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Department for Levelling Up,
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Dame Meg Hillier MP
Chair of the Committee of Public Accounts
House of Commons
London
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23 September 2022

Dear Dame Meg,

I am writing to inform you of the publication of '[Ending Rough Sleeping For Good](#)'.

This strategy sets out how the government and its partners intend to work together to deliver the manifesto commitment to end rough sleeping in this Parliament. It is backed by £2 billion over the next three years to tackle homelessness and rough sleeping, as announced at Spending Review 2021. It will fund dedicated measures to address the wide range of causes that can lead to rough sleeping and will transform services in the long term to deliver better outcomes and value for money. This builds on the progress already made over recent years through the Rough Sleeping Initiative, the Government's response to the pandemic, and the Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme.

We plan to embed a 'prevention first' approach that builds on what is already working, with a new focus on preventing rough sleeping earlier in people's journeys. This includes expanding support for prison and care leavers at risk of rough sleeping and continuing to support local authorities to implement the Homelessness Reduction Act. For people sleeping rough it means a tailored offer of support so they can build an independent life off the streets. To achieve this, the strategy sets out the significant funding the government is putting in place. This includes:

- Extending our flagship Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI) to 2025, with up to £500 million funding, so that local areas can provide the tailored support needed to end rough sleeping over the next three years. Through the RSI, we will continue to fund a range of housing-led initiatives and provide extended funding for the

Housing First Pilot schemes with a further £13.9 million over two years, on top of the £28 million already invested.

- Providing up to £186.5 million funding for the Rough Sleeping Drug and Alcohol Treatment Grant, expanding into a further 20 local authorities, taking the total to 83.
- Launching a new £200 million Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme to deliver up to 2,400 much-needed homes for vulnerable people at risk of homelessness or rough sleeping, including young people and those with the most complex needs, alongside expanding existing accommodation programmes.
- £40m of allocations for the final tranche of homes under the Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme (RSAP).

We have taken a cross-government approach to the strategy, working with the Ministry of Defence/Office for Veterans to support veterans, the Department for Education to support care leavers, the Ministry of Justice to support prison leavers, the Department for Work and Pensions to strengthen models of jobcentre support; the Department of Health and Social Care to issue guidance to new Integrated Care Systems and the Home Office to ensure those who have restricted eligibility for public funds have a clear pathway off the streets.

We have taken measures to ensure that effective monitoring and oversight arrangements are in place. Each area has an Ending Rough Sleeping Plan, which outlines the area's objectives and progress against delivery along with an operational target setting ambitious aims to reduce the number of people sleeping rough on any given night. We have committed to publishing quarterly management information about people sleeping rough and those at risk of rough sleeping. The latest set of information was published alongside the strategy.

The government has defined that rough sleeping will have ended when every local area ensures rough sleeping is 'prevented wherever possible and, where it cannot be prevented, it is a rare, brief and non-recurring experience'. We have worked with CHI and five early adopter areas to develop a national data-led framework so that all partners know what is required to end rough sleeping and can track progress in getting there. The framework will set out the breadth of metrics that are most important in tracking progress. Further details of these metrics are set out in Annex A. Following further testing with the early adopter areas we intend to roll out this framework nationally.

We are also asking the Rough Sleeping Advisory Panel to provide an annual update on delivery to track progress in achieving our ambition to end rough sleeping for good.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeremy Pocklington". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

JEREMY POCKLINGTON

Annex A: Data-led Framework Indicators

Prevent

P.1 – Number of new people sleeping out (an absolute figure, as a rate per 100,000 population, a proportion of all people sleeping rough)

P.2 – People discharged from institutions with no settled accommodation identified

Rare

R.1 – The number of people sleeping out on a single night, expressed as: an absolute figure, as a rate per 100,000 population

Brief

B.1 – The length of time between the first time someone is identified sleeping rough and moving into 'off the streets' accommodation

B.2 – The length of time between a person's first contact with outreach services and moving into 'long-term' accommodation

Non-Recurring

NR.1 – The number of 'returners' of people seen sleeping out again after being successfully supported into accommodation, expressed as: an absolute number, a proportion of the number of people who are successfully supported into accommodation

NR.2 – The number of people experiencing 'long-term' rough sleeping (an absolute figure, as a rate per 100,000 population, a proportion of all people sleeping rough).

