

The Homelessness Change and Platform for Life Funds 2015 to 2017

Addendum

Case studies and further support

This document provides examples of previous capital funded schemes for rough sleepers, and those at risk of rough sleeping, where health outcomes have been achieved and also details of schemes similar to those which may be developed under the Platform for Life programme. These are intended to act as a guide for providers who are developing proposals under the Homelessness Change and Platform for Life Funds 2015 to 2017.

The examples are provided for illustrative purposes only and it is not expected that the schemes funded under this programme will necessarily follow these formats. Please refer to the Homelessness Change and Platform for Life Funds 2015 to 2017 prospectus available on GOV.UK for further details on the requirements of the programme.

This document also provides details of further support which is available to assist bidders in developing their proposals for this funding.

Case studies

Homelessness Change

The Basement, Liverpool

The Basement day centre in Liverpool works mainly with rough sleepers in the city. When they moved to a new building they were keen to ensure that the health needs of rough sleepers were met before their issues became too acute.

To achieve this they worked with the city centre GP practice and installed a health room using Places of Change funding from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), including facilities provided by the practice.

These facilities enabled clients to have their health needs addressed without going to A&E or through the GP appointment system which often didn't suit their needs due to their chaotic lifestyles. Nurses and health practitioners, particularly those specialising in DVT and leg ulcers, utilised the facility which helped to reduce costs to health services such as through preventing inappropriate use of A&E, early interventions, cutting down on waiting lists and the costs of missed appointments. The health facility also complimented other parts of the service such as a counselling room, therapy room, acupuncture and alcohol detox.

<http://www.the-basement.org.uk/>

Contact: Charlotte Mansbridge (tel: 0151 7071515)

STAGES project, Middlesbrough

STAGES has spaces for 48 people, offering training, support and employment as a route out of homelessness and back into a more settled life. The scheme's name comes from its approach, which sees residents work through a series of stages during their time at the centre.

Stage 1 focuses on identifying and tackling key issues like addictions, while Stage 2 is about training and education prior to moving out into independent living with additional support during Stage 3.

STAGES is backed by Middlesbrough Council, DCLG, Middlesbrough Primary Care Trust, the Safer Middlesbrough Partnership and Church Housing Trust, as well as the HCA.

http://www.riverside.org.uk/corporate/our_services/care_and_support/stage_academy_middlesborough.aspx

<http://www.homesandcommunities.co.uk/article/middlesbrough-homeless-facility>

Contact: Colin West (tel: 01642 733560)

BOSCO House, Liverpool

BOSCO Society is a small charitable organisation which provides 23 bed spaces to single homeless men, many of whom have substance misuse problems, mental health issues and have a background of offending.

<http://boscohouse.org.uk/what-we-do.html>

Contact: tel: 0151 944 1818

Platform for Life

Although we want to break new ground with the Platform for Life programme, the following existing schemes help to show elements of what may be possible.

Snug Bug, Manchester

This St Vincent's Housing Association house share scheme provides young people aged between 16–25 years of age with affordable, safe and secure shared accommodation across Manchester. They work in partnership with a number of housing providers across the city to provide this service.

The scheme is open to any young person and there is no housing related support provided. Young people must attend pre-tenancy training sessions as part of the application process. Snug Bug Rangers provide out of hours housing management for issues such as losing keys and any instances of anti-social behaviour.

<http://www.snugbughouseshare.co.uk/>

Contact: Yvonne McDermott (tel: 0161 772 2135)

Get Real project, London

This Barnet Homes scheme offers shared accommodation and on-going support to young homeless people who show a commitment to education, training or employment. The scheme is aimed at breaking the culture of antisocial behaviour, alcohol and drug abuse and welfare dependency that frequently exists among young people in temporary accommodation.

By offering a flat share rather than a temporary single bed property which may lead to social isolation, Barnet Homes aims to give young people who can no longer live with their family a better introduction to living independently.

The scheme is also designed to give the young people the best possible chance of improving their own means, so that in future they may not need to rely on social housing or the benefits system. That will serve to ease pressures on social housing in Barnet, where demand for council and housing association properties far exceeds supply.

<http://www.barnethomes.org/news/2013/03/young-people-get-real-with-shared-housing-project/>

Contact: Mohammad Al-Hneidi (tel: 020 8359 4707)

CRISIS Sharing Solutions Programme

This CRISIS programme supports eight pilot schemes in a wide range of housing markets to deliver decent and sustainable shared accommodation in the private rented sector, some of which may have relevance to the Platform for Life programme. Peer mentors provide young people with support and assistance throughout their move into shared accommodation. CRISIS have also developed a pre-tenancy training course developed for homeless people with little experience of independent living.

<http://www.crisis.org.uk/pages/sharing-solutions-schemes.html>

<http://www.crisis.org.uk/pages/sharing-solutions-good-practice.html>

<http://www.crisis.org.uk/pages/pre-tenancy-training.html>

Contact: Bridget Young (tel: 020 7426 3849)

Further support

Homeless Link Strategy and Partnership managers

Homeless Link, the membership body for organisations and individuals working with homeless people in England, have offered support to organisations bidding for funding under this programme through their Strategy and Partnership Managers. They are experienced single homelessness and rough sleeping practitioners and have supported agencies who were funded under previous capital homelessness programmes. In particular, they will be able to work with organisations to understand need, offer advice on value for money and positive outcomes and broker any necessary partnership work.

<http://homeless.org.uk/>

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St Basils Youth Homelessness Adviser

St Basils is a youth homelessness agency based in the West Midlands. DCLG fund St Basils to provide a youth homelessness adviser who works on a part time basis across England with local authorities, Registered Providers and other agencies working with young people. The purpose of this work is to help local authorities and their partners prevent youth homelessness, develop appropriate housing options for young people which will promote better outcomes for young people who are not able to stay in the family network or are leaving care.

The model that is used to support agencies in this work is the “Positive Pathway”, which St Basils developed in 2012. The Platform for Life Programme relates to a specific part of the “Positive Pathway”. It may be helpful to download the Positive Pathway document that is available on the St Basils website here:

<http://www.stbasils.org.uk/how-we-help/#end-youth-homelessness>

For general information and advice on the Positive Pathway model please contact Anna Whalen, the Youth Homelessness Adviser on the following email:

anna.whalen@stbasils.org.uk