

## Local Authority Report Cards: briefing note on analysis of key statistics

Shelter Scotland has undertaken some analysis into the housing emergency and social housing delivery in Scotland's four largest cities: Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee and Aberdeen. Using this analysis, we have produced report cards for each city to indicate the progress being made <https://blog.scotland.shelter.org.uk/how-are-local-authorities-coping-with-the-growing-housing-emergency/>. This briefing note explains the analysis that underpins the report cards, as well as setting out some of the assumptions that have been made where data is unavailable or unclear.

### Housing emergency statistics

By using Scottish Government [homelessness statistics](#), we can monitor key indicators for the housing emergency at both a national and local level.

We have chosen to monitor:

**Open homeless applications** – these indicate how busy homelessness services are on a specific date. The latest available data at the time of writing is from 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022. This data has then been compared with the previous available date to indicate an increase or decrease, at the time of writing this date is the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

**Households that have slept rough** – we have used the data on the numbers of households in a year where one person in the household reported sleeping rough within the 3 months before making a homeless application. There are known limitations with this indicator, and therefore it may not be an accurate representation of rough sleeping in local authorities. The latest data available covers 2021/22, this is then compared with 2020/21 to indicate an increase or decrease.

**Total homeless households** – we have used the data on the number of households assessed as homeless or threatened with homelessness as a measure of how many households became homeless in a year. The latest data available covers 2021/22, this is then compared with 2020/21 to indicate an increase or decrease.

**Households trapped in temporary accommodation** – this statistic is for a particular date. The latest data available is from 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022. This data has then been compared with the previously available date to indicate an increase or decrease, at the time of writing this date is the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

**Children trapped in temporary accommodation** - this statistic is for a particular date. The latest data available is from 30th September 2022. This data has then been compared with the previously available date to indicate an increase or decrease, at the time of writing this date is the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

**Average time spent in temporary accommodation** – we have used data on the number of days that a household spends in temporary accommodation on average for households whose case was closed in the year. The latest data available covers 2021/22, this is then compared with 2020/21 to indicate an increase or decrease.

### Social house building statistics

Ensuring enough social homes are built in the right places is the structural solution to the housing emergency.

The Scottish Government have [committed](#) to deliver 110,000 affordable homes across Scotland by 2032, at least 77,000 (70%) of which will be homes for social rent. This works out as 7,700 homes delivered per year. The number of social homes they have delivered in the last year is **XXXX**. Therefore, we've rated this the colour green.

Local authorities are best placed to understand the housing need in their city, and they produce Strategic Housing Investment Plans (SHIPs) which set out their plans for housing delivery to meet these needs.

To monitor delivery, we have compared the numbers of social homes that each LA have set out they need to deliver in their SHIPs, with the actual number that they have delivered in the last financial year. This working out for each of the four LAs is set out below, however there are a number of caveats which readers should be aware of when seeking to understand the analysis. These are:

- Data on how many social homes have been approved and started under the AHSP by local authority is not available publicly, and so we have only been able to use data on completions. We recognise that this does not give a full picture of housing delivery in each LA area.
- The SHIPs for Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen do not have specific targets for the number of social homes they plan to deliver, instead they only have targets for affordable homes. In these cases, in line with Scottish Government targets, we have assumed that 70% of the target for affordable housing delivery should be social housing.

- Edinburgh and Glasgow's SHIPs do not have yearly targets for affordable housing delivery, only targets for delivery over a five-year period. In these cases, to reach a yearly target we have divided the total target by five.

The calculations for each of the four cities social housing delivery are set out below:

### Aberdeen

- Aberdeen's [SHIP 2022/27](#) asserts that 385 affordable homes must be built in 2022/23. Using Scottish Government target of 70% social homes, this would mean 270 social homes should be built this year.
- According to the latest [AHSP statistics](#) Aberdeen have completed 546 social homes in 2022/23. This means that they have exceeded their target for this year. Therefore, we have rated Aberdeen green for social housing delivery.

### Dundee

- Dundee's [SHIP 2022-2027](#) sets the target that 200 social homes should be completed per year.
- According to the latest [AHSP statistics](#) Dundee have completed 101 social homes in 2022/23. This means that they have not met their target for this year. Therefore, we have rated Dundee red for social housing delivery.

### Edinburgh

- Edinburgh's [SHIP 2022-2027](#) asserts that 7,935 affordable homes should be completed between 2018 and 2023. This total has been divided by five to reach a yearly target, and then the Scottish Government's 70% social homes target applied. This gives a number of 1,111 social homes to be delivered per year.
- According to the latest [AHSP statistics](#) Edinburgh have completed 451 social homes in 2022/23. This means that they have not met their target for this year. Therefore we have rated Edinburgh red for social housing delivery.

### Glasgow

- Glasgow's [SHIP 2022 - 2027](#) asserts that 6,500 affordable homes need to be delivered between 2022 and 2027. This total has been divided by 5 to reach a yearly target, and then the Scottish Government's 70% social homes target applied. This gives a number of 910 social homes to be delivered per year.

- According to the latest [AHSP statistics](#) Glasgow have completed 737 social homes in 2022/23. This means that they have not met their target for this year and therefore we have rated Glasgow red for social housing delivery.