

All in For Change: Connecting Lived & Frontline Experience

Update to HPSG | 10 December 2019

An update on the participation programme approved by HPSG in September 2019:

Programme Summary

Change happens on the ground. But many people we need to deliver the High-Level Plan to End Homelessness in Scotland are not aware of what it is, what it means or why it matters. It has been agreed that connecting in a coordinated way with people with personal experience of homelessness and those closest to them on the frontline will increase the reach and rigour of the new plan.

All in For Change provides a structure for this. It will be led by an active, inclusive new Change Team and belong to everyone who wants to help deliver the plan and make it stick. All in For Change will communicate positive, bold and evidenced-based key messages that will help us all transition from the old way of doing things to the new. The Change Team will also be supported to act on those messages and use their wider networks to encourage others to do the same – highlighting to HPSG, Housing Options Hubs and others along the way what is helping, and what is getting in the way. An online resource will be built for everyone to keep up to date with change around homelessness in Scotland – what it means to them, and why it matters.

Applications to Change Team

69 applications were received with 35% of applicants offering their personal experience, 45% with frontline experience and 20% with both. While most were from across the Central Belt, we received enough applications from across the country to ensure that all Housing Options Hub areas are represented. We will connect with A Way Home Scotland to ensure young people are properly represented too. 30 Change Leads will be selected to lead the programme on 2 December 2019, with around 10 sitting on a new 'Prevention Commission' to support the work of the Prevention Duty Review Group. They will come together in a launch day on 10 December 2019.

Advisors to the Change Team

To connect the Change Team to evidence and specific expertise, at least 3 special advisors have agreed to support the team. Dr Beth Watts, Heriot-Watt University (housing, homelessness, social policy); Dr Oliver Escobar, Edinburgh University (participatory policy making) and Doreen Grove (Open Government).

Representing and Influencing

Nobody wants to create a platform of personal and frontline intelligence that is tokenised or undervalued. The 'top table' is an important place for people to be represented so long as people are supported well and emboldened – as with the Change Team – with a prepared contribution including but broader than their own perspective. We will do this in 2 ways:

- Membership of HPSG: a method for this will be explored by the Change Team before the first HPSG meeting in 2020. The team at Homeless Network Scotland will support their preparation and HPSG member David Duke will buddy them during the meeting. David will also connect with the team in the afternoon of their Launch Day on 10 December
- Representation will also be sought in a way that can support the Housing Options Hubs in their discussions. This is still to be developed and we expect will be a different method for each area.

Identity

We have worked with award-winning Equator agency to develop an identity and set of key communication messages for the Change Team to build from and take ownership of. It works from the principle of 'building the new' to clarify what change means in simple concepts. It can also serve to support the broader work to improve perceptions and increase awareness.

Please see attached pdf for initial draft.

Action Plan

An easy-read work plan for the Change Team to June 2020 has been drafted to share and firm up initial priorities and timelines. The Change Team, advisors, facilitating and funding partners will also collaborate over this period to develop priorities from July 2020.

Please see attached initial work plan.