#### Offenders (Including Prison Discharge) Pathway

## **Activities**

# Who is involved

#### Referral

An offender who is threatened with homelessness will either self-refer or be referred to Housing Needs Team through Integrated Offender Management (IOM). Youth Offending Officer, Probation Officer or the prison they are being discharged from. The referral form is accessible through the East Suffolk Website (link to follow - LOCATA once available) They can also be referred through a hospital.

Prison

#### **Assessment**

An assessment is carried out by a Housing Needs Officer or Specialised Customer Contact Advisor on the information provided from the referral - this includes an assessment of the client support needs if any have been identified.

For those clients monitored under MAPPA arrangement, the Housing Needs Officer with prison discharge specialism will carry out the assessment.

Following this assessment, the client will be introduced to the Personal Housing Plan

#### **Prevention Hub**

If the client has **med/high support need**, they will be referred to commissioned outreach services in both Suffolk Coastal and Waveney by the Housing Needs Team with the view of a pathway plan being established and agreed.

If the client has no/low support need, they will be referred to a Housing Needs Officer to explore housing options. Clients will also be referred to other support agencies to meet other needs identified that are non-housing related

If the client h as med/high support needs:

Social care

Housing Needs floating support partners - Homegroup

Lowestoft Interventions Panel / Felixstowe Housing Forum.

If the Client has high / med support needs:

No Second Night Out

Triangle Tenancy Scheme Housing Related Supported accommodation.

Other voluntary sector accommodation finding services

Debt Advice Worker

Other single people initiatives

#### **Outcomes**

Clients with **med/high support needs** have the following options:

Return Home

Supported Accommodation

Clients with no/low support needs

have the following options:

Return home

Independent accommodation

### Offenders (Including Prison Discharge) Pathway

Getting ex-prisoners and offenders into stable housing can act as a gateway to effective resettlement including engaging with education or training, gaining employment and engaging with services where any other support needs may need to be addressed e.g. mental health, drugs/alcohol etc.

Offenders who are homeless or threatened with homelessness can approach Waveney and Suffolk Coastal Councils for advice and assistance to either prevent or relieve homelessness.

Housing Needs / Options Services have referral pathways protocols with some specific agencies that work with offenders who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Theses agencies include the Integrated Offender Management team (IOM), Community Rehabilitation Company and National Probation Service for clients who are on Probation that are med/high risk or monitored under the Multi Agency Public protection Arrangements (MAPPA).

Housing Needs / Options will undertake a detailed housing needs assessment of all customers who present for assistance or referred in by other agencies. For those customers who may have additional support needs a full needs and risk assessment is also completed to ensure that the most appropriate housing option is advised. A personalized housing plan will be drawn up confirming any advice given, how the Council will assist the customer and what the customer needs to do to help themselves.

Housing Needs / Options work collaboratively with internal and external partners to secure affordable permanent housing for their customers i.e. mediation to return home, advice on Social Housing, Private rented accommodation or supported accommodation. The team also refer customers to agencies where any unmet needs have been identified following an assessment i.e., Social care, MASH etc.

