

Pathway from the streets

June 2018

Delivering for Croydon

CROYDON
www.croydon.gov.uk

Aim

The Pathway From The Streets is a project funded through the MHCLG rough sleeping prevention grant. Its aims are to provide immediate shelter, intensive support and a rapid pathway off the streets into sustainable long term accommodation for rough sleepers who are new to the streets.

The project will target rough sleepers with low support needs; preventing escalation of need and freeing up resources in order to support a higher volume of complex support needs.

The shelter will bridge the gap during seven months of the year whilst our cold weather shelter provided by local churches is closed. It will enable Croydon residents who are rough sleeping to receive intensive wrap around support from existing local services, enhanced through the DCLG funding to achieve a positive and sustained move to long term accommodation, financial stability and a pathway to employment or training.

Approach

The project provides a proactive approach to engagement, needs assessment and action planning with a focus on ending rough sleeping and preventing a long term rough sleeping lifestyle.

The project will:

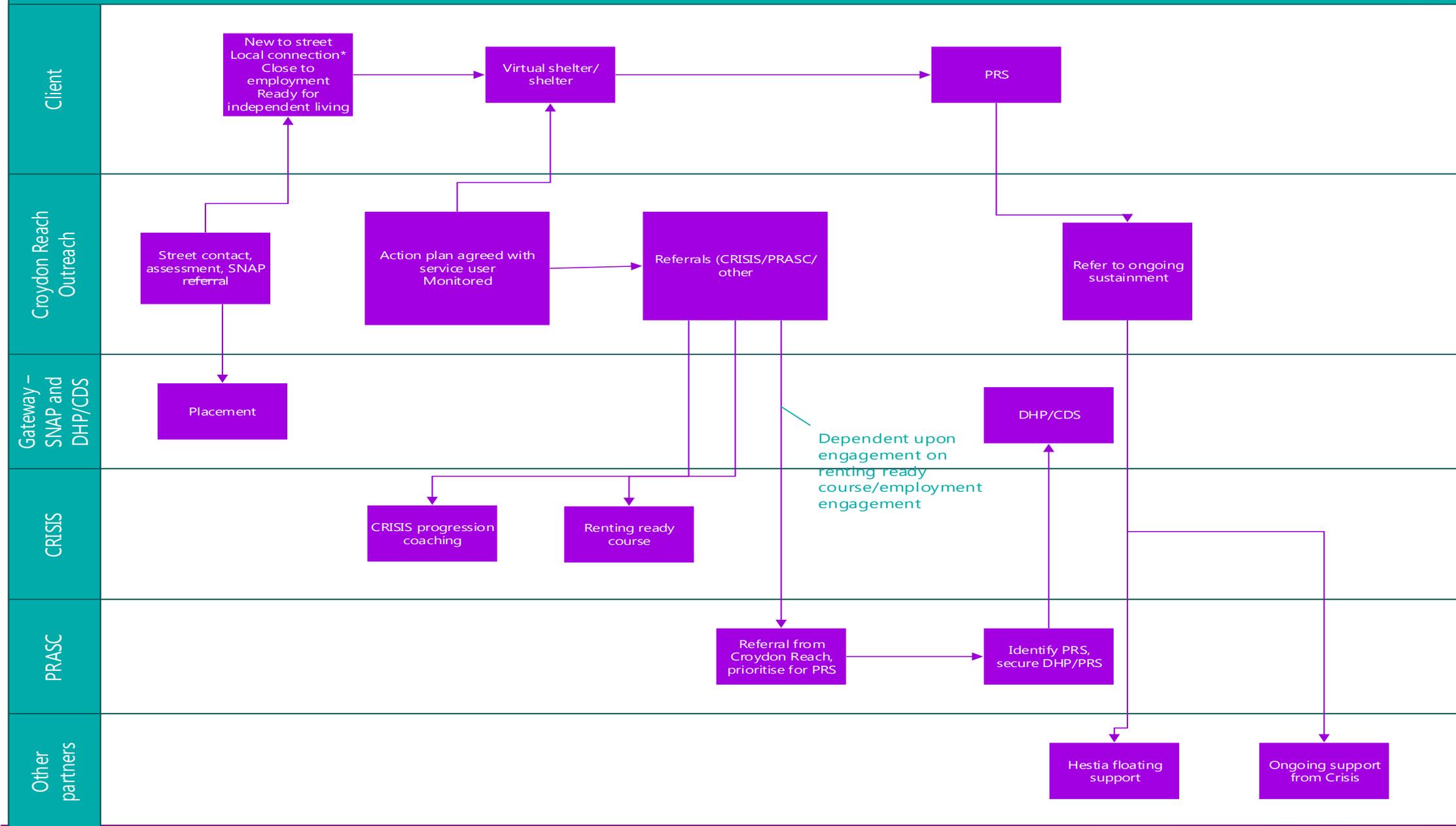
- Reduce the flow of new rough sleepers to the street through targeted and early intervention
- Provide safe overnight accommodation for people sleeping rough while resolving their homelessness crises
- Help new rough sleepers off the street and into independence through more rapid interventions
- Build on strengths of existing services playing a crucial role in helping those at risk of or already sleeping rough
- Provide multi-agency support to access and sustain move-on accommodation, employment, education and tenancy support to ensure they exit rough sleeping as quickly as possible



“A hand
up, not a
hand out”

Pathway from the Streets

Phase



Rough sleeper assessment unit

Pathway model mapped in conjunction with stakeholders

3 rough sleepers currently on the pathway

Stakeholders:
Thames Reach, SNAP, PRASC, Crisis, CCFS

- Established in April 2017
- April - October
- Utilises existing B&B provision
- Customers receive level of intervention outlined in future shelter approach
- Virtual model whilst more permanent arrangement is confirmed
- Progression and Housing coaches provide pathways into employment and Housing

18 customers re-housed in the PRS via PRASC

Thames Reach identify customers and support them through pathway

30 rough sleepers supported to date

Crisis Skylight provide progression coaching and pre-tenancy training

Winter provision

Clothing exchange service and shower facilities provided

Shelter provision run entirely by volunteers

Evening meal, bed for the night, breakfast & packed lunch provided

14 spaces available with involvement from over 30 churches

Laundry service provided by volunteers

- Established in 2004
- November – March
- Provided by Croydon Churches Floating Shelter: A network of Croydon based churches
- Planning for this year's winter shelter has commenced
- Enhanced this year so that customers receive level of intervention outlined in All Year Shelter approach
- Gatekeeping is via SNAP & Thames Reach

CCFS are now a Registered Ltd Company and are looking to expand

Valuable companionship provided in a warm, safe environment

All year shelter

Faith sector
provider

14 bedspaces

Shelter
manager,
night workers
and
volunteers

Evening meal,
bed for the
night and
breakfast
provided

Integration
with Pathway
from the
Streets

Laundry
service
provided by
volunteers

Support
through council
social value
contract
requirements

Valuable
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Case study

Kelly is a 41 year old mother of three and grandmother of one, has always worked and has never been on benefits. Her partner of 14 years has also worked all his life. In August 2016, after two years in stable PRS accommodation, their circumstances changed and they could no longer afford to pay their rent. They went abroad to stay with Kelly's partners parents for five months.

In January 2017, they came back to the UK. They stayed in an Easy.com Hotel for 9 days, then a friend's house for a week. Then, with nowhere to go, they slept in an A&E department. After almost 3 weeks they they were referred to the Croydon Reach Team, who took them into Croydon Churches Floating Shelter. Croydon Reach then supported them to put in a claim for benefits and to undergo a Court Appeal.

Just before the shelter closed in March 2017 they were placed in TA in Camden. A charity had to pay for them to stay there for a month, as their benefits were not yet assessed. They successfully won their case, and put in a joint claim for UC.

In August 2017, they moved to TA in Croydon, and in October 2017 found a 1 bedroom flat in Merton, which was within the LHA rate. They moved in on Saturday 21st October 2017.