

Housing First England - August 2017

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Our new research programme

Homeless Link has embarked on an exciting new research programme to improve our knowledge and understanding of Housing First in England.

We will use this new evidence to expand our guidance, good practice resources, training and to strengthen the case for Housing First to be made available across the country and direct our influencing work to help develop the movement. Ultimately, it will help grow and improve the delivery of high-quality services.

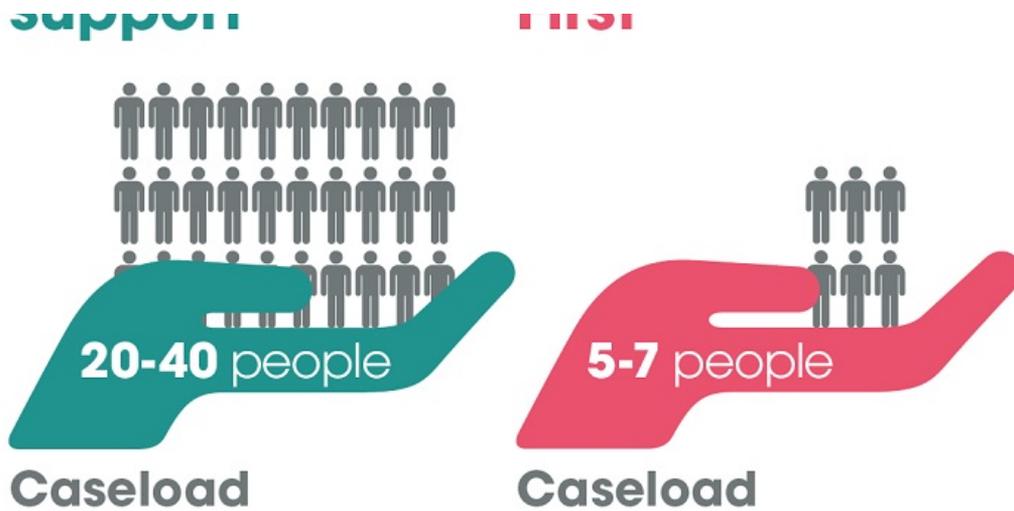
There are three strands to the research:

1. To identify distinct models of Housing First in England and conditions needed for their success
2. Look at who is currently commissioning the service and identify changes needed to encourage others to become funders
3. Demonstrate the impacts of Housing First on individuals, communities and the public purse.

If you are already running a Housing First service, and you haven't heard from us already - you can expect to hear from us soon, with more information on the programme and a request for your input.

Traditional
support

Housing
First



Liverpool Feasibility Study

A study testing the viability of implementing Housing First for the target group across the Liverpool city region was published in July. The report, commissioned by Crisis, found that using Housing First to support the most vulnerable people, who have been sleeping rough, long-term, could be five times more effective and nearly five times more cost efficient than the region's existing services for this group of people.

We were pleased to see the report recommend that Housing First should be used for this specific cohort, forming part of a wider 'housing-led' system that addresses the needs of everyone experiencing homelessness with a focus on prevention.

It concluded that Housing First needed to be integrated into mainstream provision, in order to be sustainable and that partnership working would be crucial.

Bringing Social Landlords on board

One of our key focuses right now is to engage Registered Social Landlords (RSLs), to increase their awareness of Housing First and its benefits, and encourage them to offer units to new and existing projects, or to develop their own service if they are a support provider.

We recently published some guidance that explained Housing First through a Social Landlord lens and outlined how they can get involved in the movement.

If you have any RSL contacts, please share the guidance and ask them to pass it on or put them in touch with joanne.prestidge@homelesslink.org.uk, who can answer any questions they might have.

We will shortly be publishing our guidance for commissioners, and tips from the frontline that came out of the provider away days, so keep an eye on our website for these

these.

Free two-day training course for people with lived experience

Please promote this 'Being the Difference' **free** two-day training course towards any individuals involved in your service who have lived experience of homelessness and/or disadvantage. The course will empower and inspire people involved with services, in a constructive and meaningful way that supports co-production. At the end of the course, attendees will be able to facilitate group meetings, recognise their own skills and talents and show others how to recognise theirs. Please click on the following link for course dates and to book a place.

Stay in touch

We hope you have had a chance to look at our dedicated website hfe.homeless.org.uk. We will be continually adding new guidance to this, in addition to updating the virtual map of Housing First services.

If your service is not featured on the website, or you have any service evaluations or case studies that you'd like to add, please contact joanne.prestidge@homeless.org.uk

Join Homeless Link

With support, guidance, lobbying, news, training and events, Homeless Link keeps you right at the heart of a national network of over 500 homelessness organisations.

Join us



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