

# Shelter

**Working together to house Scotland's children.**

**Temporary accommodation for families with children workshop**

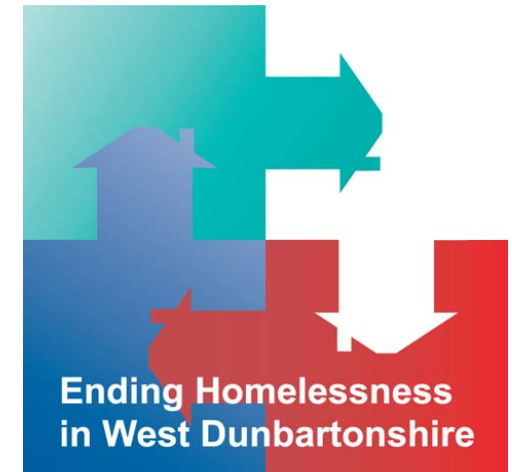
**John Kerr**

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2009**



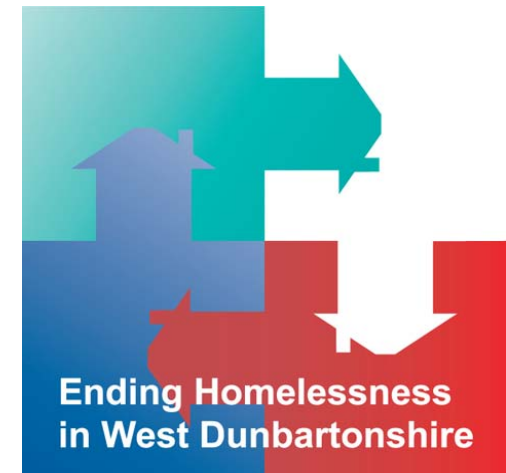
# West Dunbartonshire – Local Context

- North West of Glasgow
- Three major settlements
  - Clydebank
  - Dumbarton
  - Alexandra
- Area of Great Contrast



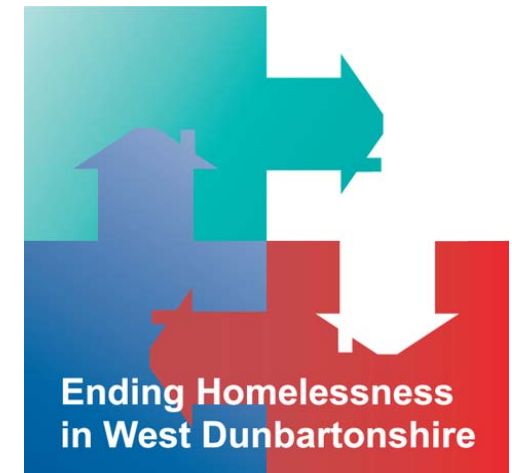
## Homelessness in West Dunbartonshire

- Rapid Increase in Homeless presentations now stabilising/declining
- Highest % incidences of homeless households in Scotland
- Highest % of single female presentations
- Single Persons Households
- Young People



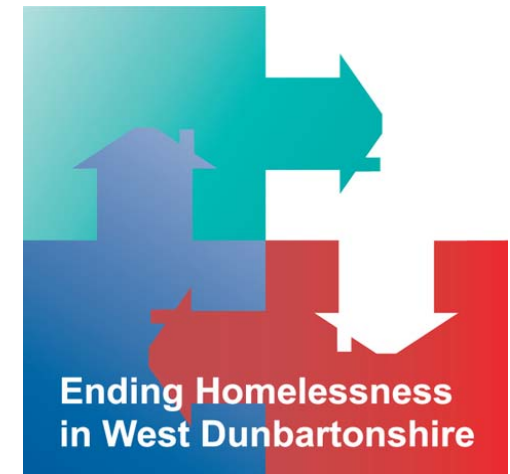
## Priority Need Assessments

- 95% assessments in priority need 2007/08
- 2009 target 90%
- Current performance 97%
- No significant shifts in priority need reasons
  - Children
  - Domestic Violence
  - Age
  - Medical



# Temporary Accommodation Provision West Dunbartonshire

- 267 temporary accommodation units
  - Furnished accommodation
  - Housing support attached
  - RSL provision
- 3 supported accommodation projects (31 spaces)
  - Blue Triangle Housing Association
  - NCH, Action for children
- Direct access temporary units available Out of Hours

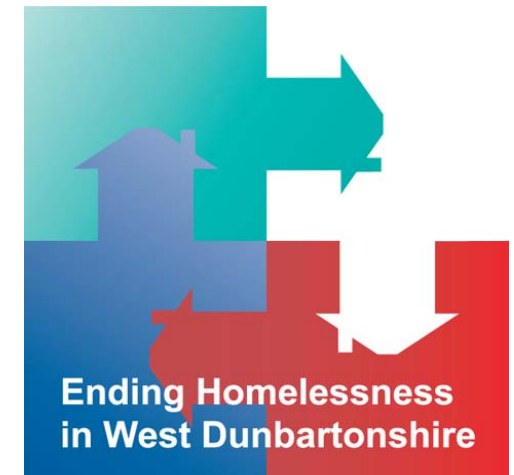


## Temporary Accommodation

- B & B usage eliminated since 2005
- No breaches of the Unsuitable Temporary Accommodation Order
- Increased demand
- 786 households accommodated in 2007/08 (2% increase)
- Decreased turnover
  - Average length of stay
    - 2006/07- 83 days
    - 2007/08-147 days

## Families in temporary accommodation

- Furnished flat
- Support Assessment
- Close to established networks
- Health Visitor Protocol
- Life Skills Training Team
- Conversion Programme



## Easing the Pressures

- Increase in provision of temporary accommodation
- Registered Social Landlords
- Letting targets – Introduce 50% target in 2009/10
  - 43% WDC
  - 31% RSLs
- Temporary Accommodation – stepping stone to success
- New Homelessness Strategy

# Homelessness Strategy Aims

- **Prevention**
  - To prevent homelessness occurring in West Dunbartonshire
- **Increasing Choice**
  - To increase the range of housing options available in West Dunbartonshire
- **Sustainability**
  - To ensure a sustainable solution for individuals who have experienced homelessness
- **Commitment**
  - To provide a framework to ensure a multi agency approach to tackling homelessness in West Dunbartonshire

How to ensure families receive suitable temporary accommodation and support ?

What happens in your local authority areas?  
Good Practice/Bad Practice?

What should happen for families to receive suitable temporary accommodation?

## Wish List

What one thing would you change/introduce to ensure that homeless families are housed in appropriate and suitable temporary accommodation?