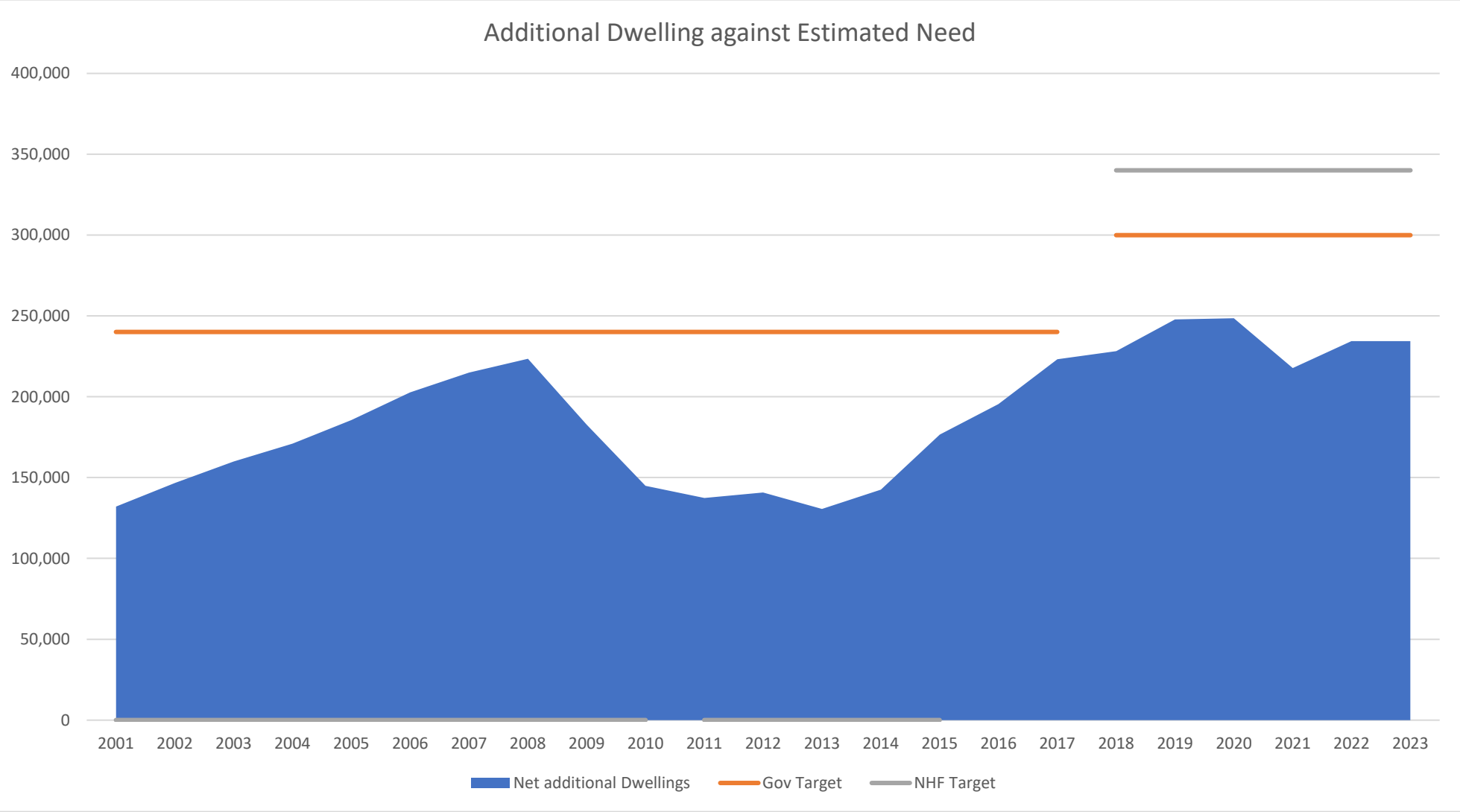


SVP Housing

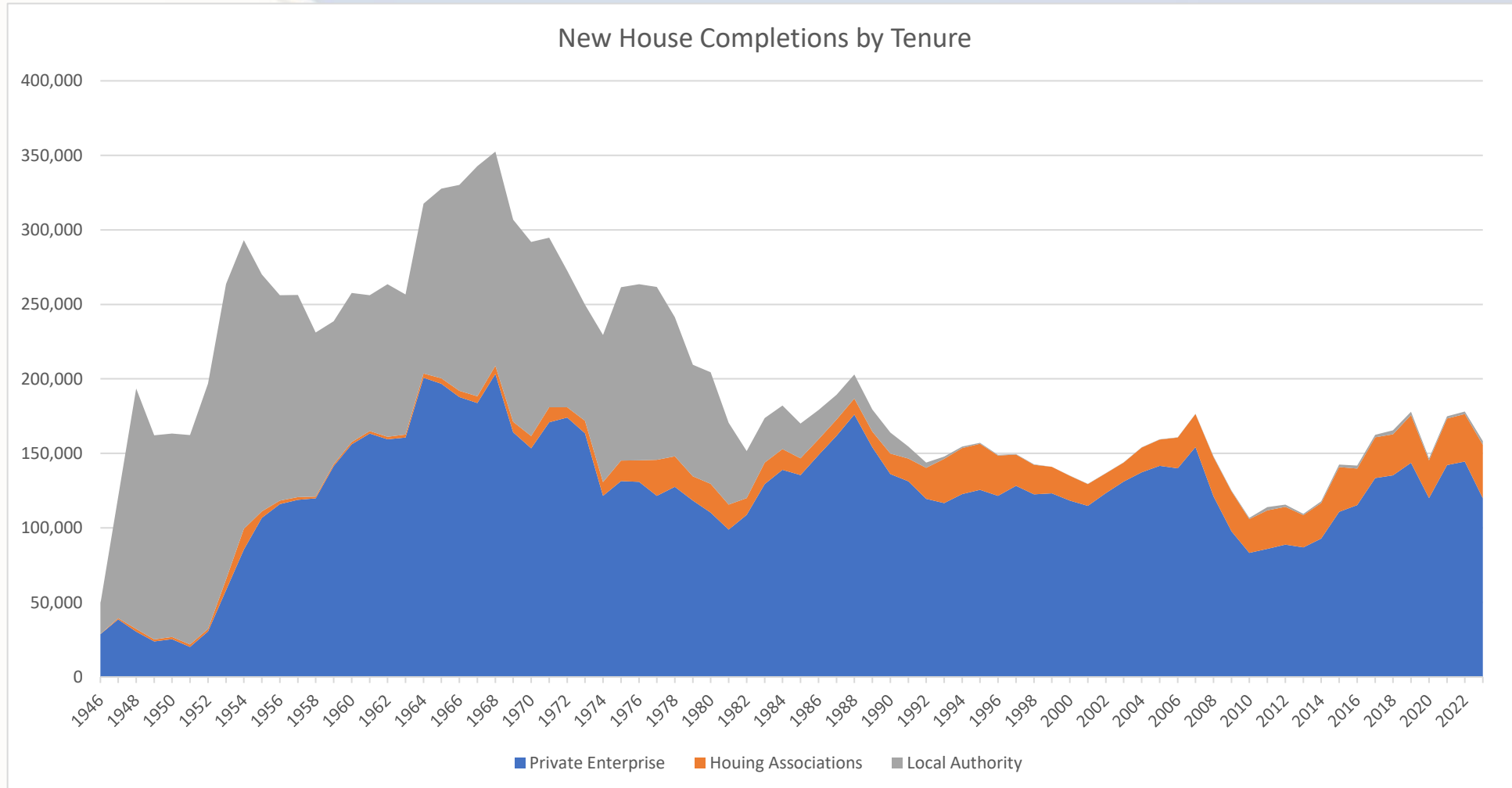


- What is the Housing Crisis and why do we have one?
- The Impact of the Crisis
- What we are doing/can do
- Q&A

Why is there a Crisis?



Why is there a Crisis?



Why do we need more Housing?

- Population Growth
- People Living longer
- Smaller Households

What are the Impacts of this?

- High House Prices

- In 1997 Average House price roughly x3 average income now approaching x9.

- High Rents

- In the 12 months to April 2024 Average rents increased to £1,293 (8.9%) in England, £730 (8.2%) in Wales and £952 (10.0%) in Scotland.

Impacts cont..

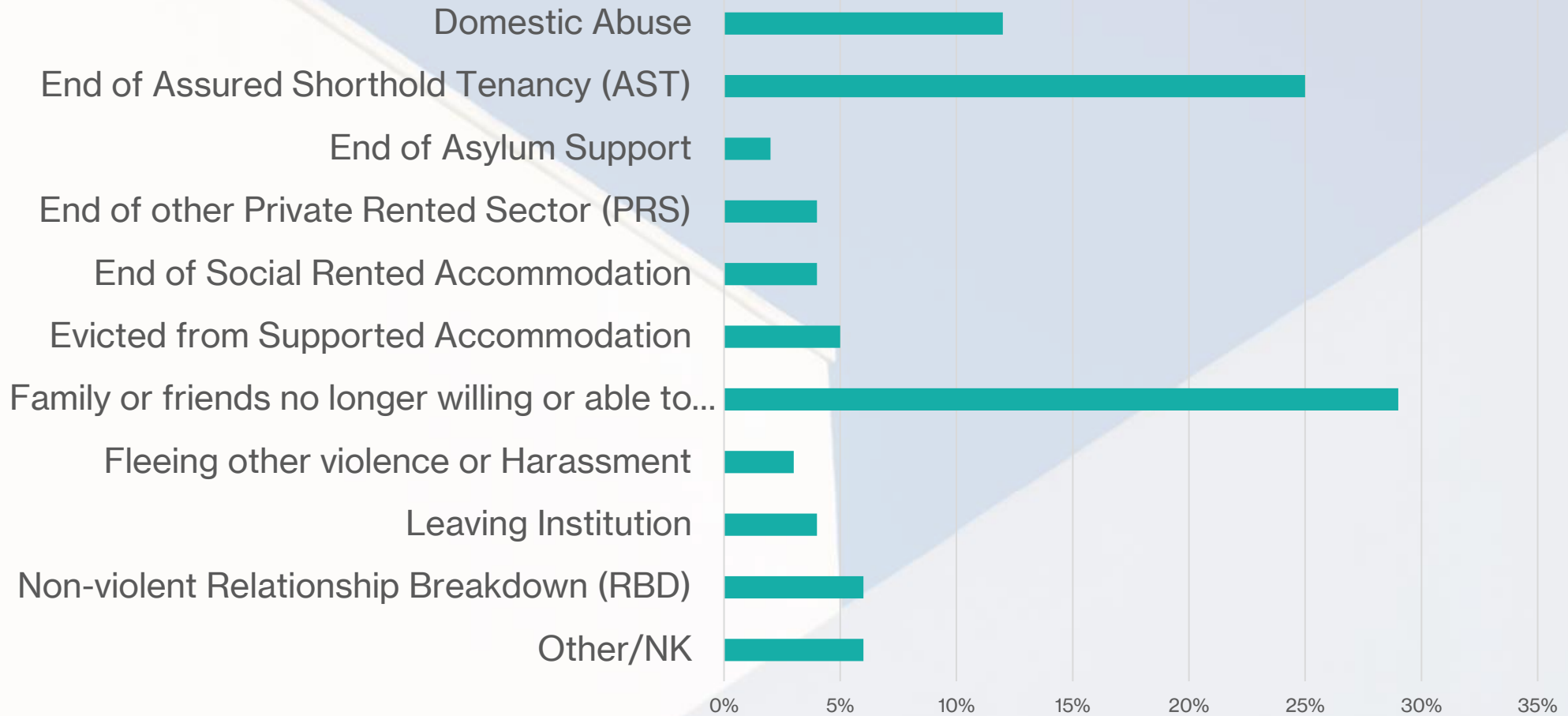
- People living at with parents longer.
- People living in substandard and overcrowded housing
- High demand for social housing
 - 1.3 million households
- Homelessness

Homelessness

- **Homelessness of all kinds is increasing**

- Official figures recorded 3898 people sleeping rough in Autumn 2023
- Around 312,000 Households approached LA's for homeless assistance in 2023
- There are over 112,000 households in temporary accommodation, more than double its low point in 2010.
- People are spending longer in temporary accommodation.
- It's estimated that represents 309,000 individuals
- This includes over 145,000 children
 - Meaning approximately 4% or 1:25 child are homeless and living in temporary accommodation.

Reasons for Seeking Homeless Assistance



Homelessness – Local Authority Duties

- The UK has a relatively robust safety net for homelessness
 - **Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996, Homelessness Act 2002 and the Homelessness (Priority Need for Accommodation) (England) Order 2002 and Homelessness Reduction Act 2017**
 - Wales - **The Housing (Wales) Act 2014**

Homelessness – Local Authority Duties

- Duty to provide information and advice
- Local authorities have a duty to carry out inquiries if they have reason to believe someone is homeless or threatened with homelessness.
- Prevention duty
- Relief duty
- Accommodation duties
 - Interim duty
 - Main housing duty
 - Short-term accommodation duties
- Protection of property

Homelessness – Local Authority Duties

Five Tests

- **Eligibility** = Immigration status
- **Homeless or threatened with homelessness in 56 days**
- **Priority Need**
- **Intentionality**
- **Local Connection**

Homelessness – Impacts on Children

- Mental ill health
- Higher rates of health and development problems
- Loneliness and isolation
- Disrupted education
- Mental and physical wellbeing
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

Hidden (or Core) Homelessness

No single definition but...

- People sofa surfing
- People who are overcrowded
- Households forced to live within another household.
- Squatters
- People living in unsafe or unsuitable accommodation.
- Rough sleepers (inc. those who are not visible e.g. sleeping in a car)

Risks of Hidden Homelessness

- Criminal exploitation
- Sexual exploitation
 - Trafficking
 - Online sex work
 - Sex for rent
- Cuckooing
- ASB/Crime - Placing other at risk of homelessness

Homelessness – Rough Sleeping

- The most visible and dangerous form of homeless
- Predominately male = 82%
- Predominately over 25 years old = 82%
- Most are UK nationals = 62%

Homelessness – Rough Sleeping

Average age of death



People who **sleep rough over a long period of time face a higher likelihood of dying prematurely** and dying from injury, poisoning and suicide, compared to the general population

Average age at death of **people who experience homelessness** was:

 **44**
years
for men

 **42**
years
for women

In comparison, in **the general population** the average age at death was:

 **76**
years
for men

 **81**
years
for women

Source: Office for National Statistics (2018) – figures for deaths registered in England and Wales, 2013 to 2017

Homelessness – Rough Sleeping

The health needs of those sleeping rough



20%

of people seen sleeping rough had
no alcohol, drugs or mental
health support needs

ALCOHOL MISUSE



42%

of people seen
sleeping rough had
alcohol misuse needs

MENTAL HEALTH



50%

of people seen sleeping
rough had mental
health needs

DRUG MISUSE



41%

of people seen
sleeping rough had
drug misuse needs

Homelessness – Rough Sleeping

The causes of homelessness and rough sleeping

The causes of rough sleeping are typically described as either structural or individual factors. These can be interrelated and reinforced by one another.

Structural factors include:

- poverty
- inequality
- housing supply and affordability
- unemployment or insecure employment
- access to social security

Individual factors include:

- poor physical health
- mental health problems
- experience of violence, abuse and neglect
- drug and alcohol problems
- relationship breakdown
- experience of care or prison
- bereavement
- refugees



SVP & Housing

Strategic Principles:

Housing projects will be high quality both in terms of property standards and the support we provide.

We will work to recognised standards and best practice. This will give us the best opportunity to have meaningful impact and provide a solid foundation on which to build our long-term reputation and aspirations.

We will build on our strengths.

Our Community Support Projects, active membership and volunteers provide us with excellent insight into local housing need. The work they undertake, and their local networks and partnerships mean we are well placed to develop housing projects sitting alongside them.

What are SVP doing about it?

Housing projects will be designed and delivered with care and compassion.

Housing projects will have empathy at their heart. We will provide homes, not houses. Our processes will be fair and transparent. We will only evict people where failure to do so would put someone at risk of harm. We will involve service users in the design and delivery of projects.

We will provide real solutions and aim to tackle the root causes of housing issues.

Housing projects will be developed methodically, ensuring we understand the local challenges so we can provide well planned and innovative solutions. We will focus on outcomes and ensure we evaluate both short-term and long-term outcomes.

What are SVP doing about it?

- **North Norfolk Temporary & Emergency Accommodation**
 - Provide good quality self-contained accommodation
 - Primarily for families
 - Local manager and the local conference provide support
 - Properties aim to provide a safe and secure home
 - Target hardening
 - Space to play
 - Eat as a family
 - Do homework
 - Trauma/psychologically Informed
 - Choice and control
- Future develop of long-term support and general needs housing

What are SVP doing about it?

- Newcastle Housing Projects
 - SVP's largest and longest standing housing service.
 - Project provides twenty-three units of supported accommodation for single people.
The project units are comprised of:
 - A twelve-bed hostel, with 24/7 staffing, for single men aged over 30 who are moved on from crisis accommodation. Residents can stay for up to 2 years.
 - Nine units self-contained support accommodation for those who are ready to move on but require continued low-level support.
 - Two units in a flat in North Tyneside for single men moving on from Approved Premises.
- Develop move-on options

Future Developments

- Ensure we try to prevent homelessness wherever possible
- Review and develop and existing projects
- Develop new housing projects
 - Social Letting Agency
 - Supported Housing
 - Further TEA projects
 - General Needs Accommodation
 - Become a Registered Social Landlord

Links & Further information

- If you want to discuss homelessness or housing related issues please contact me:
 - Jamesh3@svp.org.uk or 07469271197
- A good starting point for Help and information on housing is. [Get help from Shelter - Shelter England.](#)
- Training – We can access free online training from Shelter. You can find details on their website. If you are interest contact me and I can book a place. If there is sufficient interest I'm happy to deliver bespoke training to members.
- Making Every Contact count (MECC) useful on a wide range of issues. I've given a link below. Be aware that the quality of the information is better in some areas that others, is it generally getting better.
 - [MECC Link - Simple signposting to better health and wellbeing](#)