

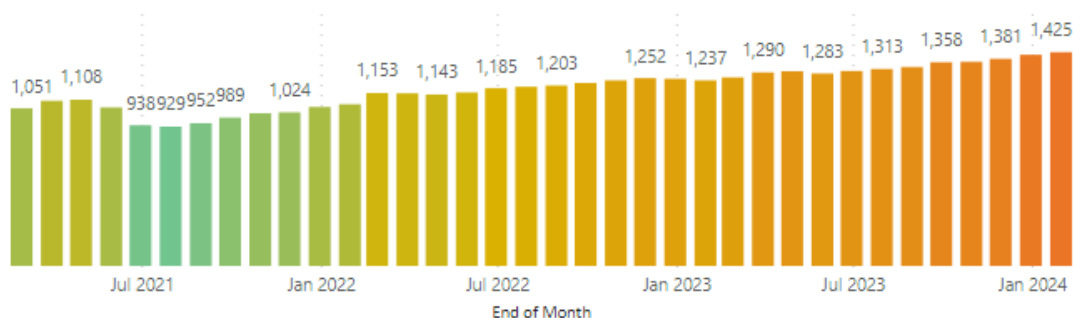
APPENDIX A2

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION PRESSURE (Briefing 30 January 2024)

1. The number of people requiring Temporary Accommodation in Bristol has been increasing over the past three years. To address these long term impacts we have commissioned an external review to be completed by two leading experts in Homelessness and Temporary Accommodation who have worked in the voluntary sector, local government and central government. The objectives of the review include:

- a. What scope is there for prevention at the point of contact.
- b. Why numbers have increased.
- c. What improvements could be made in the end-to-end process, including decision making and triaging of case work.
- d. Why the ratio duties for prevention are 18% while those for relief are 74%.
- e. What happens during the 56 day period.
- f. Role of private supply.
- g. Role of housing advisors on prevention.
- h. Other related matters to performance including specialist areas such as prison release.

Rolling households in TA (last 3 years, drill up/down)



2. The budget for Subsidy Loss in 2023/24 is £6,696,000. As set out in the table below. This was calculated based on the baseline budget for 2022-23 adjusted for the one-off prior year allowances for contingency and optimism bias which were included in the budget in 2022-23. A forecast growth in demand of £2.4m was also added along with the expected £1.9m savings. At the beginning of the year there was an incorrect assumption that the service was exempt from the corporate principle of '5% inflation guide, noting no general inflation uplift to be applied to service expenditure' and that the centrally held inflation excess of c. 2% would also be added to the budget. However, centrally held inflation was allocated to support Children & Education pressures in quarter 2.

(£ks)	2023/24
2022-23 Baseline	6,475
2023-24 Adjustments	
2022-23 Contingency Removed	300
2022-23 Optimism Bias Removed	-284
2023-24 Forecast Inflation (2%)	385
2023-24 Forecast Demand Growth	2,362
2023-24 Forecast TA Programme Savings	-1,942
Total	• 6,696

3. At the start of 2023/24 the demand growth estimate of £2.4m was estimated to be insufficient as the actual outturn of this budget in 2022-23 being £11.1m (c.£600k deterioration in forecast). There was, therefore, an expectation that there would be further savings and mitigations planned to minimise any overspend as far as possible.

4. Since the start of the year demand has risen far in excess of the levels seen in 2022-23, with a substantial increase on the number of families requiring TA in the first half of the year. This was followed by a substantial increase on the number of single people requiring TA in the latter half of the year. The combined effect is shown in the table below with Housing Benefit Subsidy Loss increasing to an expected level of £12.6m overall. Given the volatility in the forecast this could reduce by £100k or increase by a further £200k.

Period end	Actuals/updated forecast			Actual/Forecast Subsidy Loss
	Families	Singles	Total	
Apr-23	473	380	853	£926,878
May-23	498	382	880	£1,801,279
Jun-23	518	374	892	£2,670,165
Jul-23	525	371	896	£3,546,217
Aug-23	533	383	916	£4,826,686
Sep-23	544	392	936	£5,855,928
Oct-23	548	398	946	£6,840,681
Nov-23	544	421	965	£7,836,494
Dec-23	551	455	1,006	£9,227,090
Jan-24	559	461	1,021	£10,412,743
Feb-24	568	467	1,034	£11,491,392
Mar-24	576	473	1,049	£12,593,890

5. The position was also worsened by the bid for central relief from inflation being rejected, increasing the pressure by £385k. A plan to reduce the pressure by £750k through re-commissioning the Emergency Accommodation Framework was not delivered due to providers not agreeing to the terms.

6. The Temporary Accommodation savings were also lower than estimated increasing the pressure by £83k. The table below shows the current forecast of Temporary Accommodation savings against the original target. The Barton House crisis reduced the savings that could have been delivered by Workstream 1 by £298k

as a result of properties being held back and not used for temporary accommodation.

Workstream	Target	Forecast
1. Reallocation of GN	439	646
2. RP Exempt Accom	529	344
3a. New Build Reallocations	473	35
3b. Conversions	172	0
4. Hospital Trust	328	272
5. Private Lettings	0	561
Total	1,941	1,858
Variance		83

7. The combined actual forecast budgetary position is therefore shown in the table below generating a £5.9m pressure.

(£ks)	2023/24 Forecast	2023-24 Actual
2022-23 Baseline	6,475	6,475
2023-24 Adjustments		
2022-23 Contingency Removed	-300	-300
2022-23 Optimism Bias Removed	-284	-284
2023-24 Forecast Inflation (2%)	385	0
2023-24 Forecast Demand Growth	2,362	8,575
2023-24 Forecast TA Programme Savings	-1,942	-1,858
Total	6,696	12,608
Variance		5,912

8. As per previous years we are able to reduce this pressure by drawing on grants to reduce costs elsewhere and underutilised budgets which reduce this £5.9m pressure to circa. £3.3m as set out below.

Estimated Pressure	5,912
Homelessness Prevention Grant	-1300
Homelessness Prevention Grant Top Up	-536
Homelessness Prevention Grant not being spent	-56
Additional Homeless Prevention Grant Received	-164
Employee Costs	-18
Private Rented Accommodation Framework	-112
Homelessness Prevention Underspend	-224
Tenant Support Services Underspend	-124
Sensory Support Services Underspend	-106
Hardship Funds Underspend	-49
Other Misc Overspends	75
Total Mitigations	-2,614
Residual Pressure	3,298

9. This residual pressure can be partly mitigated by Housing and Landlord Services with c. £250k underspends in other areas to reduce the pressure to c. £3m

(allowing for a c. £100k increase or decrease in demand). However, there is limited scope to find savings from other areas of Growth and Regeneration.