

**BIRMINGHAM'S PLEDGE TO THE
EUROPEAN PILLAR OF SOCIAL RIGHT**

Everyone has a right to a place they can call home and the people of Birmingham must benefit from the homes, jobs and opportunities we are creating. The priority is to provide permanent accommodation for our most vulnerable residents and to offer wrap around support that allows people to maintain their homes and move forward positively with their lives.

Commitment to principle 19 on housing and assistance for the homeless

Responding to the social and economic causes associated with homelessness, requires a wide effort that supports citizens to be more resilient to its impacts. To make this a reality, alignment of investment in housing, jobs, skills and safer communities is a fundamental part of Birmingham's longer-term response to the issue.

Birmingham's strategy to address the negative impact that homelessness has upon the health and wellbeing of our citizens focuses on preventing people from becoming homeless and supporting those who are homeless to build a more positive future in good health, sustainable accommodation and long-lasting employment.

To ensure that our people benefit from the opportunities that the city is offering, Birmingham pledges to provide appropriate housing solution to meet the needs of our citizens. We will work with partners to tackle rough sleeping and homelessness through:

- Birmingham as a lead authority responsible for the Housing First pilot will commission £9.6M over 3 years from 2018 to 2020. This will help a total of 617 people in the region and 274 in Birmingham who are rough sleeping off the streets into stable settled housing.
- Joint multi-partner local prevention delivery plans are being put in place to maximize prevention of rough sleeping and homelessness. This includes making the best use of funding opportunities for services for groups at greater risk of homelessness and rough sleeping.
- Reduce the use of Bed&Breakfast as temporary accommodation by 50% in 2019/2020.
- New affordable rented homes will be delivered by Birmingham Municipal Housing Trust (BMHT) in 2019/2020:
 - 350 properties will be improved in the Private Rented Sector as a result of the Local Authority intervention;
 - 350 private sector empty properties will be brought back into use.
- Birmingham Development Plan will deliver 35% of affordable houses in the period 2011-2031.

Birmingham, 08 October 2019



Leader of the Council

Councillor Ian Ward