# Local authority TA subsidy gap interview template

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| **Local authority name** | - |
| **Region in England** | -- |
| **Interview date** | - |

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| **Quick description of local authority and its experience with homelessness/temporary accommodation** |
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| **No.** | **Question** | **Answer** | **Additional Notes** |
| **1** | **How do you allocate temporary accommodation in your jurisdiction?** |  |  |
| **2** | **We assume that LHA rates are in line with local authority stock or housing association stock, is this right? How expensive are the different accommodation types relative to LHA rates? (Prompt that we are referring to the types outlined below)** |  |  |
| **3** | **How much did you spend on Temporary Accommodation last year/month? How much was reimbursed by DWP? (Prompt year 2023 or a month in 2023)** |  | This information was requested in advance of the interview. |
| **4** | **How does the reimbursement rate of 90% of 2011 LHA rates affect your budget and service provision more broadly?** **Were there cases where provision of TA was not possible due to financial/liquidity constraints?** |  |  |
| **5** | **Given the quantity of money that is being spent on Temporary Accommodation, what other types of services/policies are being forgone in your area? What are the most significant compromises?** |  |  |
| **6** | **How significantly does the subsidy gap affect the overall budget for homelessness services? What is the impact of cost restrictions on the suitability and quality of accommodation available, and are you able to allocate households to appropriately sized accommodation?** |  |  |
| **7** | **Do you face any challenges when claiming back from DWP? If so, can you detail what?** |  |  |
| **8** | **Can you explain what size of accommodation (e.g. Shared/1BR/2BR) is typically allocated to the following groups: Can you give a rough percentage breakdown?** |  |  |
| **A** | **Couple with Dependent Children** |  |  |
| **B** | **Single Male Parent with Dependent Children** |  |  |
| **C** | **Single Female Parent with Dependent Children** |  |  |
| **D** | **Other/Gender Not Known Parent with Dependent Children** |  |  |
| **E** | **Single Male Adult** |  |  |
| **F** | **Single Female Adult** |  |  |
|  | **Other/Gender Not Known Adult** |  |  |
| **9** | **What policy changes would you advocate for to address temporary accommodation cost pressures?** |  |  |
| **10** | **How long do households typically remain in temporary accommodation? Can you give an average estimate?** |  |  |
| **11** | **What variables/reasons influence the use of certain types of temporary accommodation? How has this changed over time?**  **The five options are: 1) Bed and Breakfast Hotels, 2) Nightly paid privately managed accommodation self-contained, 3) Hostels, 4) Private sector accommodation leased by local authority, 5) Local authority or housing association stock, 6) Other** |  | **Note:** Data can be found in Temp Accommodation by Type in Quantitative Analysis, can later show the macro of the interviewed authorities in the report too. |

## Rate the following questions/elements on a score of 1 to 5 whereby 5 is the most effective:

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| **Attributes** | **Not at all / Significant (bad) (1)** | **Inadequately / Limited (2)** | **Moderately / OK (3)** | **Well (4)** | **Very Well / Substantial (good) (5)** | **Comments** |
| **How effectively does your local authority manage the financial shortfall caused by the subsidy gap?** |  |  |  | **X** |  |  |
| **Rate the quality of temporary accommodation you can provide within the constraints of current subsidy levels?** |  |  | **X** |  |  |  |
| **Rate the level of cooperation between your local authority and private accommodation providers?** |  | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Evaluate the impact of the subsidy gap on the overall quality of services provided to individuals and families in temporary accommodation?** |  |  | **X** |  |  |  |
| **Assess the effectiveness of your council’s efforts to secure additional funding or policy changes to bridge the subsidy gap?** |  |  |  | **X** |  |  |
| **How receptive do you feel national policymakers have been to your communication of the impact of the subsidy gap?** | **X** |  |  |  |  |  |

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| **COMMENTS** Provide any additional comments. |
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