

Homelessness

These pages contain a range of performance information from across the Health and Social Care Partnership's Homelessness Service which will allow you to assess how we are performing in this area.

The performance information that is provided here comes from the Service's key performance indicators.

Performance Overview 2017/18

There was a decrease in the percentage of decision notifications issued within 28 days for permanent accommodation.

A number of new performance indicators were introduced by the service in 2017/18. The number of households which were re-assessed as intentionally or unintentionally homeless within the same year increased by 3.1% to 13.3% in 2017/18.

The number of cases assessed as homeless in 2017/18 declined by 4.6%. The number of households re-assessed as intentionally or unintentionally homeless within the same year increased by 3.1% to 13.3% in 2017/18.

The use of bed and breakfast accommodation increased to its highest level in six years.

Inverclyde Council does not provide social rented housing services following the transfer of its housing stock to River Clyde Homes in December 2007.

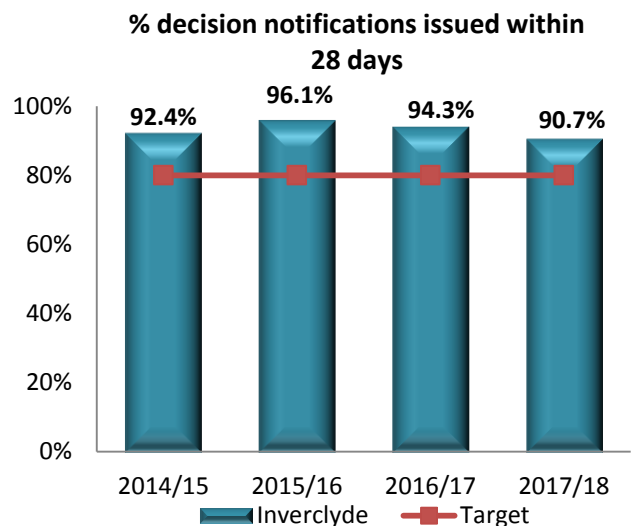
The homelessness service focuses on people's personal circumstances, helping them to explore all options including social rented housing and private rented accommodation. It can also provide support for underlying issues that may underpin housing problems such as debt, family break up and mental health problems. This means that, rather than just making a homeless application, Housing Officers can work with other services to help people before they reach crisis point.

Emphasis remains on the prevention of homelessness and the Housing Options approach which is an information and advice process that the Homelessness Service use when someone approaches them with a housing problem. It aims to prevent homelessness wherever possible and, since its introduction, there has been a fall in homelessness applications.

Permanent Accommodation: Percentage of decision notifications issued within 28 days (KPI)

The percentage of decision notifications issued within 28 days of initial presentation for permanent accommodation fell by 3.6%.

It should be noted that many clients presenting to the service are quite complex and therefore investigating homelessness and assessing their need can be a quite challenging and lengthy process.



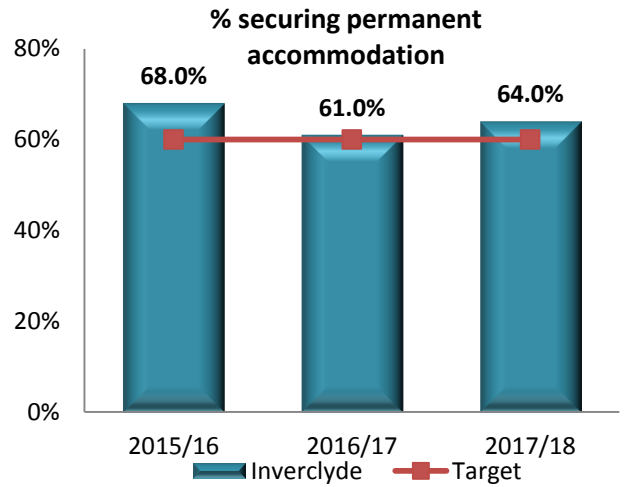
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For households assessed as unintentionally homeless or unintentionally threatened with homelessness, the % which has secured settled accommodation (KPI)

There was a slight increase in the percentage of households securing permanent accommodation in 2017/18. The impact of the Benefit Cap and Universal Credit are affecting local people; however, homeless households are generally more vulnerable and appear to be disproportionately affected by Welfare Reform compared to other groups.

As a stock transfer local authority, we are experiencing significant challenges in re-housing homeless people due to non-compliance of statutory duties and barriers to entry to Choice Based Letting. In the main, this is due to Universal Credit processing issues and the full month's rent advance costs imposed by Registered Social Landlords per their allocation policies.

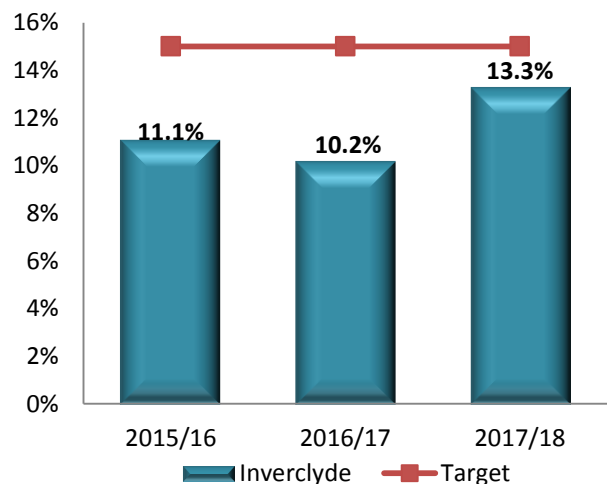
There is a shortage of good quality, affordable housing in Inverclyde and demand far outweighs supply regarding one bedroom properties. Many people cannot afford to rent in the private sector and, to facilitate greater access to privately rented properties, the Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership will shortly be piloting a Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme which aims to enable people who have nowhere to stay to secure their own privately rented accommodation. We aim to promote the provision of good quality accommodation and seek to encourage landlords to accept tenants who are eligible for Universal Credit. The HSCP will act as an independent third party by providing landlords with a deposit on the tenants' behalf.



Repeated homelessness - % of households reassessed as unintentionally homeless or unintentionally threatened with homelessness within the same year (KPI)

The number of households which were reassessed as intentionally or unintentionally homeless within the same year increased by 3.1% to 13.3% in 2017/18.

% reassessed within the same year

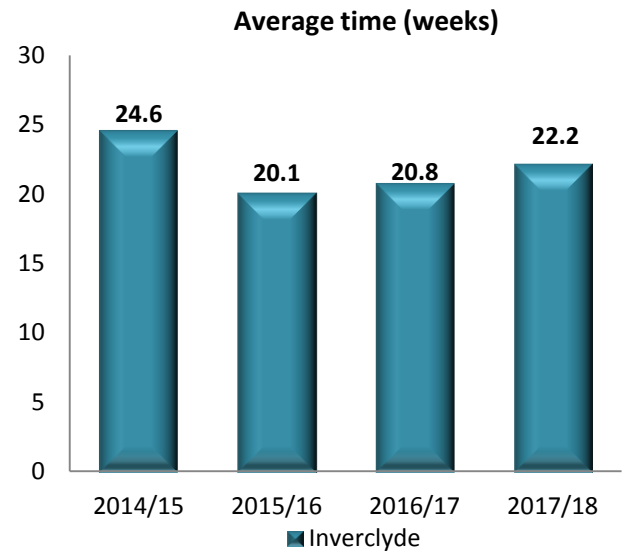


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Average time in weeks between presentation and completion of duty by the Council for cases assessed as homeless or potentially homeless (KPI)

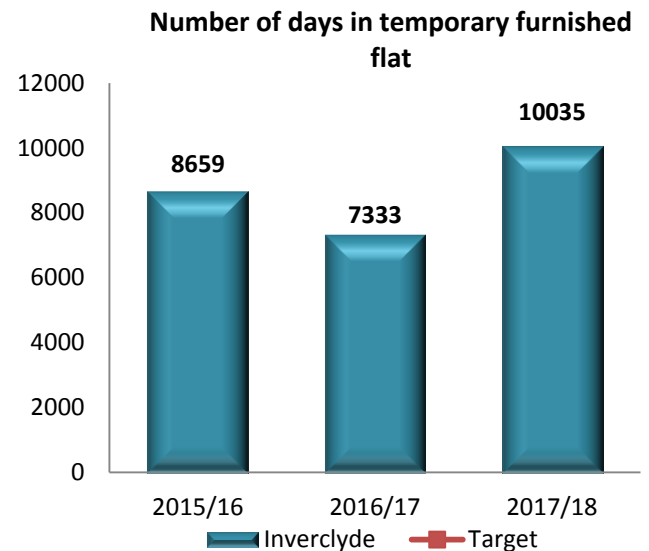
The average time in weeks between presentation and completion of duty by the Council for cases assessed as unintentionally homeless or unintentionally threatened with homelessness increased by 1.4 weeks.

A target has not been set for this indicator because the type of services provided and assistance offered is dependent upon the applicant's housing need at the time of approach and the category of homelessness they are determined to have. Resolving homelessness is complex and often involves a multi-agency approach to ensure that someone is 'tenancy ready' and this can cause significant delays in re-housing people.



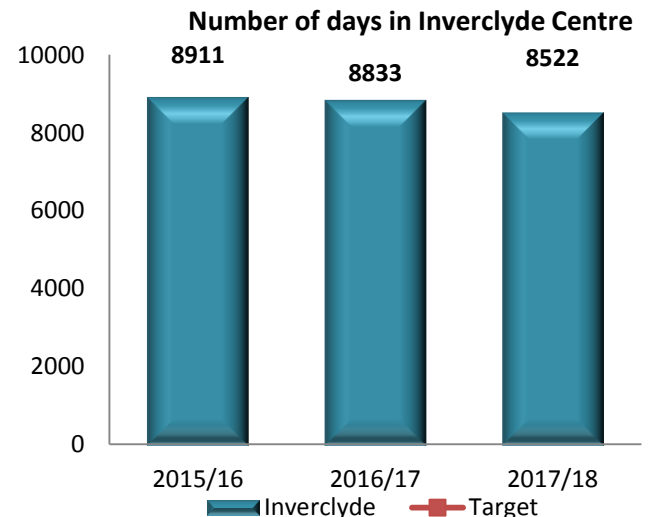
Temporary Accommodation: number of days occupied by households in a temporary furnished flat

In terms of temporary accommodation, the use of temporary furnished flats saw an increase for the first time during the period 2016/17 to 2017/18.



Temporary Accommodation: number of days occupied by households in the Inverclyde Centre

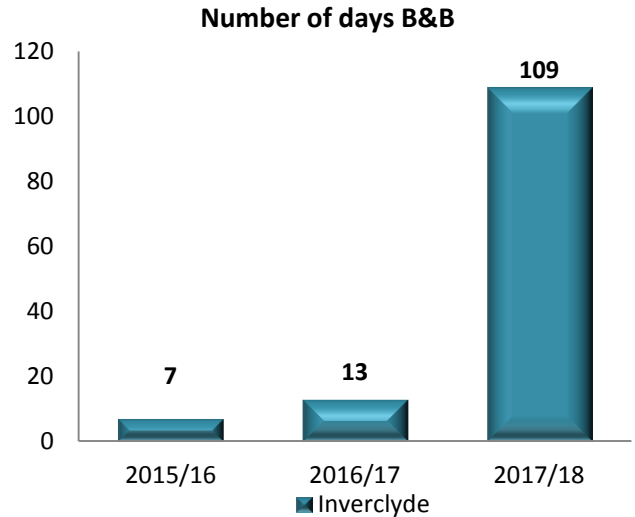
The use of the Inverclyde Centre has remained fairly constant during the past eight years.



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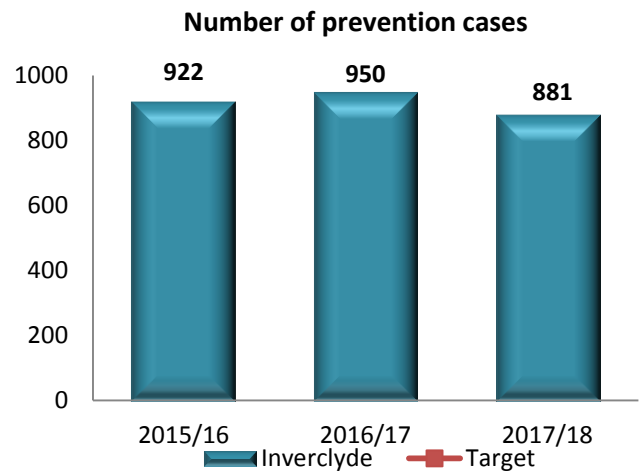
Temporary Accommodation: number of days occupied by households in bed and breakfast accommodation

The use of bed and breakfast accommodation increased to its highest level in six years.



Temporary Accommodation: number of prevention cases (Housing Options) started in period

In 2017/18, the number of households provided with Housing Options advice and assistance fell by 7.26% to 881.



Temporary Accommodation: % of prevention cases (Housing Options) that progressed to a full homelessness assessment

The percentage of prevention cases that progressed to a full homelessness assessment fell by 5% between 2016/17 and 2017/18.

