

# Homelessness in Leicester

Housing Scrutiny – 18<sup>th</sup> September  
2017

# Why it matters

*“Homelessness is everyone’s issue and it is not inevitable.”* Chief Executive of St Mungo’s

- Those sleeping rough or in unstable accommodation have significantly higher levels of premature mortality and mental and physical ill health, substance abuse problems and higher rates of mortality than the general population
- Frequent residential mobility for adverse reasons, such as homelessness, has a negative effect on educational attainment, particularly in secondary schools
- Increase in the number of people sleeping on the streets...is undesirable in city centres and potentially off-putting to people thinking of visiting and/or businesses intending to invest in the area
- The experience of being homeless can exacerbate offending behaviour and play a role in recidivism
- Some children enter the care system because they become homeless

# Homelessness in Leicester

Limited housing options

Households approaching housing options up **30%** over the last year

Rough sleeping up **25%** over the last year

Increased demand

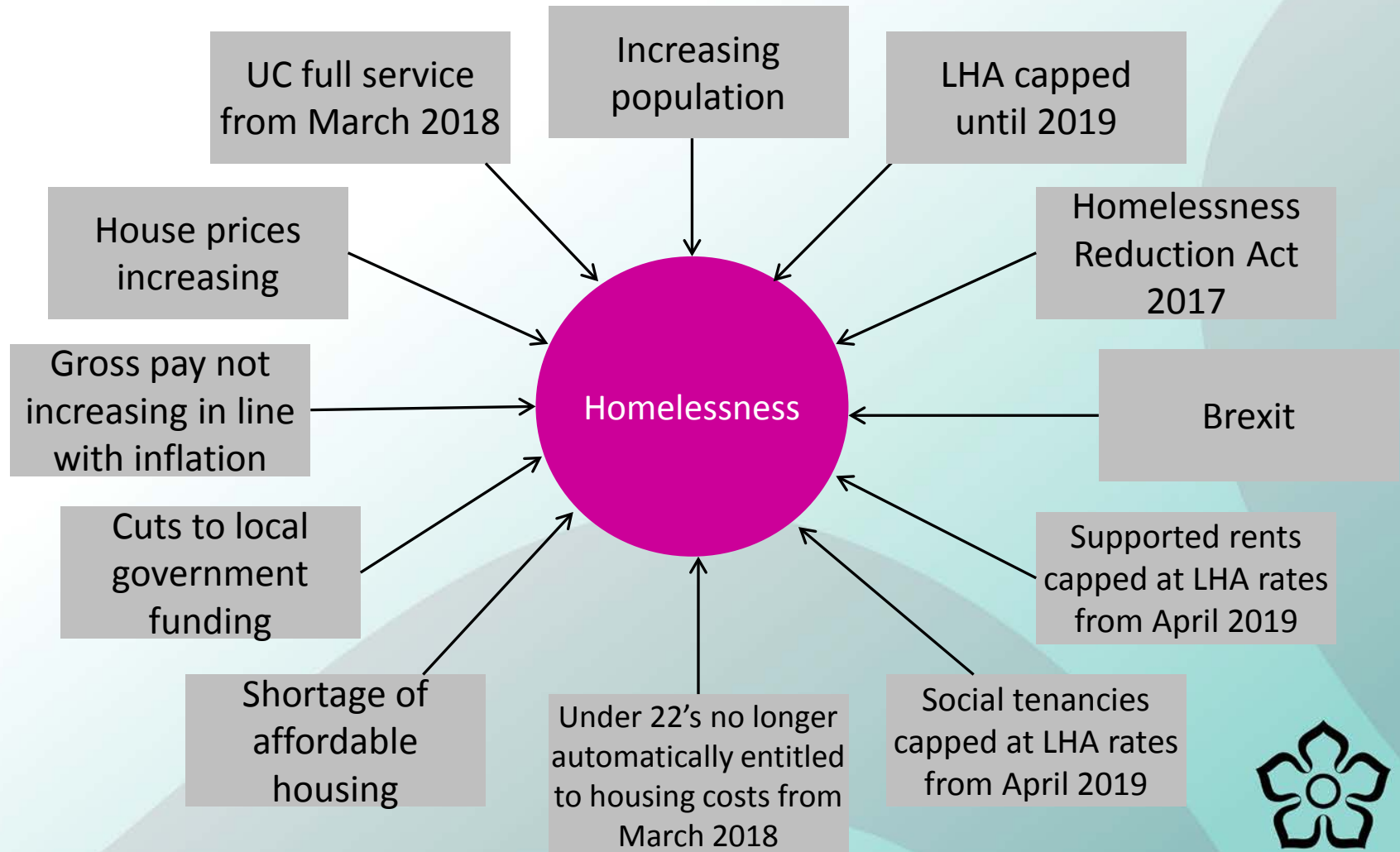
**1/47\*** private rented properties available at LHA rates

**23%** fewer social housing lettings in last 2 years compared with previous 2 years



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# External pressures



# Who is homeless?

Singles approaching housing options

Funded homeless service users support needs



**7/10**  
are male

**Over ½**  
are aged 22-44

**3 / 10**  
are aged 16-24

**31%**  
have mental health issues

**16%**  
multiple needs

**15%**  
have drug or alcohol problems

**14%**  
offenders or at risk of offending

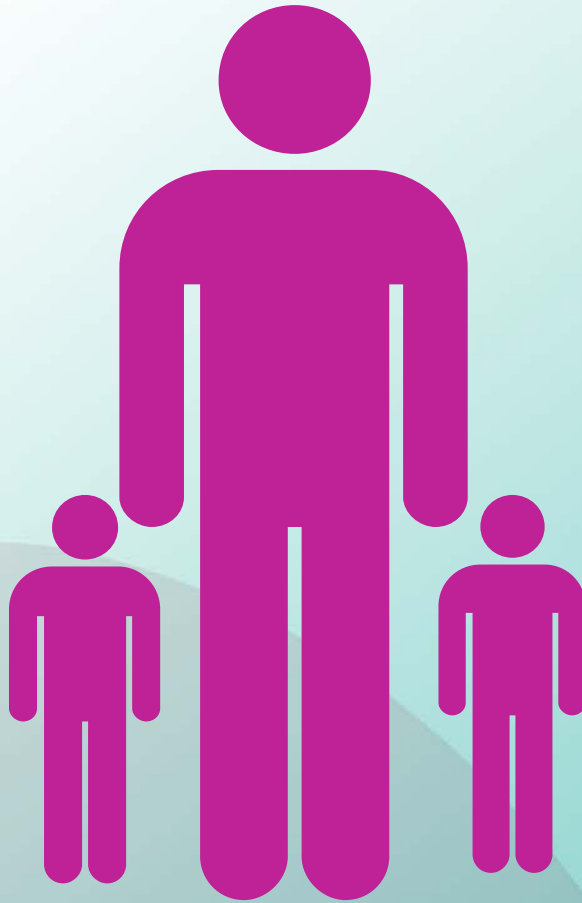


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# Family Homelessness

## Top 3 reasons -

- Termination of private tenancies
- Asked to Leave by family/friends
- Relationship Breakdown including domestic violence



# Consultation feedback

Lack of help for  
vulnerable groups / those  
with complex needs

Improve access to  
and provision of  
advice /  
information

“I felt judged and  
labelled”

Address rough  
sleeping and begging

Adequately fund  
services

Gap in interagency / cross  
service working

Early interventions /  
signposting by other  
council services

# Next steps

What	When
Executive agree documents for consultation	Sept 2017
Consultation on draft homelessness review, strategy & future commissioning proposals	Oct 2017
Report on findings of consultation and agree final strategy & proposals	Nov / Dec 2017
Published homelessness strategy	Jan 2018