House of Lords
Question for Written Answer

Baroness Dorothy Thornhill: To ask Her Majesty’s Government, further to the statement by Viscount Younger of Leckie on 1 October (HL Deb, col 1624) that there is now "a year’s worth of evidence, which shows that more people are being supported earlier" and that "this is having a clear impact on the prevention of homelessness", whether they will place a copy of that evidence in the Library of the House. (HL18023)

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government (Viscount Younger of Leckie):

The Homelessness Reduction Act (HRA) placed new duties on local housing authorities to take reasonable steps to try to prevent and relieve a person’s homelessness. These new duties apply irrespective of whether a person has ‘priority need’ or may be regarded as being 'intentionally homeless'.

Experimental data covering the first year of the HRA is indicating positive change. During this period, local authorities accepted a new prevention or relief duty to over 250,000 households. For the households where the prevention duty ended, 58% had been helped to stay in their home or to secure alternative accommodation.


A copy of Homelessness Statistics will be placed in the library.

Younge of Leckie

October 2019