

## Appendix 2: HRA impact and homelessness demands

**An estimate for our Council of the number of additional homelessness applications due to the HRA and the methodology used to calculate this figure.**

The methodology used to calculate the projected increase in Homelessness demand is to:

1. Take the learning from Wales where there has been a 26% increase in homelessness applications based on similar new duties. The Welsh legislation was introduced in April 2015 so the percentage increase is robust, based on 18 months data.
2. To add on the estimated increase in applications due to a new duty on specified public authorities to refer households to the local authority housing service, if that public body believes that the household may be homeless or at risk of homelessness. This duty is not replicated in Wales therefore the impact needs to be added to the figures. Specified public bodies are likely to be The Police, Prisons, GPs, Hospitals, Schools and Colleges

Taken together, it is estimated that the increase in homelessness applications for Shepway District Council will be up to 50%. Tables 1 and 2 below set out the detail for how the projected increase has been calculated

**Table 1: Additional Homelessness Demand as a result of the Homelessness Reduction Act**

Description	Numbers/Calculation
Estimated outturn figure for 2017/18 based on the number of homelessness applications in 2016/17	228
Estimated increase in homelessness applications for 2018/19 based on the evidence from Welsh local authorities and the prediction for England	30% = 68 extra homelessness applications
Estimated increase in homelessness applications due to the new duty on specified public authorities to refer	25% = 57 extra homelessness applications
Estimated increase due to the rise in homelessness applications across England and our region based on the rise for 2015/16	10% = 23 extra homelessness applications
Total additional homelessness applications	376
Minus 30% which is the average number of households found to be not homeless following the assessment of their homelessness application in Your council	368 - 108 = 263 households owed either a new prevention duty or new relief of homelessness duty
Estimated Prevention duty caseload at 51%	134
Estimated Relief of homelessness duty at 49%	129
Prevention duty successful outcome cases (based on Welsh figures) is 65% with 23 % helped to remain and 77% helped through alternative accommodation	88 require alternative accommodation to be sourced by the Council
Relief of homelessness successful outcome cases (based on the Welsh figures) is 45% all helped through alternative accommodation	50 require alternative accommodation to be sourced by the Council
Total requiring alternative accommodation to be sourced by the Council	133 – 34% where that accommodation is provided by social housing (based on Welsh figures) = 88 households will require private rented accommodation

**Table 2: Estimate of the additional Officer time required to implement the new duties**

Description	Detail	Additional hours/costs (over 1 year)
Section 189A assessment and Housing Plans	260 households requiring an additional 2 hours interview	520 hours extra
Prevention and Relief casework	260 households requiring 5 hours casework per case	1300 extra hours
Additional Legal Notification letters required under the new legislation	4 letters per case and 1 hour per letter	1040 hours
Number of weekly PRS lettings required	88 per year	Cost of £102, 520 based on an average 1 months' rent in advance and 1 months' rent deposit of £1,165