

NI 173 - Flows on to incapacity benefits from employment - The cross-government strategy on Health, Work and Well-being, led in England by DWP, DH and HSE, seeks to improve the health of working age people and ensure that people with health conditions or disabilities are able to enter, remain in or quickly return to work. The strategy is central to the Government's aspirations of full employment and improved health and well-being for all. We know that work is generally good for people's health and long-term well-being.

The Strategy is a recognition that if we are to achieve our aspiration, we need to do more than simply support benefit recipients into employment – we need to help them stay in and succeed in work and to prevent people from losing their jobs and needing to claim benefits in the first place. With the challenges that an ageing population presents it will also be important that workers remain healthy to enable them to work to an older age.

Although much work is happening at a national level, we are very conscious that the Strategy will not be successful without the involvement of key players at a local level.

Key partners such as LAs, Jobcentre Plus, HSE, NHS trusts, employers and the Voluntary Sector working together locally have the potential to bring about marked improvement in this area. They can, for example, focus on ensuring that workplaces are healthier and safer; the implementation of better sickness absence management procedures; earlier/improved availability of appropriate health interventions; and improved availability of workplace adaptations and return to work support for workers.

Local authorities can provide a stimulus for joint working on this agenda at a local level, bringing partners together and focusing their attention. This indicator helps monitor the impact of such activity to reduce the numbers of people leaving work and moving on to incapacity benefits as a result of health conditions and disabilities.

NI 156 - Number of households living in temporary

accommodation - This indicator measures the numbers of households living in temporary accommodation provided under the homelessness legislation.

Temporary accommodation provided under homelessness provisions – Local housing must secure accommodation for homeless people in certain circumstances and have powers to do so in others. Under the main homelessness duty (owed to people accepted by a local housing authority as eligible for assistance, unintentionally homeless and in priority need) they must secure suitable temporary accommodation until a settled home becomes available.

Household – Under the legislation, authorities must secure accommodation for the applicant and his or her household (including everyone who might reasonably be expected to live with the applicant). One person living alone, or a group of people living at the same address who share common housekeeping or a living room.

Data collected on the P1E housing return includes “snapshot” information on the numbers of households being housed in various types of temporary accommodation

by the local authority on the last day of the quarter. The figures include the households of all applicants being provided with accommodation under the homelessness legislation, the majority of which will have been accepted as owed the main homelessness duty.

Formula

Simple count of households living in temporary accommodation provided under the homelessness legislation.

Worked Example

Number of households living in temporary accommodation provided under the homelessness legislation in Q4 2004 = 101,000

EHPI 213 - Preventing Homelessness - number of households where homelessness prevented - *Source: 0708_6 Homelessness.pdf - updated 24/1/08*

Purpose/aim To measure the effectiveness of housing advice in preventing homelessness or the threat of homelessness. Under section 179(1) of the Housing Act 1996 part VII, as amended by the Housing Act 2002, housing authorities have a duty to ensure that advice and information about homelessness and prevention of homelessness are available free of charge to anyone in their district. The provision of comprehensive advice will play an important part in delivering the housing authority's strategy for preventing homelessness in their district. This statutory advice service may be provided directly by the housing authority, or on behalf of the authority by a third party such as a Citizens' Advice Bureau or Shelter.

Definition The indicator is not restricted to households who are statutorily homeless, or to households who are threatened with homelessness within 28 days as defined by section 175(4) of the 1996 Housing Act. All cases where a household's housing problem has been resolved through advice casework intervention should be recorded for the purposes of this indicator. This will include cases where:

a) no enquiries are required under section 184 of the Act as the household's problem was resolved before they were formally threatened with homelessness within 28 days; or

b) cases where formal enquiries into a household's homelessness or threat of homelessness had commenced under section 184 of the 1996 Housing Act, and where successful housing advice as work intervention had resolved the problem. This will be a resolution before the Local Authority had finished its enquiries and accepted a main housing duty under either section 193 or 195 of the Act.

'**Households**' should include both single person households and families. It is not restricted only to households that a local authority would normally consider as having a priority need under homelessness legislation.

'Housing Advice' is defined as advice given under Section 179(1) of the Housing Act 1996 part VII, as amended by the Housing Act 2002. It is advice provided through a dedicated Housing Advice service funded by a local authority, or in-house housing advice service, to fulfill the authority's statutory duties under section 179(1) of the Housing Act 1996 part VII, as amended by the Housing Act 2002. If both are provided results can be combined in calculating the correct figure. The definition excludes generic information or advice services provided by a council or external partners. It also excludes independent housing advice services where no local authority grant funding has been provided.

'Casework' is defined as 'detailed file-based case recording, the outcome of which is subject to a system of quality checking and control'. One-off telephone advice provided through, an advice line is not included in the definition.

'Resolution', through housing advice casework intervention is defined as 'an outcome where casework intervention has resolved the immediate homelessness or threat of homelessness and it is likely that this will be sustainable for a period of at least 6 months'. This must be measured through a system of objectively checking and verifying case outcomes. A senior officer or another advisor who was not directly involved in the case intervention must undertake these checks.

Resolving a household's homelessness or the threat of homelessness through housing advice casework intervention is defined as:

- a) actions which resulted in the household not having to make an application for homelessness assistance under Part VII of the 1996 Housing Act; or
- b) actions which resulted in the household no longer needing to pursue an application for homelessness assistance. Only cases resolved through Housing advice casework intervention should be recorded.

Note: the indicator applies to all local housing authorities in England, including those that no longer own, or manage social housing

Number of households in the local authority area is calculated by using the current mid-year estimates available on the ODPM website

Formula/Worked e.g. The indicator is calculated by recording the number of cases assisted through successful casework intervention and dividing this figure by the number of thousand households in the local authority area to produce a figure per thousand households. E.g. in an area with 58,000 households where 104 cases were assisted successfully, the return per thousand household would be $104/58 = 1.79$ households.

'Number of households' from Valuation Office's Schedule of Alterations, page entitled 'Statement of Numbers and Bands of All Properties Shown in the Valuation List for the Billing Authority Area', 'Grand Total' Line. Use last statement received before the end of the financial year (March 2006).

Return Format Number (per thousand households)

Decimal Places 0