

Draft Housing and Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategies

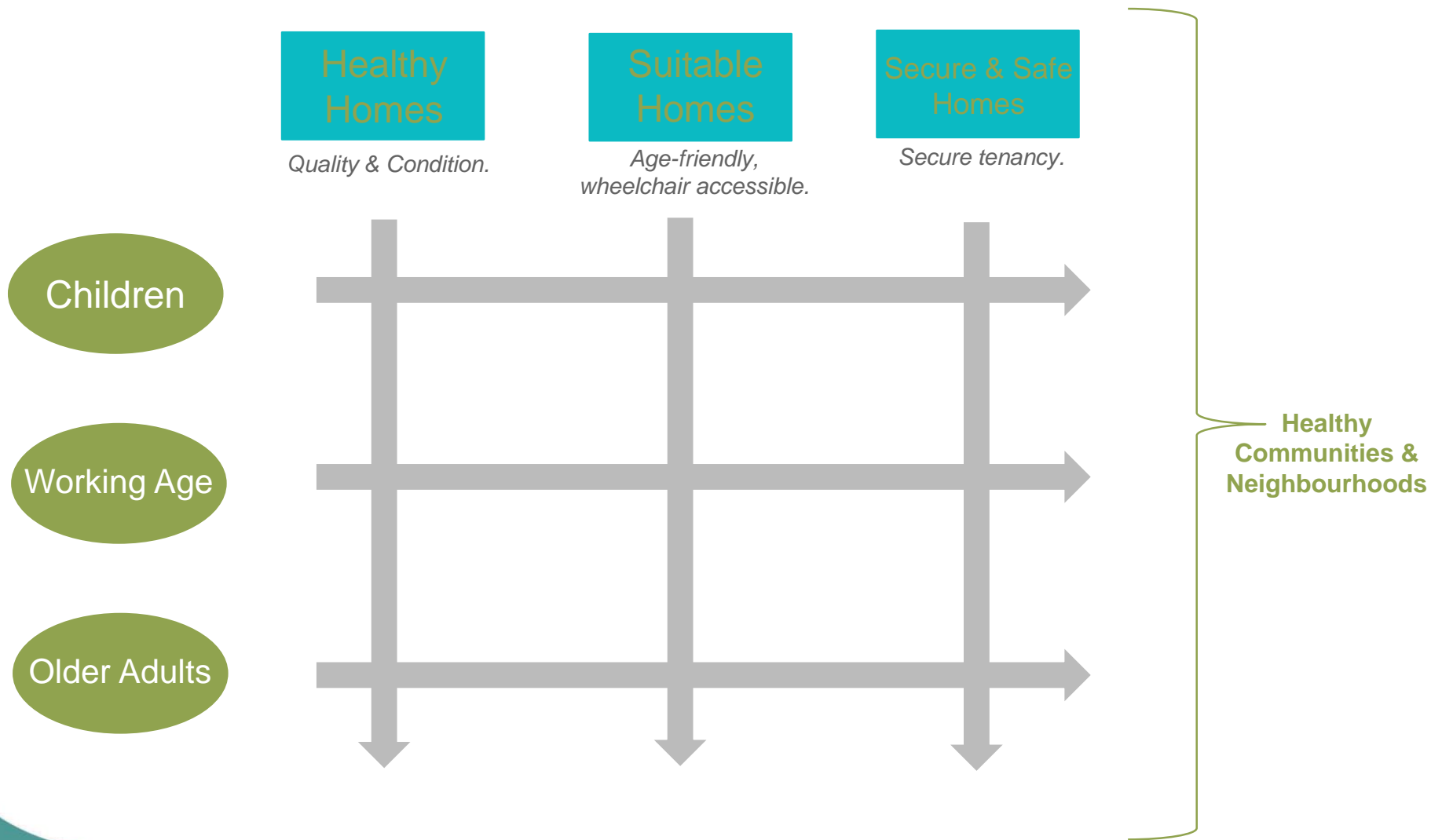
**Cllr Rozenberg
Chair, Housing Committee**

November 2018

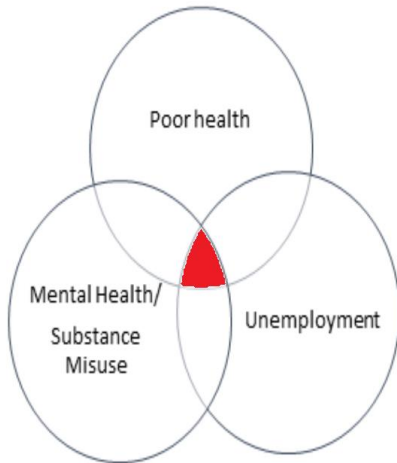
Barnet Context

- Growing population
- Rising Costs
- Increasing house prices and private rents
- Limited supply of affordable housing
- Impact of benefit changes
- Demand for housing assistance remains high

Housing & Health



Homelessness & Health



The average age of death of men and women who are homeless

47yrs 43yrs

People who are homeless are nine times more likely to take their own life

x nine



2.5x more likely to have asthma



TB rates are **34x** higher



6x more likely to have heart disease



Hepatitis C rates are **50x** higher

Were admitted to hospital more frequently



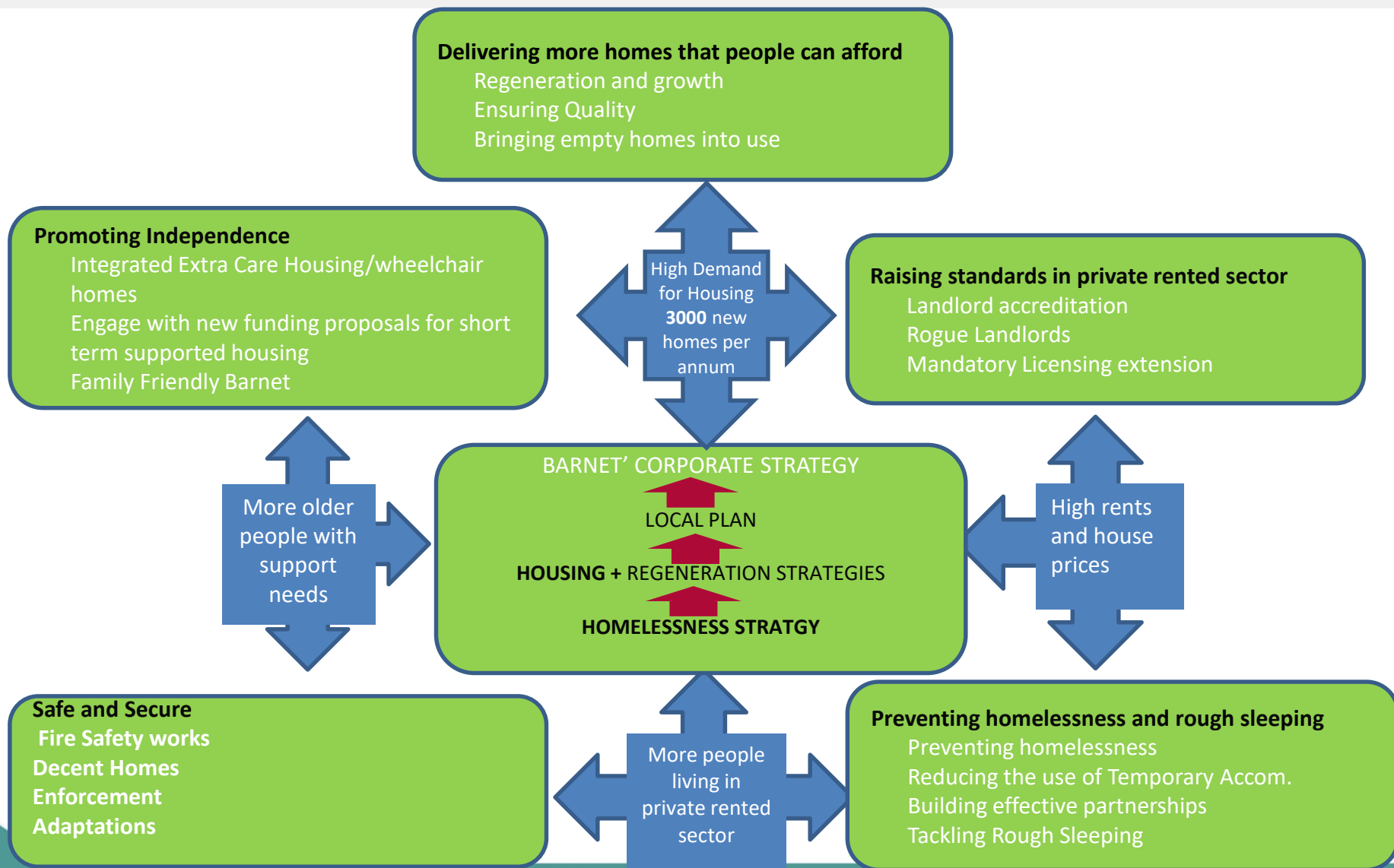
Visited A&E seven times as often as the general population



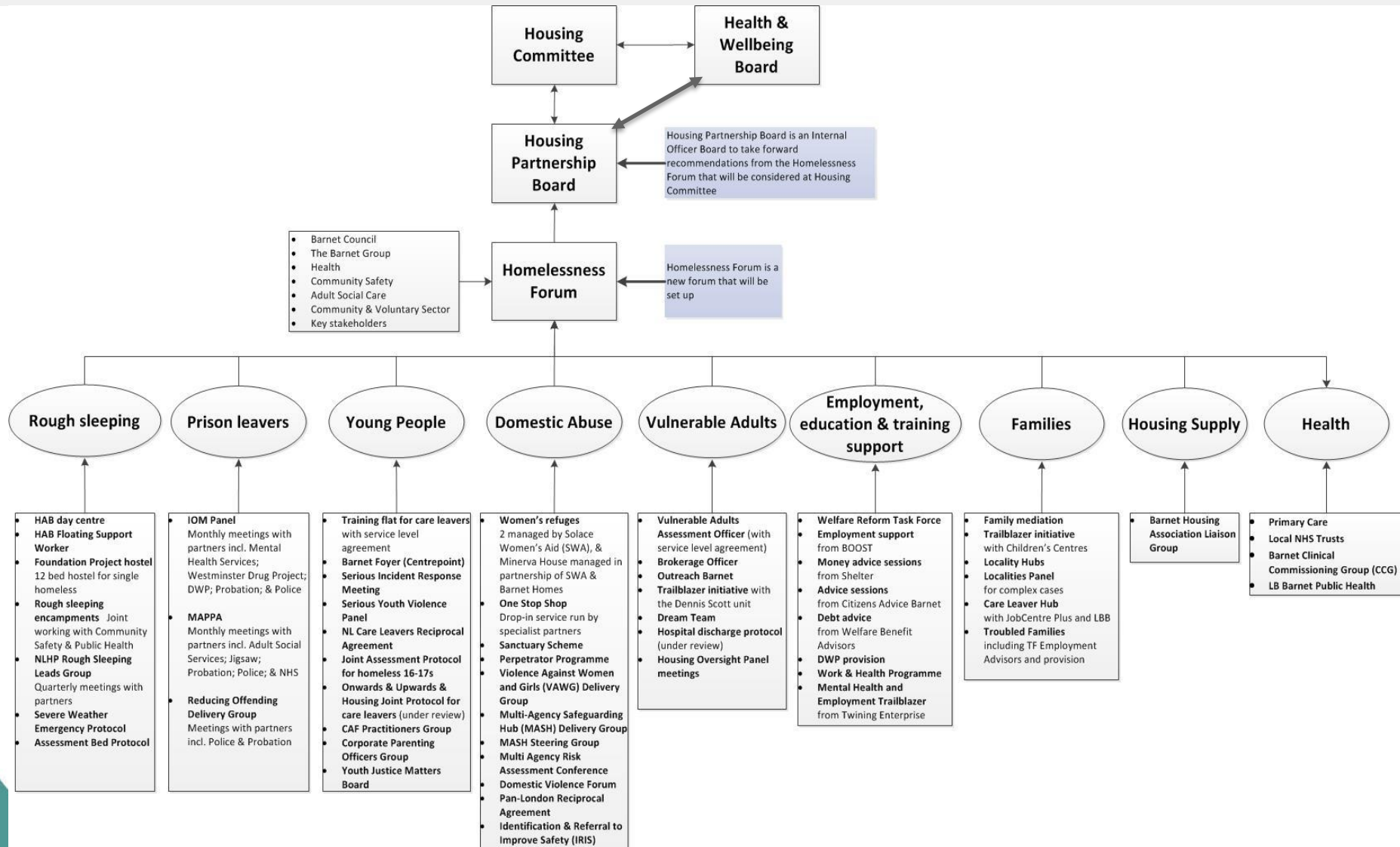
73% of people sleeping rough in London in 2016/17 whose needs were assessed had an alcohol, drug or mental health problem, and many had all three.

73%

Priorities



Strengthening partnership working to prevent homelessness



Request

- 1. HWBB formally respond to the housing and homelessness consultations.**
 - 2. That the Health and Wellbeing Board note that housing is a factor relevant to the health and wellbeing of people and therefore from time to time the Board will receive reports relating to housing and homelessness.**
 - 3. All public agencies including health services understand their duty to refer clients at risk or who are homeless.**
- I.** The Homeless Reduction Act introduces a duty to refer households who are threatened with homelessness to housing options services.
 - II.** This duty is placed on defined public bodies who include, social care, Job Centre Plus, prisons, youth offending, probation and hospitals.
 - III.** A dedicated email address dutytorefer@barnet.gov.uk will give directions to a portal to refer clients who are or at risk of homelessness.
 - IV.** The duty to refer will lead to closer worker relationships and will help early intervention work to prevent homelessness whilst also fostering better understanding of the issues facing partner organisations.

Next Steps and further information

- ❑ 12 Week formal consultation has commenced from 5 November 2018.
- ❑ Strategies to be approved by the Housing Committee Spring 2019.
- ❑ A copy of the Housing and Homelessness Strategies and consultation questions can be found on the Engage Barnet [website](#).
- ❑ Further information: please contact Faisal.butt@barnet.gov.uk / 020 8359 6263