

Everyone should have a home

Prevention is better than cure

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- **Why is prevention important?**
- **What is prevention?**
- **Prevention and the road to 2012?**

Why is prevention important?

- Key theme of social policy in Scotland over recent years
- It is vital to the 2012 target that avoidable homelessness is prevented
- Prevention of homelessness is a sustainable and cost effective option
- Balance between proactive and reactive services

What is prevention?

Prevention can be split into 3 strands of activity

Short-term activity – Providing advice and assistance for people threatened with homelessness before the point of crisis

Preventing repeat homelessness – Ensuring people are given tenancies and support that meets all of their needs

Long-term activity – Identifying at risk groups and targeting early intervention action to support them.

Prevention and the road to 2012?

- Prevention of homelessness is a joint Government and COSLA priority to reach 2012
- Prevention, not gate keeping
- Focus on outcomes for each homeless person
- If we want to reach 2012 prevention has to become a priority for everyone