities that will be highlighted within their local action plans once drafted.

A key priority for this Regional Strategic Plan will be to create a closer alignment with the Gwent RCC and the recently developed Public Service Boards

The Regional Partnership Board and Public Service Boards are currently considering how they will work together and it is anticipated that formalised arrangements will be established to ensure effective partnerships are in place.

Gwent Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership Board

Building on the Pan Gwent Domestic Abuse Forum the Board has been established to provide the governance vehicle for the regional partnership for violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence services.

The Board parallels the South East Wales Safeguarding Children's Board and Gwent Adults Safeguarding Board. All three Boards will link together to provide a framework of safeguarding governance and will ensure that communication links exist with strategic multi-agency partnerships working across the region.

The Board will provide senior leadership bringing together agencies to work together in a joined up way and to ensure the best possible services are provided to protect and support victims and prevent crime. Where there are gaps in service or shortcomings in performance the Board will bring together the key agencies to prioritise and address issues.

Supporting People makes a substantial contribution to the funding of domestic abuse services across the region; funding both accommodation based services and floating support services. Supporting People is represented by the attendance of the RCC Chair at the Strategic Board. As an early adopter site to pilot and implement the process ahead of the national rollout of "Ask and Act", Supporting People Lead Officers and the Regional Development Co-ordinator attend the working groups that have been established to take forward this work.

Gwent Area Planning Board for Substance Misuse

Its role is to act as a forum bringing together all agencies involved in the planning, commissioning and delivery of substance misuse issues at a regional level. It provides a regional decision making framework to assess need across all communities, pool expertise and resources, monitor the impact of the national strategy and improve and strengthen planning, commissioning and performance management of substance misuse.

Supporting People makes a substantial contribution to assisting people with substance misuse issues in Gwent through the provision of supported housing

schemes and floating support services. Nominated Gwent RCC reps provide the link between the Area Planning Board for Substance Misuse and the RCC.

In One Place Programme

The In One Place Programme is a collaborative programme that was launched during 2014 to improve the provision of accommodation to those with complex health and social care needs within the Gwent geographical region. The In One Place Programme brings together the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, the five local authorities and eight housing associations.

The RCC Health Representative at the RCC is the In One Place Co-ordinator which ensures the Supporting People Programme is feeding into this collaborative programme.

Office of the Police Crime Commissioner (OPCC)

The role of the Police and Crime Commissioner is to ensure that the policing needs of Gwent's communities are met so that people are safe, and have confidence in and satisfaction with the services provided by the police. Gwent PCC Jeff Cuthbert represents the people of Gwent by making sure the service provided by the police is efficient, effective and economical. To ensure that the policing needs of communities are met, the Commissioner has consulted widely with the public on the policing requirements for Gwent. The Police and Crime Plan will set out his key priorities for Gwent and will be presented to the public in April 2017

The OPCC became a co-opted non-voting member of the Gwent RCC during 2014 and the Gwent RCC Chair now also attends the OPCC Strategic Commissioning Board and the Safer Gwent Partnership to represent the Gwent Regional Collaborative Committee; the synergies and linkages to be made between these groups are well recognised and understood and it is anticipated that relationships and partnerships will strengthen further going forward.

Wales Community Rehabilitation Service (CRC) – Provider of Probation Services

Wales CRC provides a wide range of probation services to help reduce reoffending and protect the public from harm. They work with low and medium risk offenders, managing their community sentences and giving them the knowledge, skills and support to enable them to stop offending. This includes specialist recovery and rehabilitation programmes, community payback unpaid work, education, training and employment, mentoring and working with families of offenders. They also manage those released from prison on licence. Wales CRC is owned by Working Links, a public, private, voluntary company committed to helping people change their lives for the better. Wales CRC has been fully engaged with the RCC Governance since its inception in 2012.

Supply, needs assessment, outcomes analysis, consultation evidence and service gaps

The local Supporting People teams have established local and regional planning and commissioning frameworks that:

- Create a clear picture of the supply of services and the identified housing related support needs across the locality and the region.
- Enable the planning of services to meet identified gaps in service provision
- Develop and maintain quality services that are sustainable, strategically relevant and offer value for money.
- Ensure services are citizen centred; putting the needs of service users first by conducting appropriate consultation and by providing opportunities to be involved in the planning, commissioning and review of Supporting People funded services.

The Gwent strategic planning process consists of collation and analysis of local, regional and national data sets and information. Sources of information and data that are considered include:

Demographics

- National & Regional Data: relevant national data, available through the Data Unit Wales, Daffodil and Info Base Cymru.

Supply

- Supply Map: this is completed by local Supporting People teams on an annual basis and collated regionally; for this Regional Strategic Plan the data was a snapshot of services as at 1st April 2016.
- Availability of alternative services and provision.

Demand

- Provider monitoring information including waiting lists and void rates: providers are monitored through contractual and strategic planning mechanisms by local authority Supporting People teams.

Needs

- Gwent Needs Mapping Exercise (GNME): collects information on individuals presenting to homelessness, Supporting People providers of services, Social Workers, Probation Officers and other relevant services in the local area. The form is collected and collated locally and then feeds

into a regional data collection tool managed by the Regional Development Co-ordinator.

- The annual needs planning event. Stakeholders are invited to attend; giving their views and thoughts on services provided locally and regionally, information from these events helps to inform the understanding of unmet needs.
- Regional project proposal form: provides an opportunity for interested stakeholders to provide information that aids the planning of regional services across Gwent.
- Gwent Supporting People places service users at the heart of the Programme; recognizing that Service Users are experts by experience. Service users are consulted on the Supporting People Programme through a range of mechanisms such as service evaluations, needs evidence events, quality audit questionnaires, commissioning and procurement processes and membership at project boards for new developments. The first regional Service User event was held in Torfaen to coincide with the launch of the service user website and the service user survey.
- The Supporting People Outcomes Framework collects information relating to eleven well-being outcomes across four themes; which enables commissioners and other stakeholders to determine the benefits of receiving housing related support to improve the lives of vulnerable people.
- Strategic priorities and gaps in service provision from other strategies, evidence bases and fora also contribute to the understanding of needs

Other research and data

- Research from other interest groups and organisations is considered when published e.g. Joseph Rowntree, Shelter.

Supply

There is an established regional supply map database, developed over the past nine years which holds the details of the existing accommodation based and floating support schemes; this is updated as a snapshot of services commissioned across the region on April 1st each year.

The current supply of services shows that there were 13882 units and 10828.49 hours of support contracted by 83 support providers across Gwent on this date.

Supply Map Summary comparison (Snapshot as of April 1st 2015 and 2016 and 2017)

Summary by Lead Authority 2017		
Lead Authority	Units	Hours
Blaenau Gwent	486	0
Caerphilly	5299	2364
Monmouthshire	2252	1582.45
Newport	2152	6763.04
Torfaen	3693	119
Total	13882	10828.49

Summary by Lead Authority 2016		
Lead Authority	Units	Hours
Blaenau Gwent	515	169
Caerphilly	5785	4566.5
Monmouthshire	2651	1570.45
Newport	2584	6215.04
Torfaen	3628	119
Total	15163	12640

The above two tables show the comparison of units and hours commissioned by each local authority as at April 1st 2016 and 2017.

Summary by Scheme type 2017		
Scheme Type	Units	Hours
Alarm	10814	0
Sheltered / OP Floating Support	1638	967.5
Float Sup	1014	7018.2
Direct Access	32	322
Permanent Supported Housing	133	970.5
Temporary Supported Housing	251	1550.29
Totals	13882	10828.49

Summary by Scheme type 2016		
Scheme Type	Units	Hours
Alarm	12107	0
Sheltered / OP Floating Support	1647	1020.5
Float Sup	929	8613.35
Direct Access	40	262
Permanent Supported Housing	193	1200.5
Temporary Supported Housing	247	1543.64
Totals	15163	12640

The above tables provide a summary of the number of units and hours of support commissioned by scheme type as at April 1st 2015 and April 1st 2016 2017

The tables below show a comparison of the number of units and hours commissioned by client group as at April 1st 2016 and April 1st 2017.

Summary By Client Group 2017		
Client Group	Units	Hours
People with Learning Disability	234	1083
People with Mental Health	310	1665.45
People with Alcohol Issues	0	36
People with Substance Misuse Issues	16	361
People with Physical and/or Sensory Disability	0	193.5
Alarm Services (including sheltered/extra care)	10627	0
People with Criminal Justice	50	267
Generic/Floating Support/Peripatetic	445	2799.75
People with Chronic Illnesses including HIV, Aids	0	0
People with Refugee Status	0	37
People over 55 years of age with Support Needs	1835	1057.5
People with Developmental Disorders	0	195
Young People who are Care Leavers	8	77
Young People with Support Needs 16-24	141	738.15
Families with Support Needs	96	368
Single Parent Families with Support Needs	2	49
Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	103	801.75
Men experiencing Domestic Abuse	5	8.75
Single People with Support Needs (25-54)	10	1090.64
Totals	13882	10828.49

Summary By Client Group 2016		
Client Group	Units	Hours
People with Learning Disability	289	1177
People with Mental Health	233	2341.95
People with Alcohol Issues	0	0
People with Substance Misuse Issues	16	354
People with Physical and/or Sensory Disability	6	254.9
Alarm Services (including sheltered/extra care)	11920	0
People with Criminal Justice	41	230
Generic/Floating Support/Peripatetic	183	3911.5
People with Chronic Illnesses including HIV, Aids	0	0
People with Refugee Status	0	0
People over 55 years of age with Support Needs	2148	1244.5
People with Developmental Disorders	0	188
Young People who are Care Leavers	8	56
Young People with Support Needs 16-24	121	696.1
Families with Support Needs	85	312
Single Parent Families with Support Needs	2	116
Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	88	837.25
Men experiencing Domestic Abuse	5	8.75
Single People with Support Needs (25-54)	18	912.04
Totals	15163	12640

The tables evidence the increase in commissioned services across client categories prioritised by the RCC and in line with the national strategic direction of the Programme.

Gwent Supporting People Cross-Authority & Regional Schemes

2017: The Supporting People Programme funds 518 units and 1397.44 hours of support for cross authority or regional schemes across Gwent. The current regional schemes and the cross authority services can be seen in the chart below. All services contract directly with the lead Local Authority who holds responsibility for contract monitoring and review.

Jointly funded regional or sub regional services and cross authority services

Lead Authority	Client Group	Nº Units or hours	Contract by Units or hours	Scheme Type
Blaenau Gwent	Women Experiencing Domestic Abuse	6	units	Temporary Supported Housing
Caerphilly	Women Experiencing Domestic Abuse	4	units	Temporary Supported Housing
Caerphilly	Women Experiencing Domestic Abuse	4	units	Temporary Supported Housing
Caerphilly	Women Experiencing Domestic Abuse	4	units	Temporary Supported Housing
Caerphilly	Women Experiencing Domestic Abuse	4	units	Temporary Supported Housing
Monmouthshire	People over 55 years of age with Support Needs	63	hours	Sheltered / OP Floating Support
Monmouthshire	Alarm Services (including sheltered/extra care)	374	units	Alarm
Monmouthshire	People with Criminal Justice	12	units	Float Sup
Monmouthshire	People over 55 years of age with Support Needs	8	units	Sheltered / OP Floating Support
Monmouthshire	People over 55 years of age with Support Needs	44	units	Alarm
Monmouthshire	Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	5	units	Temporary Supported Housing
Newport	Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	112	hours	Direct Access
Newport	People with Learning Disability	6	hours	Permanent Supported Housing
Newport	Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	150	hours	Direct Access
Newport	Single People with Support Needs (25-54)	919.44	hours	Temporary Supported Housing
Newport	Young People who are Care Leavers	16	hours	Temporary Supported Housing
Newport	Families with Support Needs	72	hours	Float Sup
Newport	People with Learning Disability	6	hours	Permanent Supported Housing
Torfaen	People with Criminal Justice	22	units	Float Sup
Torfaen	Generic/Floating Support/Peripatetic	20	Units	Float Sup
Torfaen	Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	11	Units	Direct Access

Gwent Supporting People Local Service Directory Links

The list of local services funded by the Supporting People Programme can be accessed through the individual service directories using the links below:

Blaenau Gwent

http://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/fileadmin/documents/Resident/Health_and_Social_Care/Supporting_People_Service_Directory.pdf

Caerphilly

http://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/supportingpeople/sites/your.caerphilly.gov.uk.supportingpeople/files/docs/SP%20Directory%20English_0.pdf

Monmouthshire

A web page is currently unavailable; please contact the Supporting People team for the Monmouthshire directory of services.

Newport

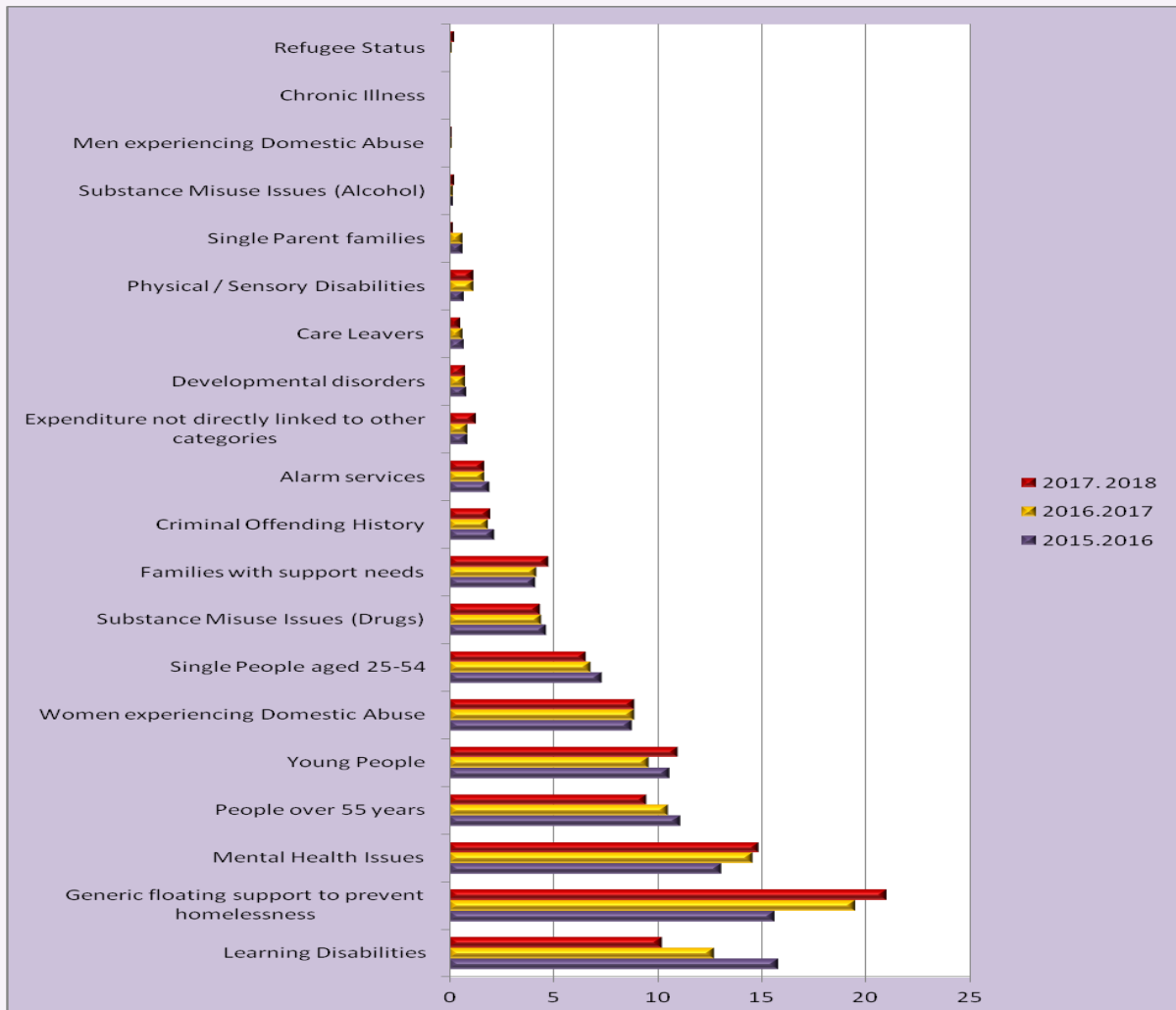
<http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Care-and-Support/Newport-Directory-of-Supporting-People-Services-2017.pdf>

Torfaen

<http://www.torfaen.gov.uk/en/Related-Documents/Supporting-People/Directory-of-Services.pdf>

Spend update

The following chart provides an overview of how spend was allocated against each of the Supporting People client categories in the 2017/2018 spend plan and provides a comparison to the 2016/2017 and 2015/2016 spend plan.



* Some support issues where there appears to be little direct spend; tend to be supported by other projects receiving funding allocated under other client categories. E.g. chronic illness; men experiencing domestic abuse; substance misuse; single parents; physical sensory disabilities and care leavers.

The recently introduced new legislation is determining the future direction and delivery of the Supporting People Programme in Gwent; the Supporting People teams are continuing to develop services that are increasingly preventative in nature in order to meet their requirements to deliver under the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 and Social Services & Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

Needs

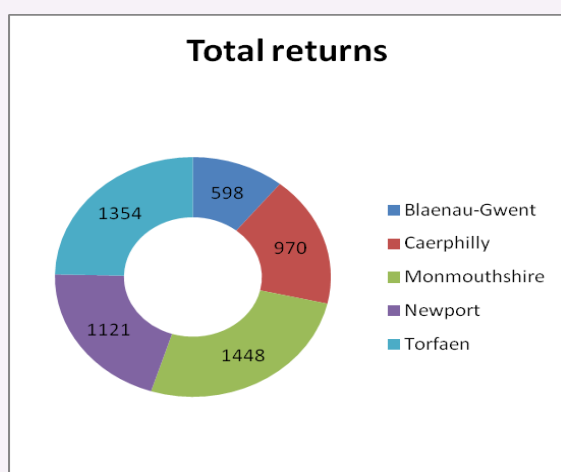
Gwent Needs Mapping Exercise (GNME) Analysis April 2016 – March 2017

The GNME form is distributed to agencies working with vulnerable people to complete on an on-going basis.

It is a planning tool that is used to gather information on the current and future accommodation needs, the housing-related-support needs and the additional support needs of individuals presenting to homelessness, Supporting People providers and other relevant organisations e.g. Social Services and Probation.

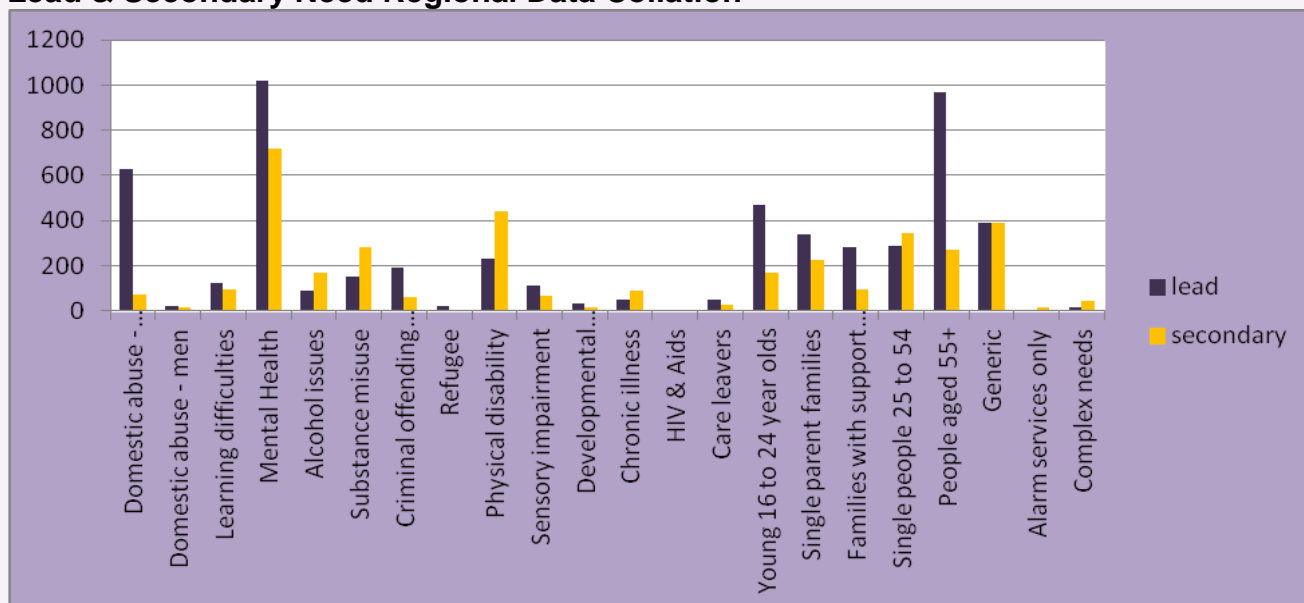
The updated version of the GNME form launched across Gwent on 1st April 2015 better reflects the Outcomes Framework; during 2016 a review of the data analysis was completed to ensure that the data related to priorities such as homelessness was captured.

During 2015 /2016 a total of 4940 GNME returns were received from across the five Gwent Authorities; an increase of over a thousand more returns compared to the previous reporting period. The Supporting People teams continue to raise the profile of the GNME form to organisations to increase awareness of the importance of this submission data as a needs planning tool.

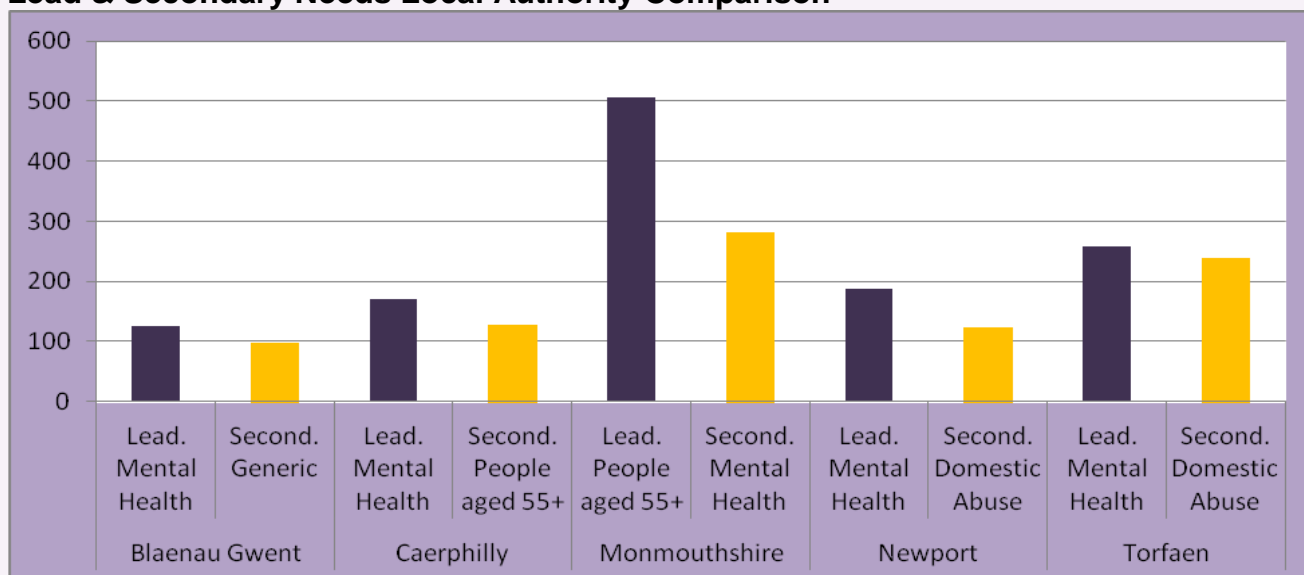


"Since 2003 over 40,000 GNME forms have been returned to the local Supporting People teams; providing a significant amount of information to analyse housing related support needs locally and regionally"

Lead & Secondary Need Regional Data Collation



Lead & Secondary Needs Local Authority Comparison



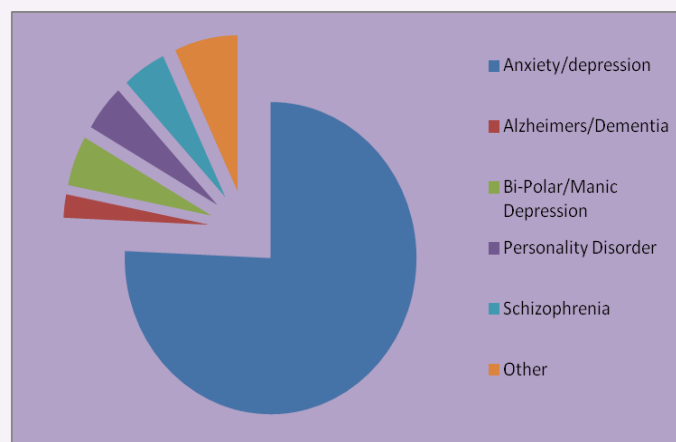
The graphs above provide an analysis of the lead and secondary needs that people are presenting to services with by regional collation and by local authority comparison of the data.

The data continues to reflect that people are presenting to services with the same predominant client category needs as in previous years; this year mental health appears as either a lead or secondary need in every local authority.

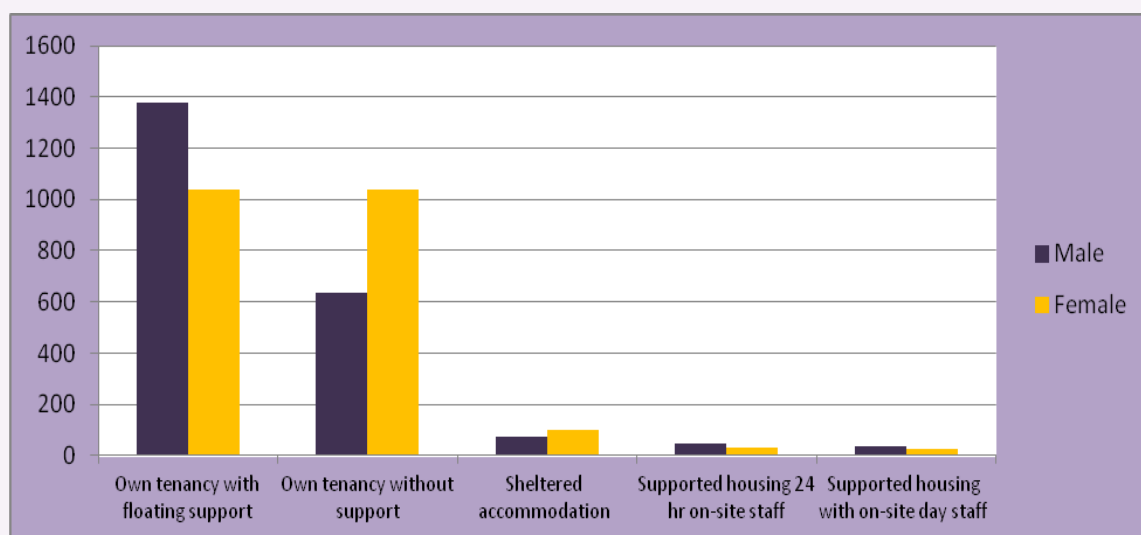
The pie chart below illustrates the mental health problems that are being experienced by those completing the GNME; anxiety and depression continue to be the most predominant mental health issues as in previous years.

Almost a quarter of those completing the GNME appear to have a diagnosed mental health condition.

Housing crisis contributes to the development of mental health issues or makes existing mental health problems much more difficult to manage without support. Review of client category People with Mental Health Issues has been prioritised by the RCC for their 2017-2019 work plan.



The analysis from the graph below identifies the top five accommodation needs from those completing the GNME.

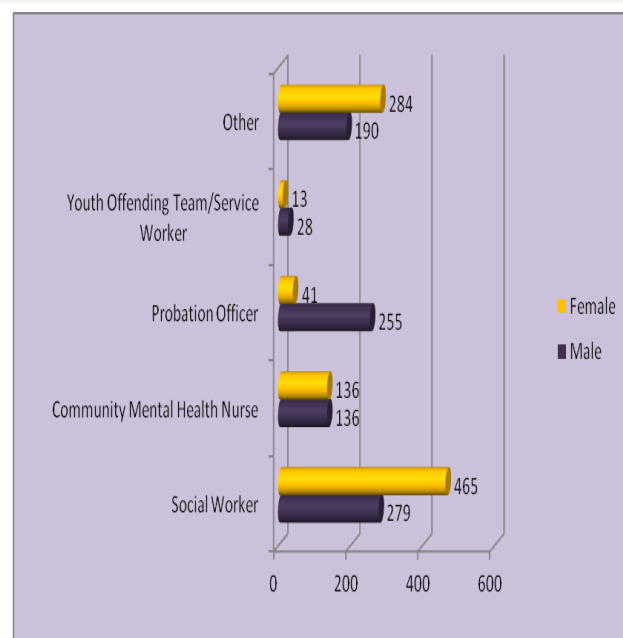


Current Accommodation (Where do you currently live?)		
	Gender	
Accommodation type	Male	Female
Armed Forces Accommodation	1	1
Extra Care accommodation	10	10
Hospital - Medical	13	3
Hospital - Psychiatric	24	15
Hostel	203	121
Living with family or friends	176	269
Long term/secure tenancy, e.g. LA/RSL/HA	659	1184
Temporary accommodation/unsecure tenancy, inc b & b	171	182
Owner Occupier	268	470
Night shelter	62	11
Prison	22	1
Private rented, including private rented sector	213	400
Sheltered Accomodation	53	62
Refuge (for Domestic Abuse)	0	180
Sofa surfing	167	126
Sleeping Rough/street homeless	106	19
Shared house	26	15
Supported housing	87	49
Other, e.g. caravan etc	32	53
Total	2293	3171

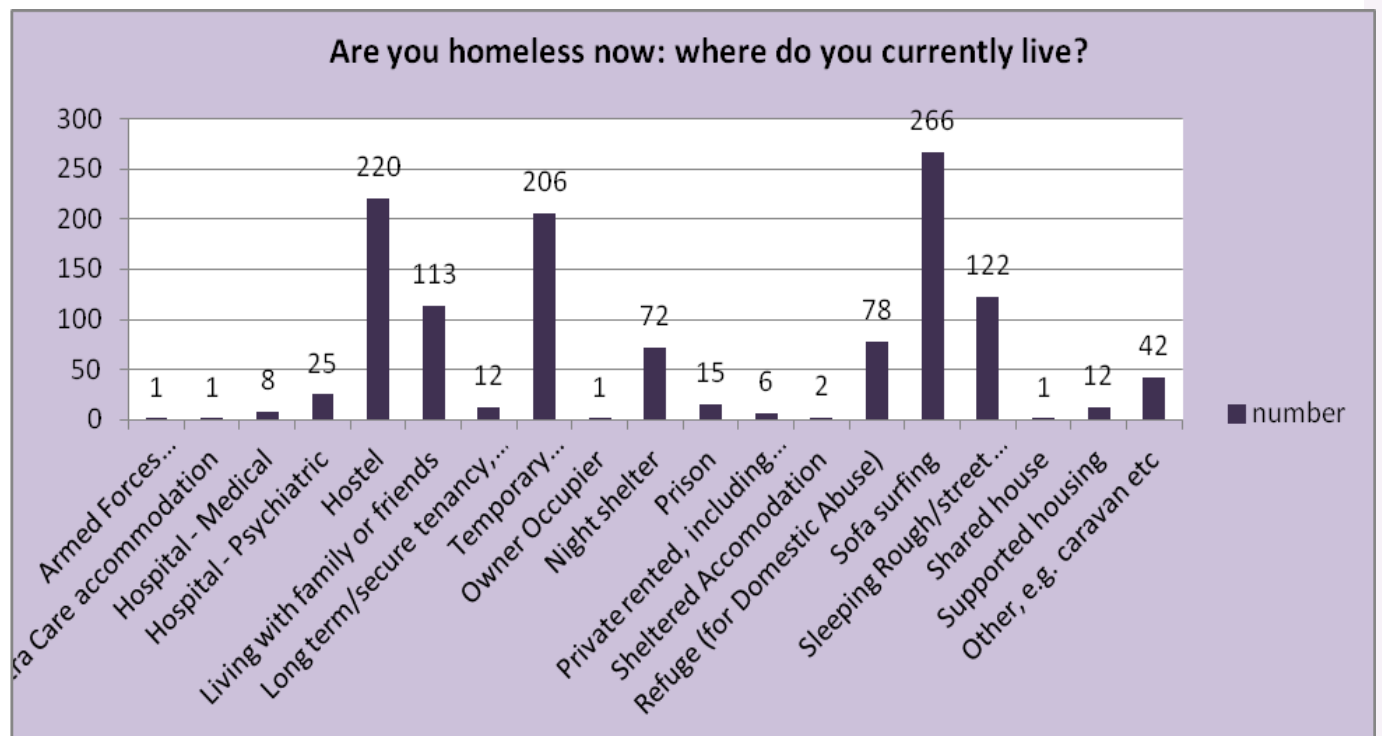
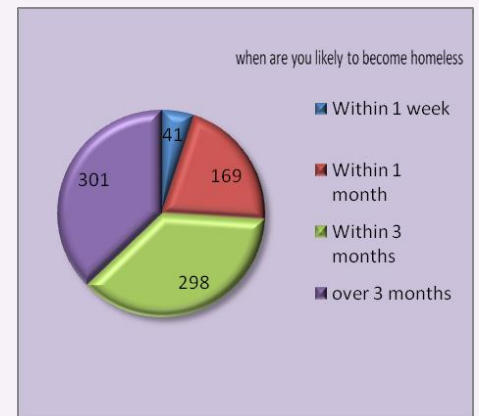
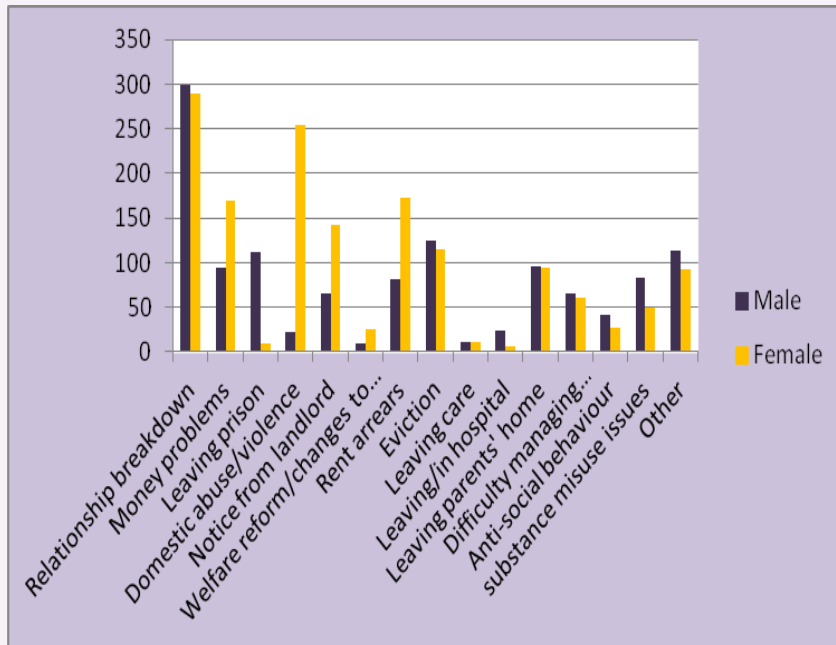
These tables and graphs highlight the accommodation that people are living in when approaching agencies for support, the areas that they require support with and the numbers who are receiving support from another statutory agency.

Type of support needed			
	Gender		
	Male	Female	Total
Feeling safe	692	1142	1834
Contributing to the safety/well-being of self and others	584	712	1296
Managing accommodation	1248	1644	2892
Managing relationships	591	942	1533
Feeling part of the community	632	857	1489
Managing money	1153	1515	2668
Engaging in education/learning	355	449	804
Engaged in employment/voluntary work	404	464	868
Being physically healthy	591	766	1357
Being mentally healthy	746	1018	1764
Leading a healthy and active lifestyle	569	642	1211

Other agency involvement



The following tables and graphs provide an analysis of the homelessness data captured through the Gwent Needs Mapping Exercise collation tool.



Supporting People Outcomes Framework

The Outcomes Framework aims to demonstrate the effectiveness of the Supporting People Programme and collects information that highlights the benefits of receiving housing related support to improve the lives of vulnerable people. Welsh Government, Local Authorities and support providers have been working in partnership to develop an Outcomes Framework since 2008; and collection of the outcomes data has been compulsory for Supporting People funded services since April 2012.

The purpose of the framework is:

- To adopt a system to collect meaningful outcome information.
- To use the information to measure, maintain and improve the quality of services provided.
- To recognise the effectiveness of the Supporting People Programme.

The tables demonstrate the outcome categories that have either been fully achieved or a positive outcome achieved for service users during 2016/2017. Work is ongoing to improve the quality of the data submitted and to better understand the information so that this can be analysed to further develop services.

		Period 1 (2016)			
2016-2017 Outcomes Data July to Dec 2016		Identified Need	Positive Outcome Achieved	Outcome Fully achieved	% making progress & fully achieving
1	Feeling Safe	6332	876	3066	62%
	Contributing to the safety/wellbeing of self and others	5506	626	2476	56%
2	Managing Accommodation	8559	1226	3060	50%
	Managing Relationships	5514	721	2428	57%
	Feeling Part of the Community	5032	558	2344	58%
3	Managing Money	7811	1070	2997	52%
	Engaging in Education/Learning	2729	292	1297	58%
	Engaging in Employment/Volunteering work	2647	261	1244	57%
4	Physically Healthy	5546	634	1928	46%
	Mentally Healthy	6280	901	2023	47%
	Leading a Healthy, Active lifestyle	5115	569	2201	54%

		Period 2 (2017)			
2016-2017 Outcomes Data Jan to June 2017		Identified Need	Positive Outcome Achieved	Outcome Fully achieved	% making progress & fully achieving
1	Feeling Safe	6588	780	3240	61%
	Contributing to the safety/wellbeing of self and others	5687	700	2585	58%
2	Managing Accommodation	8950	1289	3238	51%
	Managing Relationships	5824	848	2593	59%
	Feeling Part of the Community	5310	533	2591	59%
3	Managing Money	8583	1197	3378	53%
	Engaging in Education/Learning	2972	256	1603	63%
	Engaging in Employment/Volunteering work	2852	237	1535	62%
4	Physically Healthy	5864	726	1983	46%
	Mentally Healthy	6740	1089	2177	48%
	Leading a Healthy, Active lifestyle	5456	636	2377	55%

Supporting People Outcomes Framework

Consultation of the outcomes framework was completed during 2017 it is anticipated that the updated framework will be launched during 2018-2019.

Consultation evidence

The third needs planning day was held during 2017 Providers and stakeholders from across Gwent were invited to this event and the format for the day was a drop-in session; allowing individuals to provide information in an informal way.

Attendees were asked to think about the housing related support services available for the groups they are involved with and comment on the following questions against each of the Supporting People client categories on both a local and regional basis:

- 1) What you think the gaps in current housing related support provision are on both a local and regional basis?
- 2) Any suggestions for how the Supporting People Programme could work more closely with the other Tackling Poverty Programmes: Communities First, Families First and Flying Start to provide better outcomes for each client group.

Additionally this year delegates were asked to think about the housing related support services that are in place and:

- 3) What you think the gaps are in current homelessness service provision?

Comments received from support providers and partner agencies indicated that there was the greatest need to develop regional services for young people and young people experiencing mental health issues. Early intervention and prevention services responses featured highly on the day along with low level floating support and hoarding support services.

Responses to gaps in regional homelessness services provision:

- Tracking non-priority households to understand full costs of homelessness to other services*
- Lack of temporary accommodation
- No more B&B 's – safety issues
- Extreme shortage of private accommodation that accepts housing benefit

- More weekend emergency accommodation *****
- Need to develop a regional homeless strategy that covers move on pathways and support – link to SP Gwent and RSP
- Culturally appropriate support*
- There is currently no rough sleeper work funded aside from CCBC
- Focus mostly on putting people in categories than looking at individual circumstances*
- Better links with MH and Homelessness Services** / Better links with health services e.g. mental health, LD's, Older People for more seamless packages of support to address needs*
- Increased joint working/planning required with APB & Substance Misuse agencies to look at as SU's reporting increase in homelessness especially in Newport

Attendees at the event were also asked which client groups they would like to prioritise for Supporting People funding. Each person was given three £SP and asked to place them in their preferred client groups for the local authority in which they work and for regional priorities. The highlighted client categories received the highest three money votes across each local authority and regionally

Money table outcomes from Gwent stakeholders

Category	BG	Caerphilly	Monmouth	Newport	Torfaen	Regional	Total
Young People 16-24	5	9	4	6	11	19	54
Single People 25-54	5	7	7	8	6	15	48
Alarms	1		6	3	2	8	20
Substance Misuse Alcohol	2	2	3	7	5	14	33
Care leavers	2	4	4	6	6	13	35
Chronic Illness	1	5		2	4	2	14
Criminal offending	6	11	4	12	7	20	60
Developmental disorders /ASD	2	2	5	3	5	12	29
Substance Misuse Drugs	3	9	3	13	9	23	60
Families with Support Needs	4	6	3	6	6	18	43
Generic	12	4	7	9	19	40	91
Learning Disabilities	4		2	12	3	18	39
Men Domestic Abuse			2		6	17	25
Mental Health	17	20	15	24	21	60	157
Over 55's	14	13	14	21	25	34	121
Physical/sensory disabilities	1	4		13	1	17	36
Refugees	1		2	6	2	10	21
Single parent families	3	3	5	8	11	23	53
Women Domestic Abuse	4	6	5	10	12	18	55

Regional Project Proposal Form

Each year a regional project proposal form is widely distributed to service providers, partnership agencies, commissioning bodies and stakeholders in the Supporting People Programme to gather information relating to regional and/or cross authority project proposals. It is also requested that partners use the form to suggest any efficiency savings that could be made to current services delivered.

This mechanism enables a directory of potential regional services to be maintained which can be commissioned at short notice and on a pilot basis should funding from the review, remodelling or decommissioning of services become available.



**The above diagram illustrates Gwent's Inclusive Strategic Planning Framework*

Service User consultation

The Gwent Supporting People Regional Collaborative Committee (RCC) set up in 2012; is responsible for making sure that housing related support services are delivering the right results for people using them across Gwent. Since inception the RCC has recognised the importance of being able to engage with a wide range of service users, past and present enabling them to have influence and a voice at the Committees strategic level.

The Regional Collaborative Committee and local Supporting People teams have been working closely with Service Users of Supporting People funded services over the past few years to further develop the range of engagement and consultation opportunities available to them.

The **Gwent Supporting People Service User website** is the culmination of several years of co-produced engagement work and now adds to the already well developed engagement activities that are available across the Gwent region.

On June 20th 2017 the **Gwent Supporting People Service User Engagement website** *the first in Wales* was formally launched by the Deputy Leader of Torfaen Council, Richard Clark and Councillor David Daniels, Executive Member for Communities, Housing and Anti Poverty at the **Gwent Service User Needs Planning Event..**

This was the first regional Service User event held by the Gwent RCC and Supporting People teams. Ninety nine Service Users attended from twenty three organisations delivering projects across some or all Gwent local authority areas.

At the event Service Users had the opportunity to complete the annual survey which they could access on-line through the website. Some comments from the day are included here:

“Fantastic Event”
“Well attended”

“Having a fab time”
“Great effort”

“Brilliant day”
“Successful launch”

Service Users who attended the event were also asked which client groups they would like to prioritise for Supporting People funding. Each person was given three £SP and asked to place them in their preferred client groups for the local authority in which they work and for regional priorities. The highlighted client categories received the highest three money votes across each local authority and regionally

Money table outcomes from Service Users

Category	BG	Caerphilly	Monmouth	Newport	Torfaen	Regional	Total
Young People 16-24	0	2	1	2	4	8	17
Single People 25-54	0	7	0	0	3	16	26
Alarms	0	1	0	1	0	4	6
Substance Misuse Alcohol	0	1	1	0	3	4	9
Care leavers	1	1	0	3	3	6	14
Chronic Illness	0	0	1	1	0	7	9
Criminal offending	0	1	1	3	1	4	10
Developmental disorders /ASD	1	3	2	9	4	7	26
Substance Misuse Drugs	0	1	0	2	1	6	10
Families with Support Needs	0	2	0	4	0	13	19
Generic	0	4	1	2	3	9	19
Learning Disabilities	1	3	2	8	9	22	45
Men Domestic Abuse	5	3	1	1	2	7	19
Mental Health	2	4	3	11	8	17	45
Over 55's	3	1	0	4	3	1	12
Physical/sensory disabilities	1	1	2	0	5	22	31
Refugees	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Single parent families	0	3	0	0	2	6	11
Women Domestic Abuse	4	10	2	6	5	10	37

Additional Consultation

Service Users and potential Service Users complete the GNME form which provides information about their accommodation and housing related support needs. GNME analysis is provided under Section 4 of this plan. Service Users are consulted about the service they receive during initial and ongoing service reviews using questionnaires and face-to-face interviews.

Support provider consultation includes the dissemination of any new documentation, forms and guidance, through the regional and local provider forums and the local Supporting People teams. The regional provider forum is fully engaged with and works in partnership with the RCC via the RCC reps they have nominated.

Further opportunities have arisen during 2017 to engage with the national Supporting People working groups including the Data Sub Group, the Governance Group, the Strategic Finance Group and the Research and Evaluation Group and Gwent is well represented across all of these national policy work groups.

This plan is subject to a three week consultation period during November/ December with a wide range of stakeholders, support providers and Service Users prior to approval and formal sign off by the Gwent Regional Collaborative Committee in January 2018.

Gwent Supporting People Teams

The main functions of the local Supporting Peoples teams are to identify gaps in the current provision of housing related support services and develop an evidence base that provides a comprehensive rationale for the review, development, remodelling and decommissioning of housing related support services.

This is achieved by collating and analysing various needs data information from a number of sources and by confirming the supply of housing related support services in the locality. The evidence collated through this process shapes future service commissioning developments. The Local Supporting People Planning Groups prioritise service development for vulnerable client groups based on this evidence.

Local plans are developed and updated annually by each local authority in Gwent highlighting their local priorities and commissioning intentions for the following year.

Copies of the local plans can be accessed using the links under Section 6 of this Regional Strategic Plan

Priorities for Service Development

RCC Work Plan Priorities

Further scrutiny and mapping of the services provided across the various client groups continues to be undertaken as part of the Gwent RCCs work plan which will enable further opportunities for regional service remodelling and development.

The RCC prioritised the following client categories for scrutiny and review as part of its 2017-2019 work plan:

- People with Mental Health Issues
- Young People with Support Needs (16-24) / Young People who are Care Leavers
- Review of rough sleeping and consideration of implementation of housing first model for this group.
- Continued partnership working and collaboration with Regional VAWDASV team

The following two client categories are still prioritised as part of the RCC work plan:

People with Learning Disabilities

During 2015 the task and finish group agreed a set of principles in regard to delivery of services to this client group which were agreed with Social Services departments across all Gwent Local Authorities. Regular reports are provided to the RCC to provide updates of local progress against the principles. It is anticipated that all principles will be implemented by April 2018

Older Persons Services

Services provided to older people were prioritised for scrutiny by the Gwent RCC as part of their 2014/2015 work plan; and this prioritisation by the Gwent RCC has helped to ensure that work has continued to be undertaken locally to advance the recommendations made in the Aylward Review 2010.

Remodelling of older persons services has been progressed in all Gwent local authorities and in some areas all services are now provided on the basis of need. Remodelling discussions are still underway with providers in some areas and it is currently anticipated that all older person's services in Gwent will be provided on the basis of need by April 2018.

Domestic Abuse Modernisation Project Recommendations 2012

The project was set up as the result of a piece of research that evaluated the experiences of over 70 service users who accessed statutory and support services. Outstanding recommendations to improve services included the following:

Accommodation based services

An additional 'specialist refuge' providing 24 hour on-site support is prioritised for development in the South/East of the region to accommodate individuals with complex needs. Progress is being made to develop the specialist refuge, planning permission has been agreed and work on site is about to start.

Since the recommendations of the report were published in 2012; an additional £235,839 has been allocated to further increase and develop services for this client group.

Local Commissioning Plans

Gwent Local Authorities have highlighted that they intend to take positive action across the following areas or client groups in their 2018/2019 local commissioning plans:

Blaenau Gwent:

Mental health, Young people, Younger people with physical disabilities

Caerphilly:

Mental health, Young People, Substance misuse, Single parent families, Homeless Rough sleepers

Monmouthshire: People made vulnerable through Universal Credit, Young People and Young Care leaver

Newport: Older People, Domestic Abuse, Young People

Torfaen: Generic, Domestic Abuse, Mental Health, Young People, Vulnerable Families

Efficiencies to Improve Service Delivery

Supporting People budget 2018/2019 and beyond

The Gwent RCC and Supporting People Local Planning Groups continue to consider how potential cuts to the Supporting People budget in future years can be best managed across the region to ensure cost effective quality services continue to be delivered to best meet the needs of citizens in Gwent. This Plan sets the strategic direction for the Supporting People Programme in Gwent; highlighting the regional priorities and the direction of travel for the Supporting People Programme.

The figures highlight a fluctuating and more recently a static but uncertain budget that is extremely difficult to strategically plan and commission against. Current advice is that the Supporting People budget is protected for two years, but there is uncertainty of how this will look beyond 2019/2020 if Supporting People grant is included within a new Early Intervention and Prevention fund and in Newport and Torfaen with pilot 100% funding flexibility due to begin from April 2018. At the point of writing Local Authorities and the RCC are currently awaiting guidance from Welsh Government on funding flexibility implementation and it will be a priority for the RCC to assist in maximizing any opportunities whilst ensuring the sustainability of the Supporting People Programme under the pilots.

Local Authority	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019 (indicative)
Blaenau Gwent	£2,617,930	£2,699,341	£2,552,176	£2,552,176	£2,552,176	£2,552,176
Caerphilly	£6,542,558	£6,592,001	£6,232,790	£6,232,790	£6,232,790	£6,232,790
Monmouthshire	£2,171,631	£2,156,785	£2,039,174	£2,039,175	£2,039,175	£2,039,175
Newport	£6,670,273	£6,734,211	£6,367,255	£6,367,256	£6,367,256	£6,367,256
Torfaen	£3,650,868	£3,636,022	£3,437,833	£3,437,834	£3,437,834	£3,437,834
Gwent	£21,653,260	£21,818,360	£20,629,230	£20,629,231	£20,629,231	£20,629,231
Wales	£136,333,000	£134,359,000	£124,409,000	£124,409,000	£124,409,000	£124,409,000

Since 2014 the RCC has been considering how future budget reductions to the Programme will be managed across the region.

The following overarching Gwent principles agreed in 2014 for managing cuts to the Supporting People budget are still in place and considered as part of the local and regional strategic planning process:

- *Each Gwent Local Authority will consider their local strategic priorities.*
- *Each Gwent Local Authority will identify potential savings following service evaluations.*
- *Each Gwent Local Authority will identify savings from pilot schemes which are due to end.*

During 2015 the “Gwent Allowable Activities” document was updated. Effective housing related support services will be delivered which are in line with the criteria outlined in the Gwent Supporting People Allowable Activities and Definitions of Housing Related Support Guidance (2015). The guidance is not intended to restrict innovation but to assist organisations and individuals to manage expectations and understand the purpose, scope and boundaries of housing related support.

The RCCs role in scrutinising the local decision making processes ensures that decisions taken locally are transparent and fair, whilst ensuring that projects continue to meet the terms and requirements of the Supporting People Programme Grant Guidance.

The Gwent RCC and the Local Supporting People Planning Groups will need to make some difficult decisions in implementing future budget reductions and strategic priorities along with efficiency savings will need to be considered and agreed. Closer working with the other Tackling Poverty Programmes is well established to ensure that there is no duplication of service delivery across the Programmes in each of the Gwent Local Authorities. Awareness raising and training sessions continue to be delivered to staff working across the Programmes to increase understanding and develop networking opportunities.

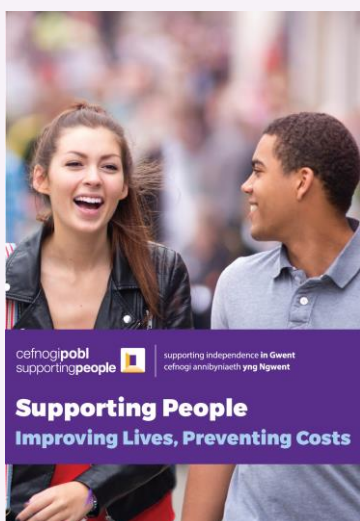
The RCC has recognised within its work plan that working closely with investments streams such as those delivered by the Tackling Poverty Programmes and others such as Social Housing Grant and the Intermediate Care Fund delivered by the Regional Partnership Board (RPB) will be increasingly important in the future as budgets are stretched to deliver services to the increasing numbers of people who require support.

Closer working between the Tackling Poverty Programmes in Gwent and developments and initiatives that support providers and social landlords continue to introduce ensures that Service Users are provided with opportunities to access skills, learning and educational based courses and activities and with the closer links being made between the Tackling Poverty Programmes more of these opportunities will be community based providing Service Users with the skills to increase their confidence and build their social networks within the communities that they are living. Access to initiatives to some of the

newer Welsh Government programmes, such as the Communities for Work and the LIFT Programme which is delivered in some Gwent local authority areas also provides Service Users with the support to access work and work placement opportunities and to move out of the cycle of poverty.

These initiatives are promoted to Supporting People funded providers through the local and regional support provider forums, networking events and through communication tools such as email, the Gwent Supporting People twice yearly newsletter and the Twitter feed.

Ensuring that support workers are skilled enough to be able to deal with the increasingly complex and difficult money situations that people are finding themselves in will also need to be monitored going forward and this will require monitoring in line with the Financial Conduct Authority registration requirements. Support workers in Gwent currently have on-going access to an E Learning tool which was developed and delivered by the Gwent Money Advice Project during 2014.



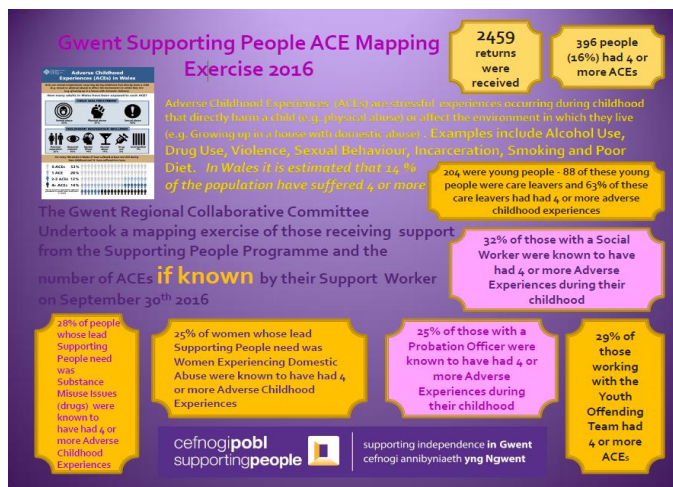
The Gwent Regional Collaborative Committee recognised during 2014 that coordinating its communications to ensure that the benefits of the Supporting People Programme continue to be understood by all stakeholders was a priority for the Committee. The Communications Task and Finish group focused on developing a case study booklet highlighting the benefits of the Programme to those who receive services, the wide range of services funded and some of the potential cost benefit savings to other statutory stakeholders.

The booklet continues to be used as a tool to increase understanding of the types of services funded.

A copy of the booklet ***“Supporting People: Improving Lives, Preventing Costs”*** is available to view through the on-line link:

<http://online.fliphtml5.com/jtyt/ssff/>

During 2016 a Young Person's Task and Finish Group was established and agreed to undertake a mapping exercise to understand the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) on the Supporting People population. A questionnaire was developed and circulated to support workers across Gwent asking them to review their case loads as a snapshot on September 30th 2016 and to complete the questionnaire based on the knowledge they had of the person they were supporting. There were limitations to this exercise including a reliance on support workers to have detailed knowledge of the person they are



supporting and whether someone receiving support has disclosed their earlier adverse childhood experiences to their support worker; it raised the question whether SP should be routinely asking about ACEs and if we did how might this influence or change the support intervention that is then delivered.

The information highlights that some populations within the overarching Gwent Supporting People population have experienced a significantly higher amount of adverse childhood experiences than the national average and these experiences may be continuing to impact on their health and wellbeing and their ability to manage and cope during their adult lives.

A briefing note and analysis from the mapping exercise was widely circulated helping to increase senior officials understanding of the role Supporting People plays within this strategic agenda. Further information about the mapping exercise can be found on the RCC web pages at:

<http://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/resident/health-wellbeing-social-care/getting-the-help-you-need/supporting-people/gwent-regional-collaborative-committee/>

Section 6 Equality Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is a tool that helps public authorities make sure their policies, and the way they carry out their functions do what they are intended to do and for everybody. Carrying out an EIA involves systematically assessing the likely (or actual) effects of policies on people in respect of disability, gender, including gender identity and race equality and where chosen wider equality issues. If any negative or adverse impacts amount to unlawful discrimination, they must be removed.

Equality Impact Assessments have been completed for each local authority within Gwent, forming part of the Local Commissioning Plan process. Arrangements have been made to screen these for adverse impacts on groups defined under the Equality Act 2010, as per the corporate requirements of each local authority and little unfavourable impact has been identified for these groups.

The full Equality Impact Assessment for each Local Commissioning Plan can be viewed in the Local Commissioning Plans on the Local Authority websites:

Blaenau Gwent: <http://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/17499.asp>

Caerphilly: <http://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/supportingpeople/commissioning-plan/local-commissioning-plan>

Monmouthshire: *Currently unavailable; Please contact the Supporting People team for a copy of the equality impact assessment.*

Newport:
http://www.newport.gov.uk/_dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=socialcare.supportingpeople&contentid=CONT335154

Torfaen:
<http://www.torfaen.gov.uk/en/Housing/SupportedandShelteredHousing/Supportingpeople/Information-for-Professionals/Commissioning-Plans.aspx>

Regional Spend Plan 2018/2019

Spend Plan collection period			RCC Spend Plan 2018-19 - Gwent															
Regional Collaborative Committee:			Gwent															
SPPG Annual Allocation:			20,629,231.00															
			Service Type												Local Authority contribution	Other Income	Total Units (exc LA cont)	Total (exc LA cont)
			Fixed Site (Accommodation Based)						Floating (Community Based)									
			Client Units	Less than 6 Months	Client Units	6 to 24 Months	Client Units	24 Months plus	Client Units	Less than 6 Months	Client Units	6 to 24 Months	Client Units	24 Months plus				
Client Spend Category (The category to which the service is primarily focused)	Previous year Total units from spend plan	Previous year Total cost from spend plan	Numbers	£	Numbers	£	Numbers	£	Numbers	£	Numbers	£	Numbers	£	£	£	Numbers	£
Women experiencing Domestic Abuse	251	1,836,303.11	35	872,997.07	23	363,401.04	0	0.00	60	205,328.18	137	583,943.25	0	0.00	5,000.00		255	2,025,669.54
Men experiencing Domestic Abuse	8	39,089.62	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	8	26,513.62	0	0.00	0.00		8	26,513.62
People with Learning Disabilities	556	2,119,943.77	0	0.00	0	0.00	303	927,885.37	0	0.00	18	53,000.00	226	601,509.72	0.00		547	1,582,395.09
People with Mental health Issues	740	3,066,653.03	0	0.00	48	572,536.05	112	766,584.33	53	185,569.86	551	1,651,447.83	110	202,264.83	46,158.99		874	3,378,402.90
People with Substance Misuse Issues (Alcohol)	18	64,816.47	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	18	64,208.53	0	0.00	0.00		18	64,208.53
People with Substance Misuse Issues (Drugs and Volatile substances)	133	907,981.19	0	0.00	48	617,270.73	0	0.00	12	32,558.00	78	237,192.85	24	64,576.81	0.00		162	951,598.39
People with Criminal Offending History	88	412,696.18	0	0.00	10	135,697.35	0	0.00	1	15,670.00	107	300,789.31	0	0.00	0.00		118	452,156.66
People with Refugee Status	17	59,454.78	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	30	73,854.97	0	0.00	0.00		30	73,854.97
People with Physical and/or Sensory Disabilities	156	256,614.93	0	0.00	0	0.00	9	25,644.00	0	0.00	124	215,450.08	0	0.00	0.00		133	241,094.08
People with Developmental Disorders (i.e. Autism)	35	167,628.86	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	63	173,870.36	0.00		63	173,870.36
People with Chronic Illnesses (including HIV, Aids)	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0.00		0	0.00
Young People who are Care Leavers	32	123,911.13	0	0.00	2	11,671.66	0	0.00	12	11,192.84	21	74,836.55	0	0.00	0.00		35	97,701.05
Young People with Support Needs (16-24)	331	2,262,647.80	49	548,824.00	60	#####	4	24,951.45	69	129,258.04	185	471,053.33	40	43,040.00	0.00		407	2,342,911.87
Single parent Families with Support needs	8	47,676.30	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	16	70,833.36	0	0.00	0.00		16	70,833.36
Families with Support Needs	227	992,787.34	13	225,000.00	2	32,482.00	0	0.00	58	55,000.00	220	760,086.13	0	0.00	0.00		293	1,072,568.13
Single people with Support Needs not listed above (25-54)	160	1,364,731.12	20	182,315.20	114	#####	6	37,427.18	6	11,675.83	61	154,630.61	0	0.00	0.00		207	1,424,853.80
People over 55 years of age with Support needs (this category must be exclusive of alarm services)	2,103	1,955,711.34	1,055	138,310.00	0	0.00	458	205,402.84	625	315,622.00	213	430,674.31	530	690,688.30	0.00		2,881	1,780,697.45
Generic Floating support to prevent homelessness (tennacy support services which cover a range of user needs but which must be exclusive of fixed site support)	2,555	4,328,998.47	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1,550	1,134,792.73	1,230	2,828,813.85	87	298,010.94	0.00		2,867	4,261,617.52
Alarm Services (including in sheltered/extra care)	7,438	353,735.18	0	0.00	0	0.00	4,678	215,091.53	0	0.00	0	0.00	1,802	42,942.00	0.00		6,480	258,033.53
Expenditure which does not directly link to the spend plan categories above. (Explanation required in accompanying email)	22	275,750.00	22	275,250.15	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	75,000.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0.00		22	350,250.15
TOTALS	14,878	20,637,130.62	1,194	2,242,696.42	307	#####	5,570	2,202,986.70	2,446	2,171,667.48	3,017	7,997,328.58	2,882	2,116,902.96	51,158.99	0.00	15,416	20,629,231.00

Supporting People Team Details

- Blaenau Gwent
Email: supporting.people@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk
Tel: 01495 354682
- Caerphilly
Email: supportingpeople@caerphilly.gov.uk
Tel: 01443 864548
- Monmouthshire
Email: SupportingPeople@monmouthshire.gov.uk
Tel: 07872696489
- Newport
Email: supporting.people@newport.gov.uk
Tel: 01633 235201
- Torfaen
Email: supporting.people@torfaen.gov.uk
Tel: 01495 766949
- Regional Development Co-ordinator Gwent
Email: supporting.people@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk
Tel: 01495 355975

