

2024-25 I'M IN! PROJECT SUMMARY



Since 2021, the I'M IN! SeAscape and AHAC collaboration has been establishing effective referral partnerships identifying risk of homelessness. During 2021-24 they successfully proactively promoted early intervention through engaging with private rented sector tenants to prevent and/or delay homelessness within across South Ayrshire while reducing the need for homeless temporary accommodation.

2024-25 provides exciting partnership of funders (Scottish Government with East and South Ayrshire Councils) enabling I'M IN! to develop through providing Tribunal Advice, Representation and negotiation along with dedicated Housing Support to empower private rented tenants faced with eviction through the complete process to delay and where possible prevent ejections while longer term housing solutions are secured to meet their needs, aspirations and expectations.

Early upstream and crisis intervention referrals will be offered a person centred, holistic service to increase positive homeless prevention outcomes through accredited Housing Information, Advice and Representation from AHAC and regulated support from SeAscape. Tenants will see an improvement in their health and wellbeing, employment and welfare needs, through a collaborative person-centred delivery model.

Private rented sector tenants across South and East Ayrshire will be assisted through increased:

- Access to Independent, Accredited Housing Advice & Advocacy, establishing rights to liaise and negotiate with Landlords
- Access to free Tribunal representation to enforce rights, empower tenants and improve social justice through Case Management Discussions and Evidential Hearings by submitting defences to seek delays
- Delays in ejection dates to allow time to find alternative permanent solutions, reducing demand on temporary accommodation
- Poverty alleviation through income maximisation, including grants, benefits and back to work better off calculation through support and empowerment
- Interaction and empowerment for those reluctant to enforce rights
- Practical and emotional support, improving mental health and wellbeing through positive supportive relationships, giving hope, reducing crises situations, and collaborating with appropriate specialist agencies