

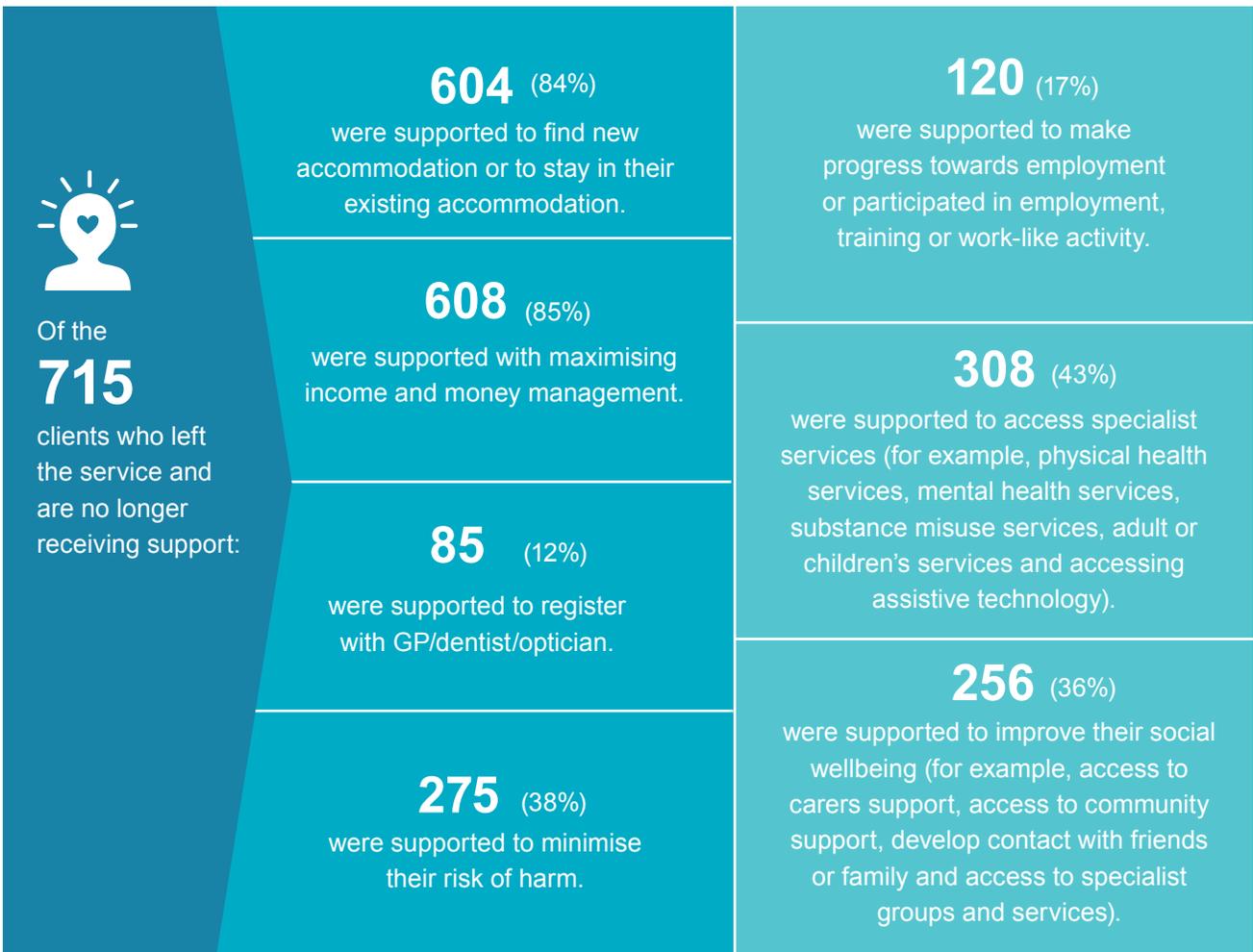
West Sussex Homelessness Prevention Partnership

Southdown

Making Life Work

Preventing homelessness and improving people's health, wellbeing and independence.

West Sussex County Council's **proposed 100% cut of all housing related support services** would have a devastating effect on thousands of vulnerable people. It would also increase pressure and costs on statutory services (health, social care, emergency services and housing). We urgently appeal for the Council to significantly reduce the proposed cut and protect funding for vital services such as the West Sussex Homelessness Prevention Partnership.



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Our Housing Support Officers working in acute mental health hospitals:

Received 251 referrals	Supported 86 people to access new accommodation	Prevented 73 people from becoming homeless	Provided 35 people with housing support (eg. referrals to supported housing, liaising with Councils and maximising benefits)
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94% of people who responded to our 2017 client satisfaction survey said the support they've received has made a positive difference to their life.



19 people were supported to move out of supported accommodation and are now living independently.

35 people were accepted onto a supported housing scheme to develop their independent living skills.

46 Access PRS clients who had been homeless or were threatened with homelessness have been supported to move into private rented accommodation.



Case study

A young family with two children living in private rented accommodation required homelessness prevention support as they had been served with an eviction notice due to rent arrears and no housing benefit in place.

Support provided included helping the family to register for housing benefit, putting in a request for backdated housing benefit, updating information on the Housing Register, completing a council tax discretionary application and referring them for support to address their debts. The family is now in receipt of housing benefit, was awarded over £4,000 of backdated housing benefit, secured full

time employment, and was supported to claim working tax credits and re-apply for housing benefit. Without the support of the West Sussex Homelessness Prevention Partnership the family would have been evicted and found intentionally homeless.

Find out more

For more information contact Chaun Wilson, Southdown's Senior Operations & Service Development Manager.

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