



THE SCOTTISH HOUSING REGULATOR

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Where are we now with RSLs &
homelessness?



January 2006

- 14.5% of RSL lets via s.5 in 2004/05
- 55% of referrals led to a let
- Inspection findings:
 - Not all LAs using section 5 referrals to maximise the availability of lets
 - Some good contributions by RSLs to alleviating homelessness
 - But some confusion around section 5 duties and responsibilities



Numbers now

- 16% of RSL lets via s.5 in 2007/08
- 5% to “LA other homeless”
- 21% in total
- Up 1% on previous year
- Range 0 – 59%
- 51% of referrals led to a let



Thematic inspection

- Glasgow and six RSLs
- Test RSL experience of housing homeless people and helping LAs to meet statutory duties
- Three themes:
 - Prevention
 - Accommodation
 - Tenancy sustainment



Prevention

- Provision of support
- Arrears: early action and independent advice
- Provision of advice



Accommodation

- 14 - 53% of RSL lets through s5
- 45% of all lets in the City needed
- 2007/08 21% lets to homeless
- Provide temporary and permanent
- RSLs supported accommodation



Sustaining tenancies

- Not all have clear measures
- All saw new tenant visits as important, but not always achieved
- APSR measure on tenancy sustainment



Positive practice:

- Employability initiatives
- Committee training on homelessness
- Regular homeless reports to committee
- Projects for groups vulnerable to homelessness