

Health and Homelessness Conference 2025: The Unhealthy State of Homelessness

Monday 3 November 2025, 10:00 – 16:30

Programme

10:00 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, Homeless Link
- Rachel Brennan, Director of Participation, Progression and Change, Groundswell
- David Downes, Homeless Health Peer Advocate, Groundswell
- Pavan Dhaliwal, CEO, Revolving Doors
- Professor Andrew Hayward, Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Inclusion Health Research, University College London

11:15 Exhibition

11:40 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

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- **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

Dr Sarah Kaddour, Consultant in Dental Public Health, NHS England

- **Harm reduction for change resistant drinkers**

Mike Ward, Senior Consultant, Alcohol Change UK, and Homeless Link Associate

- **Frailty and ageing in homeless populations**

Jo Dawes, Collaborative Centre for Inclusion Health, University College London

Cat Tottie, Policy Manager, Homeless Link

12:50 Lunch and exhibition

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

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

Simon Chidlow, Accommodation-based Services Project Manager for Adults in Hereford

Ximena Ortega-Holzer, Community-based Senior Support Worker, Worcester HoPES (Homelessness Prevention Service)

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

Yasmin Nessa, Senior Public Health Officer (Gender), Birmingham City Council

- **Infectious diseases and homelessness**

Prof Andrew Hayward, Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Inclusion Health Research, University College London

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Prof Al Story, Clinical lead of the UCLH Find & Treat Street outreach service, University College London

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

Chris Rintoul, Head of Harm Reduction, Cranstoun

Philippe Bonnet, Overdose Prevention Centre Lead, Cranstoun

15:00 Exhibition and prize draw winner

15.20 Breakout session 3 – Your choice of the following sessions:

- **Improving nutrition among people experiencing homelessness**

Neal McArdle, Head of Learning & Training Services, Providence Row

Ghislaine Swinburne, Primary Care Dietician, Bristol Inner City Primary Care Network

- **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

Cynthia Kesington, Lived Experience Lead, Aneemo and Founder of She Believes She Can CIC

- **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 working in the sex industry**

Amber Wilson, Business Development and Marketing Manager, Basis Yorkshire

- **Developing neurodivergence affirmative services for people experiencing homelessness and multiple disadvantage**

Amelia Draper, Evaluation and Learning Lead, Changing Futures Nottingham, Framework Housing Association

16:30 **Close of conference**

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