



Developing a Prevention Approach in England



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www.homeless.org.uk

Let's end homelessness
together

Examples of Prevention Activity:

- * PROMPT
- * No Second Night Out
- * Street Link
- * Homeless Health
Needs Audit

PROMPT: Prevention Opportunities Mapping and Planning Toolkit

- ✦ **Building partnerships** – including securing the involvement of clients locally
- ✦ **Audit and analysis** – mapping routes into rough sleeping, identifying opportunities for early intervention and rapid preventative action, and identifying gaps in local services and safety nets
- ✦ **Action planning** – identifying key steps needed to remodel services, commission new services and ensure prevention
- ✦ **Review** – monitoring progress and updating the audit and analysis

PROMPT Principles



1. No one should have to sleep rough in order to access services
2. Voluntary and statutory services need to work together to prevent rough sleeping
3. Rough sleeping should be tackled through strategic approaches, delivered locally
4. Much can be learnt directly from the views and experiences of those who have slept rough.

Example Questions:



Before you ever slept rough, where was the last place you saw as your settled home?

Can you explain the main reason you left?

Were you aware of services available here before you came?

What one thing could have helped you to stay where you were?

What one thing made the biggest difference in ending your rough sleeping?



Street Link:

24/7 phone line,
mobile app and
website

(0300) 500 0914

www.streetlink.org.uk



A month in the life

With 2,400 people sleeping rough on any night, here is a snapshot of how our supporters helped to make a difference in just one month.*

4,524 calls

Phone lines remained busy

with over 4,500 calls in a month.



1,007 alerts

Reaching out:

1,007 alerts of potential rough sleepers to local authority and charity outreach teams.



112 people

A place to call home:

112 people found accommodation after public referrals to StreetLink.



58% digital

Online alerts, via the website and mobile app, made up 58% of referrals.



Top supporters

Thanks to the good people of Birmingham.

You sent the most alerts of an area outside of London.



1 in 3 self-help

Rough sleepers using StreetLink to help themselves

made up 33.7% of alerts.



*StreetLink data from February 2014

Homeless Health Needs Audit



- * Increase the evidence available about the health needs of people who are homeless and the wider determinants of their health.
- * Bring statutory and voluntary services together to develop responses to local priorities and address gaps in services.
- * Give people experiencing homelessness a stronger voice in local commissioning processes.
- * Help commissioners understand the effectiveness of their services.

73% of homeless people reported physical health problems. 41% said this was a long term problem.

80% of respondents reported some form of mental health issue, 45% had been diagnosed with a mental health issue.

39% said they take drugs or are recovering from a drug problem, while 27% have or are recovering from an alcohol problem.

35% had been to A&E and 26% had been admitted to hospital over the past six months.

No Second Night Out:

- * Devised to prevent people living on the street – nobody should spend more than one night out
- * Started in London, now nationwide
- * Supported/ funded by Government, delivered by vol sector

How does it work:

- * 24/7 assessment hubs

- * Close links to street outreach teams

- * CHAIN database

- * 'Single service offer'

Future Challenges:



- Prevention requires 'upstream' funding – if not Gov't then who?
- How to measure things that don't happen?
- Are we prepared to disinvest in crisis services?
- How to challenge vested interests eg hostel and shelter providers
- Engaging childrens' charities in this agenda

What we do

Homeless Link is the national membership charity for organisations working directly with people who become homeless in England. We work to make services better and campaign for policy change that will help end homelessness.



Homeless Link

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