



Everyone Home Collective

Can the Scottish Parliament come **two terms** with homelessness?



#EveryoneHome

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Homelessness is not inevitable, or an unsolvable problem that we should just come to terms with.

Scotland's leading housing and homelessness legislation came from cross-party consensus in the Scottish Parliament.

It took 10 years to give everyone the right to housing. And we now need an ambitious 10-year commitment to deliver the infrastructure and resources needed to consign homelessness to history in Scotland.

This needs an enduring, cross-party commitment across two consecutive terms of the Scottish Parliament to help us get Everyone Home.

Everyone Home is a strong and diverse collective of 30 organisations across the third and academic sectors. We believe homelessness in Scotland can be ended if we act together on what works and what matters. Working in partnership with All in For Change, a team of people with lived and frontline experience of homelessness.





Prioritise Prevention

Stop homelessness before it happens and the damage it causes

Scottish Parliament's commitment means:

- Commit to making ending homelessness a priority outcome in the **National Performance Framework**.
- All homelessness starts in a community. We need investment in a coordinated **place-based approach** and early-warning system that stops it from happening in the first place. The role of community advice, advocacy, support and mediation is key.
- Poverty in childhood is the most powerful predictor of homelessness in later life. We need Parliament to commit to **ending child poverty by 2030**, and an important part of the solution is building social rented homes to reduce housing need.
- A progress review of the [Christie Commission](#), 10 years on. The four pillars of **public service reform** still describe the best conditions for preventing homelessness.
- There is a spike in people's use of health services before a period of homelessness. Use levers to require all **health services to make a preventative referral** to their local authority where a housing need is identified.
- Clarify and strengthen requirements of **all public services** to work together to prevent homelessness earlier.
- There must be **no discharge into homelessness** from hospital, prison, care, the armed forces or the asylum system. Everyone should have a Personal Housing Plan to avoid any time spent homeless.



More Homes

More social homes for good health, in the areas we need them

Scottish Parliament's commitment means:

- Build 53,000 affordable homes over the next 5 years, with **37,100 for social rent to reduce housing need**. This calls for a capital investment programme at the independently calculated rate and continued into the second parliamentary term.
- Most people want ordinary, settled housing in a community. Enable **priority access to social housing for homeless households** so that local partnerships can achieve their full ambitions for Rapid Rehousing and Housing First.
- Where people choose to live in the **private rented sector** as a settled housing option, they should have somewhere reliable to go to help access a well-managed, affordable and secure home of a good standard. Local authorities should be supported to develop and deliver schemes to ease access to the private rented sector.
- Some people want **shared, residential accommodation with support** on site. In most cases this is more than a response to homelessness, and services should be integrated and sustained within broader health and social care provision at a local level.



3

End Rough Sleeping

The sharpest end of homelessness and a public health emergency

Scottish Parliament's commitment means:

- Rough sleeping at all times, not just during a pandemic, is a public health emergency. Commit to ensuring this remains a **public health priority** with resources leveraged alongside cross-sector partners **targeted to the areas most affected**.
- No return to emergency night shelters with dormitory style accommodation needs a strong commitment to **ensure emergency night shelters are not needed** in the future.
- End destitution in Scotland by committing to providing decent and safe accommodation and the practical and emotional support that people with **no recourse to public funds** need.



System Change

Modernise, improve and invest in a system that better responds to homelessness

Scottish Parliament's commitment means:

- Commit to **invest in local authority Rapid Rehousing Transition Plans** at the level needed to realise their full ambition over the next 10 years.
- Redress severest disadvantages with Housing First. Commit to a scaling up approach toward independently calculated demand estimates, with **joint commissioning of Housing First** across the housing, health, social care and community justice portfolios.
- **End the use of unsuitable temporary accommodation** as a response to homelessness and reduce the use of and time spent in all temporary accommodation.
- **Create a joined up system** across health and social care and between addictions, mental health, community justice, homelessness and domestic abuse services. [Hard Edges Scotland](#) described national and local systems with crisis focused services that can't cope with the effects of trauma.
- Extend the platform for **people with lived experience of homelessness and frontline responsibilities** to lead change.



5

No Evictions *into* Homelessness

Leave no-one in Scotland
without a place to stay

Scottish Parliament's commitment means:

- Evictions must be an absolute last resort and there should be **no evictions into homelessness**, from any sector or organisation. This means ensuring that lawful evictions do not leave any individual or family without a place to stay.
- An end to all evictions into homelessness from **asylum support accommodation**.
- **Fix the gap in legislation** which makes it possible for evictions without a court order to be made from some forms of temporary accommodation.

About The Collective



Everyone Home is a collective of 30 (and growing) third and academic sector organisations that have come together during the COVID-19 pandemic to protect the progress that's been made and the principles that must now guide the next steps.

Read our framework for going forward at www.everyonehome.scot and join us on social media at [#EveryoneHome](https://twitter.com/EveryoneHome)



Homeless Network Scotland

16a Adelphi Centre, 12 Commercial Road, Glasgow G5 0PQ
0141 420 7272 | www.homelessnetwork.scot | hello@homelessnetwork.scot

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Registered Office: Adelphi Centre, 12 Commercial Road, Glasgow G5 0PQ. CEO: Margaret-Ann Brünjes