

Housing Related Support benchmarking with other local authorities

Local authority	Approach
Birmingham	Birmingham have cut their provision of Housing Related Support from 40,000 to 11,000 residents. They provide this support through both accommodation based and floating support. Funding has been cut by over £25 million (over half of the budget) and they have further savings to make of £7 million.
East Sussex	There has been a reduction in the accommodation support that East Sussex provide but they do offer support for socially excluded groups, such as the homeless and domestic abuse survivors. They operate two county-wide floating support services.
Lancashire	Ceased funding for scheme managers and emergency alarm monitoring for 14,000 older people in March 2017. Continued support for crisis support, domestic abuse, refugees, homeless, care leavers and young homeless.
Leicestershire	Leicestershire has reduced provision of Housing Related Support. They provide accommodation support for domestic abuse survivors and the homelessness. They do provide a floating support service but only for homelessness prevention.
North Somerset	North Somerset has never had accommodation based support relying on floating support instead. They have reduced this support by 10% this year and will be looking to reduce it further in the future.
Oxfordshire	Oxfordshire have integrated various sections of their Housing Related Support with other services such as public health and social care. Domestic abuse and homelessness are still under the Housing Related Support budget but these are being cut, homelessness by a third every year. Floating support is provided but this has been cut by over 50%.
Sutton	Sutton provides accommodation based support for a range of vulnerable adults and also offers floating support aimed at helping residents to maintain their tenancies. They are looking at reducing their budget by £1m over the next two years, which amounts to around a third of their current budget.
Warwickshire	Warwickshire stopped funding Housing Related Support for disability, mental health and older people services in 2016. Since then, housing benefit departments picked up some of the costs.
West Sussex	West Sussex have cut their accommodation based support for all groups except for young people and the homeless. For older people, they provide floating support. The budget for Housing Related Support services has been cut by a third over three years.
Worcestershire	Worcestershire no longer fund sheltered housing. They do fund alarms, but only if they are part of someone's eligible care

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Case Study - Warwickshire

- Ceased all disability/mental health and sheltered Housing Related Support funding 2015/16
- Assessed/reassessed all clients of disability and mental health services (between 300-400 people)
- Did not assess all the sheltered clients but advised providers to request social care assessments in the normal way where client were felt to be in need. Anticipated lots of referrals but in reality this did not happen
- For sheltered some borough and districts agreed to pay for 'intensive housing management' costs
- Worked with providers where required to help them plan for withdrawal of Housing Related Support (support mostly needed from small alms-house providers rather than large registered social landlords)
- Plans included a combination of increased service charges by providers, or providers implemented a revised business model to absorb some of the costs