

STOCKTON INTENSIVE TENANCY SUPPORT SERVICE

The service funded by Safer Stockton Partnership continues to provide a much needed service for people with substance misuse, offending and complex issues.

Referrals/Client Group

Clients in this service have usually led a very chaotic lifestyle, due to their substance misuse, with a history of offending to fund or related to their substance misuse. They often have other complex issues (mental health, domestic violence, child protection, etc).

The majority of clients are referred to us through Housing and CJIT having been classed as priority homeless having come out of prison and are often still unstable - hence recalls to custody and evictions whilst still in referral or on commencing support.

Please see referral (Appendix A) and client spread sheet data (Appendix B).

Joint Working

The team works very closely with Housing Options, Probation, CJIT and Police, meeting on a regular basis to review clients who are in license properties.

We also meet regularly with Tristar Homes to help clients maintain Tristar tenancies, reducing anti-social behaviour and evictions.

On an individual basis, depending on clients needs, we work with or sign post to many agencies and services throughout Stockton-on-Tees, social services, drug services, anti-social behaviour team, health services, education and training providers to provide a comprehensive support package to clients.

Outcomes

Out of the 9 clients who left the service this year, 6 have moved into and successfully maintained a new tenancy and were not offending.

Please see the case studies provided which give a more in-depth look into our work with 2 clients (Appendices C and D). Also letter from a former client (Appendix E).

Changes during 2007/08

We have been able to provide a service for clients with alcohol issues as well as those with drug misuse issues. This has enabled us to meet a gap in the service, although there is still a great need for support for this client group in Stockton-on-Tees as many services are restricted to Drug users.

This (along with unexpected issues of exiting clients) has been reflected in our client numbers being above the agreed number at present.

The funding provided by Safer Stockton Partnership does make a great difference in client's lives – many of whom now have a safe stable tenancy and are not re-offending, for the first time in their adult life. It is vital that we are able to continue with this service, and the continued funding of £40,000 would enable us to do this.