

Health and Homelessness Conference 2025: The Unhealthy State of Homelessness

Monday 3 November 2025, 10am – 4.40pm

Programme

10.00am **Chair's welcome and opening plenary:**

The Unhealthy State of Homelessness – report findings and reflections

- Chair: Rick Henderson, CEO, Homeless Link
- Sophie Boobis, Head of Policy and Research
- Rachel Brennan, Director of Participation, Progression and Change, Groundswell
- James Dillon, Health Now Volunteer and Researcher, Groundswell
- Pavan Dhaliwal, CEO, Revolving Doors (tbc)
- Dr Al Story, Professor of Inclusion Health, University College London, and Clinical Lead Find & Treat (tbc)

11.15am Break

11.35am **Breakout session 1 – Your choice of the following sessions:**

- **The NHS 10 Year Plan: Potential and pitfalls for homelessness**
Dee O'Connell, Director of Policy and Programmes, Pathway
Gill Taylor, ICS programme lead, Pathway
- **Addressing Brain Injury in populations experiencing multiple disadvantage**
Dr Emma Williamson, Consultant Clinical Psychologist and CEO of Aneemo
Dr Jess Barton, Specialist Clinical Psychologist, South London & Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust
- **Community delivery:**
Improving access to health and wellbeing services for people sleeping rough
Mark Taylor, Director of Operations, SPEAR
Dean Ruske, Homeless Health Link Manager, SPEAR
- **Harm reduction for change resistant drinkers**
Mike Ward, Senior Consultant, Alcohol Change UK, and Homeless Link Associate

- **Frailty and ageing in homeless populations**

Dr Jo Dawes, Collaborative Centre for Inclusion Health, University College London
Cat Tottie, Policy Manager, Homeless Link

12.35pm Lunch

1.30pm **Breakout session 2 – Your choice of the following sessions:**

- **Barriers to accessing mental health services for people experiencing homelessness**

Melanie Green, Project Manager for Homelessness Prevention and Engagement Service (HoPES),
Caring for Communities and People (CCP)
Ximena Ortega, CCP
Michelle Vaughan, Training and Development Manager, CCP

- **Prioritising health on the frontline: Having the tools and confidence to identify**

Neal McArdle, Head of Learning & Training Services, Providence Row
Robert Buck, Health Inclusion Manager, Providence Row
Rosabel Heath, Health Inclusion Professional, Providence Row

- **Period literacy in the homelessness sector: A toolkit for practice**

Thea Raisbeck, Head of Research and Best Practice, Spring Housing
Rachel Chiu, Director of Business Development, Spring Housing

- **Infectious diseases and homelessness**

Prof Andrew Haywood, Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Inclusion Health
Research, UCL

- **Responses to opioid overdose in supported accommodation settings**

Chris Rintoul, Head of Harm Reduction, Cranstoun
Philippe Bonnet, Overdose Prevention Centre Lead, Cranstoun

2.30pm Break

2.45pm **Afternoon plenary – Details to be announced**

3.35pm (Switch rooms to your breakout session choice)

3.40pm Breakout session 3 – Your choice of the following sessions:

- **Improving nutrition among people experiencing homelessness**
Neal McArdle, Head of Learning & Training Services, Providence Row
(Dietician speaker to be announced)
- **Personality disorder or complex trauma? Rethinking diagnosis and support in homelessness and mental health services**
Dr Emma Williamson, Consultant Clinical Psychologist and CEO of Aneemo
- **End of life care for people experiencing homelessness**
Ellie McNeil, CEO, YMCA Together
Hayley Jones, Director of Homelessness Services, YMCA Together
- **Supporting the health needs of women and young people working in the sex industry**
(Speakers to be announced)
- **Developing neurodivergence affirmative services for people experiencing homelessness and multiple disadvantage**
Amelia Draper, Evaluation and Learning Lead, Changing Futures Nottingham, Framework Housing Association

4.40pm **Close of conference**