



ON THE HORIZON: THE FUTURE OF FAITH & COMMUNITY RESPONSES TO HOMELESSNESS

With Eve McCallam (Housing Justice),
Jacob Dimitriou (MHCLG), and
Revd. Canon Ian Rutherford (City
Centre Minister)





Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

The Future of Faith and Community Responses to Homelessness



Aims of session

The Future of Faith and Community Responses to Homelessness

1. Outline key changes and how they may affect your project
2. Outline key roles for faith and community groups
3. Challenge for you



Ministry of Housing,
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5 Key Reforms

Outlining key reforms effecting homelessness services

Supported Housing (Regulatory Oversight) Act 2023

- ✓ Supported Housing Advisory Panel
- ✓ Local Supported Housing Strategies
- ✓ National Supported Housing Standards
- ✓ Supported Housing Licensing Regime

[National Housing Federation - The Supported Housing \(Regulatory Oversight\) Act](#)

Renters Reform Act 2025

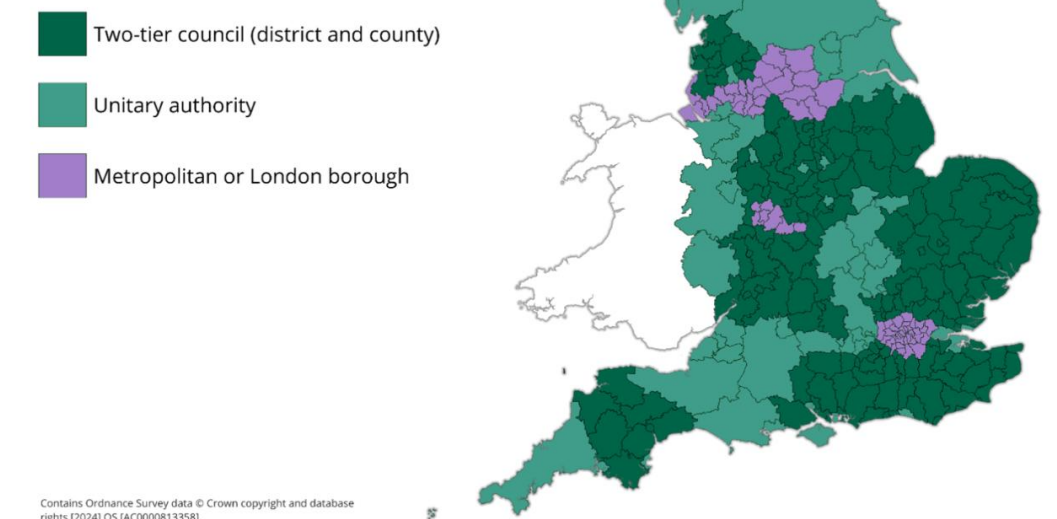
- ✓ End Section 21 Evictions
- ✓ Replace Fixed term tenancies
- ✓ Extension of Decent Homes Standard and Awwabs law to the PRS
- ✓ Mandatory PRS database

[Guide to the Renters' Rights Act - GOV.UK](#)

Local Government Reorganisation

- ✓ All remaining two-tier (district and county) authorities to be restructured

Local authority
structure in England



[Local government reorganisation \(LGR\)](#)
[| Local Government Association](#)



5 Key Reforms

Outlining key reforms effecting homelessness services

FAIR FUNDING REVIEW 2.0 (funding for local authorities)

- ✓ In 2026-27, the government proposes to consolidate a number of grants [to local councils] into a **single Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Grant**.
- ✓ Except for temporary accommodation grant funding, all homelessness and rough sleeping revenue grants will be distributed through a single consolidated grant. This includes funding for prevention and relief activity currently funded through the Homelessness Prevention Grant, as well as the Rough Sleeping Prevention and Recovery Grant.
- ✓ The government intends to roll the temporary accommodation funding currently provided through the Homelessness Prevention Grant into the Revenue Support Grant from 2026-27, distributed using the new Settlement Funding Assessment (SFA).

[Fair Funding Review 2.0](#)

Local Government Outcomes Framework

- ✓ **No. of households with children in temporary accommodation (MHCLG)**
- ✓ • **Number of families in B&B over 6 weeks (MHCLG)**
- ✓ • **Percentage of duties owed where homelessness was prevented (MHCLG)**
- ✓ • **Number of people sleeping rough on a single night (MHCLG)**
- ✓ • **Number of people sleeping rough over the month who are long term (MHCLG)**

[Local Government Outcomes Framework – Priority outcomes and draft metrics](#)



Funding for the VCFS

Responding to the lobbying asks from Housing Justice

- Consideration of Housing Justice's lobbying asks around a new fund to replace the Night Shelter Transformation Fund

We ask you to work with us, because homelessness ends in communities.

As we approach the Comprehensive Spending Review and the development of the new Homelessness Strategy, we specifically ask that you;

- Work formally with night shelters, day centres and faith and community groups to develop the new, cross-departmental Homelessness Strategy.
- Replace the Night Shelter Transformation Fund with an Ending Homelessness in Communities Fund, to support and expand the vital work of these groups and empower communities to end homelessness in their areas.
- Mandate local authorities to work with these groups on the ground to develop their own strategies.

Yours sincerely,



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

What role for faith and community groups?



The Support Mountain

Support; before and after crisis



- 70% of fatalities on Everest happen on descent
- Exhaustion from the climb, uneven terrain, weather changes, distraction can lead to slips and falls,
- International Federation of Mountain Guides (IFMGA) estimate one in five accidents happen when there is a professional guide in the group
- Building psychological understanding by guides and groups limits accidents



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The Support Mountain

Supporting people pre and post crisis





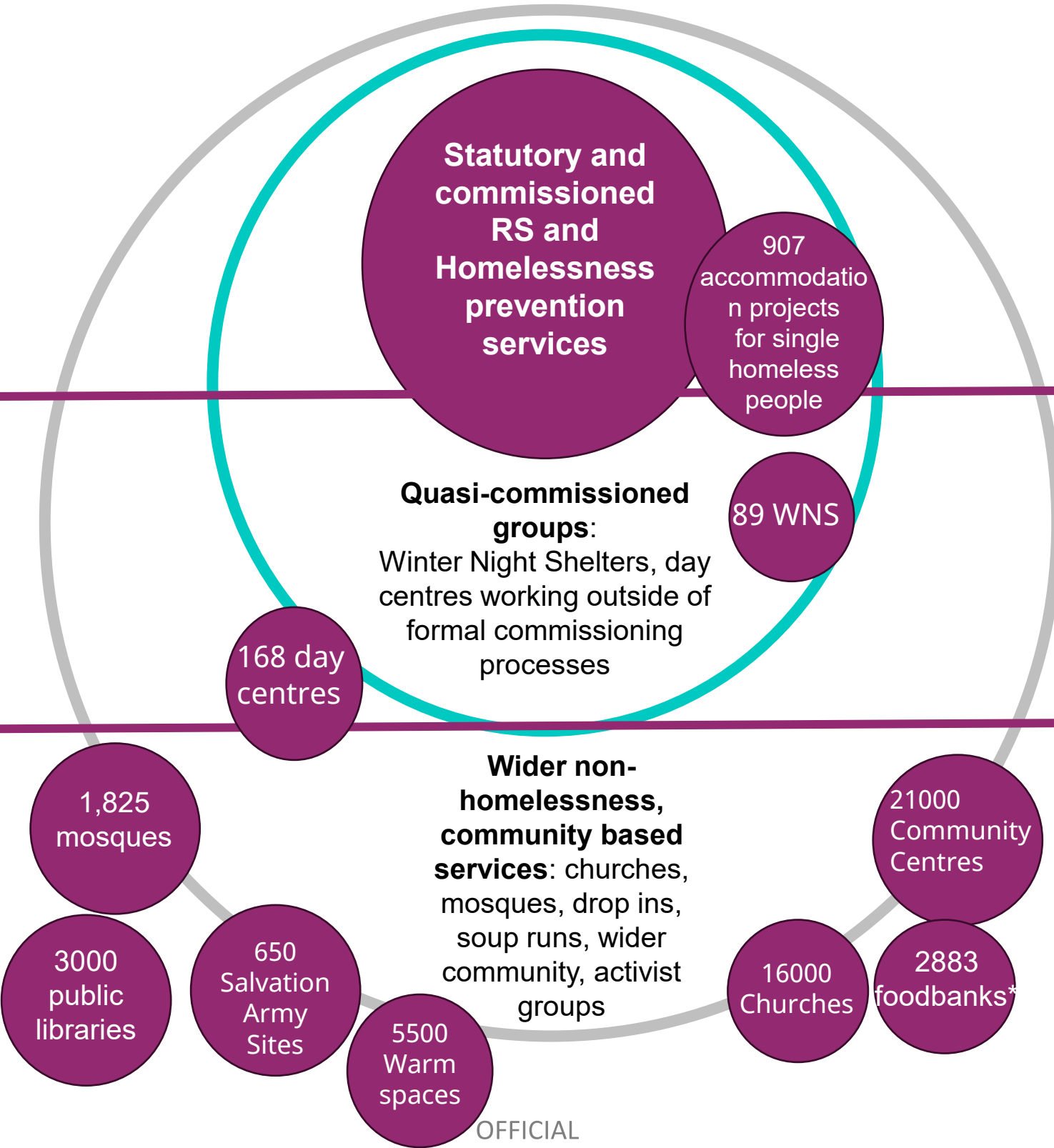
A national homelessness eco-system

Working together for lasting change for people experiencing homelessness

Direct Delivery /
Commissioning

Integration

Engagement





Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Key Contacts

Useful links and resources to support your work

MHCLG Faith and Communities Rough Sleeping Adviser

Jacob Dimitriou; *Support for faith and community groups working or looking to work with people experiencing homelessness and rough sleeping*
Jacob.Dimitriou@communities.org.uk

Housing Justice

Support and best practice guidance around night shelters and support for faith and community groups working with people rough sleeping
info@housingjustice.org.uk

Homeless Link

Membership body for organisations working in Homelessness, offering training and support on a range of subjects. They have a specific Faith lead:

Sirea Jabar Sirea.Jabar@homelesslink.org.uk

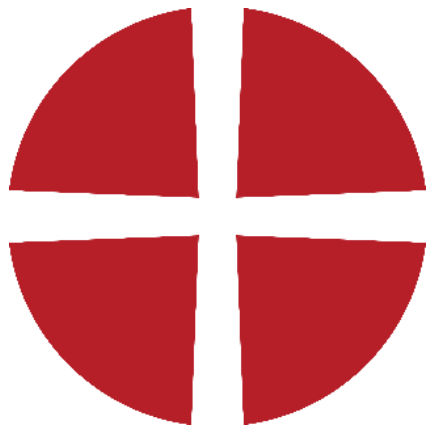
Shelter

MHCLG provide funding for Shelter to operate and advice line for professionals and volunteers working with people experiencing homelessness. The service offers One-to-one advice by phone for professionals and volunteers who help clients with housing and homelessness cases, there are options to call an adviser or webchat.

[0300 330 0517](tel:03003300517)

[Housing advice line for professionals - Shelter England](#)





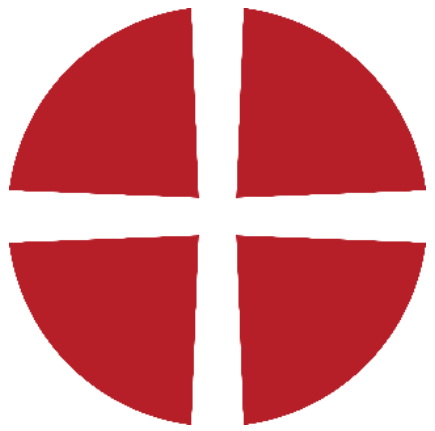
FAITH COMMUNITIES AND HOMELESSNESS



Revd. Canon Ian Rutherford



THE METHODIST CHURCH



**GREATER MANCHESTER
HOMELESSNESS ACTION NETWORK**



THE GM MAYORS CHARITY



CENTRE FOR HOMELESSNESS IMPACT

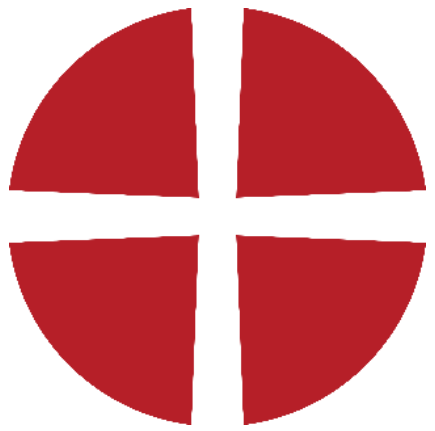


THE COMPLEXITY, THE SCALE, AND THE BREADTH

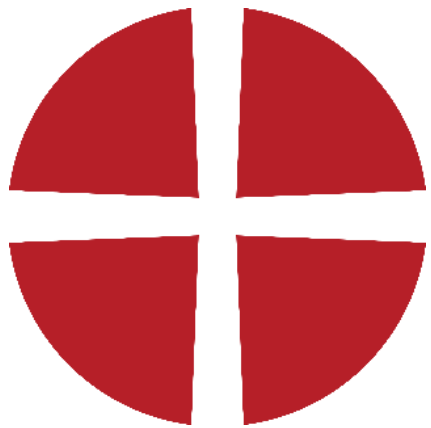
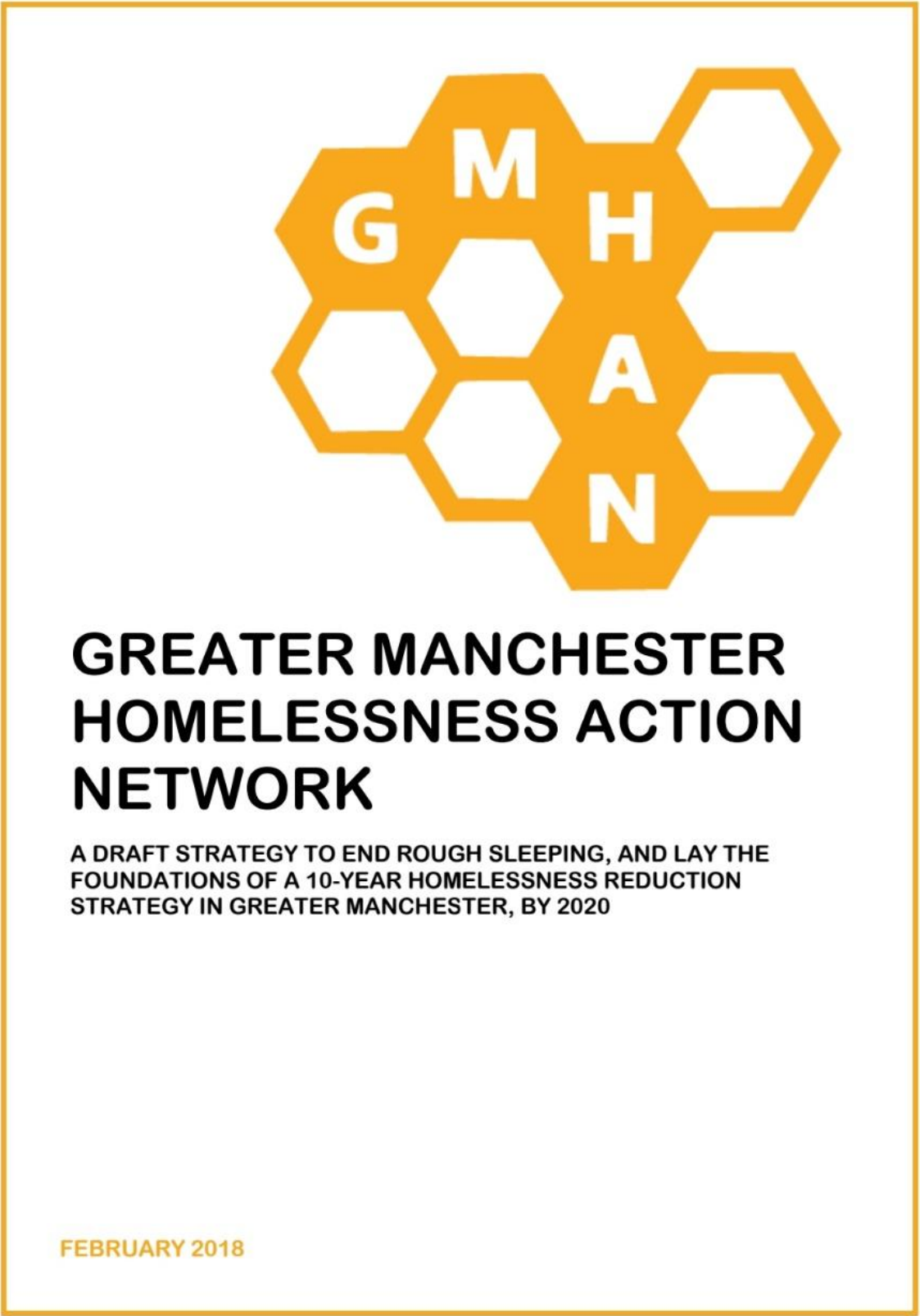
**1. Economic Reasons, Social Issues, Mental Health,
Leaving Care, Hospital or Prison, No Recourse to Public
Funds**

2. Rough Sleeper Count and Temporary Accommodation

3. Urban, City Centre, Rural, Coastal



GREATER MANCHESTER ROUGH SLEEPING STRATEGY



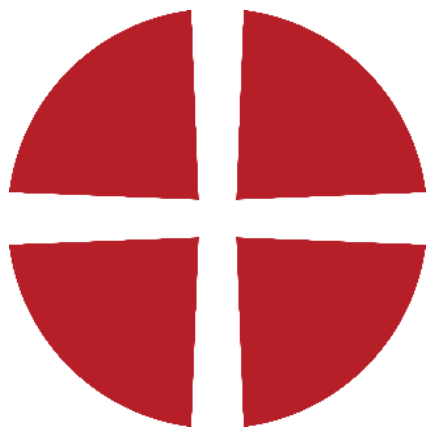
THE 4 R's

REDUCTION tackling the causes of homelessness. This includes practical and political actions.

RESPITE providing a safe place for people off the street.

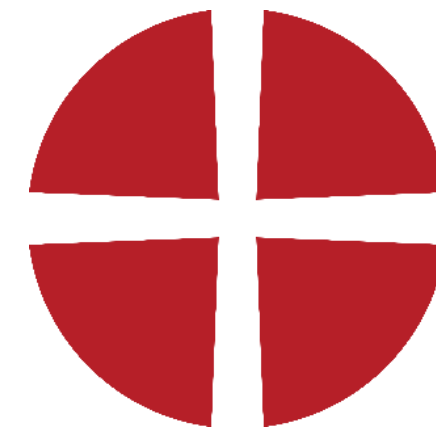
RECOVERY managing issues, stabilising individuals and working towards independence through support, wellbeing, life skills and steps towards employment, volunteering, training and education.

RECONNECTION enabling individuals to lead meaningful lives with choice and agency in our community.



THE RESPONSE

A Bed Every Night

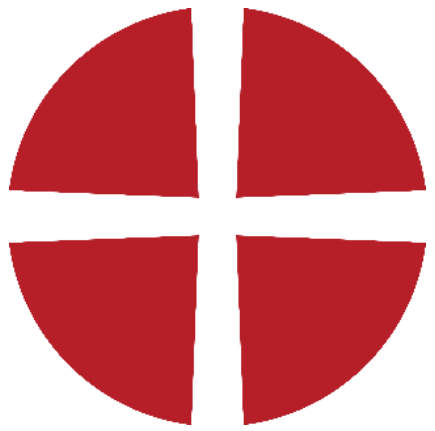


THE RESPONSE

Greater Manchester Housing First

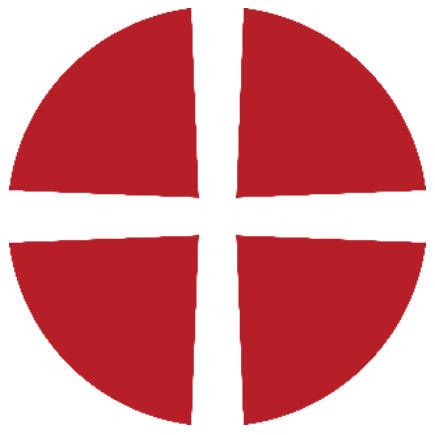


Housing First

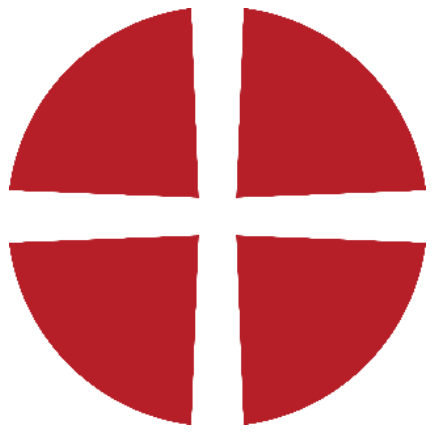


THE RESPONSE

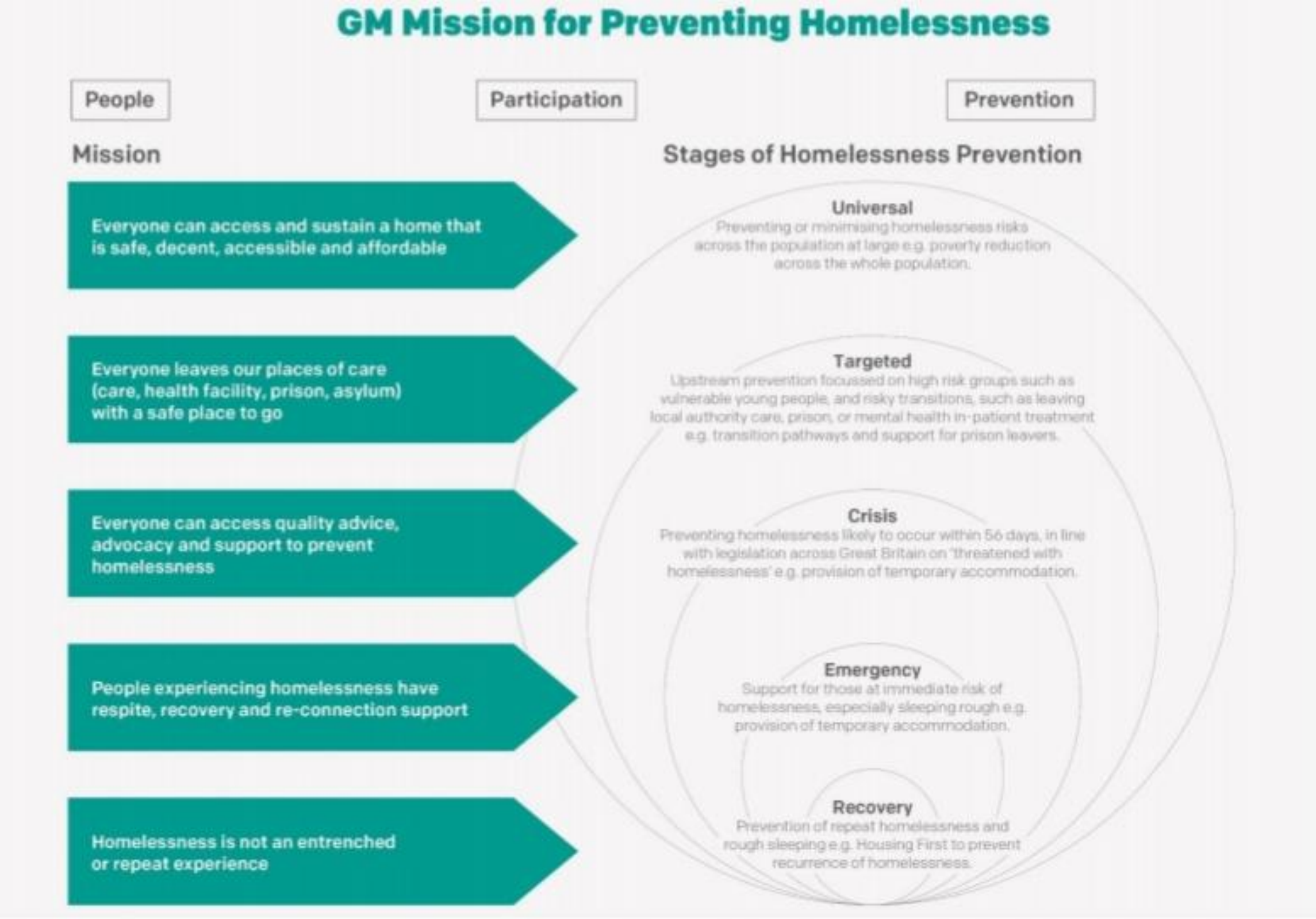
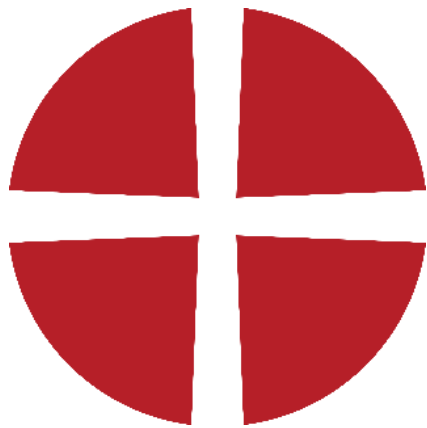
Street Engagement Hub
and Youth Prevention Pathfinder



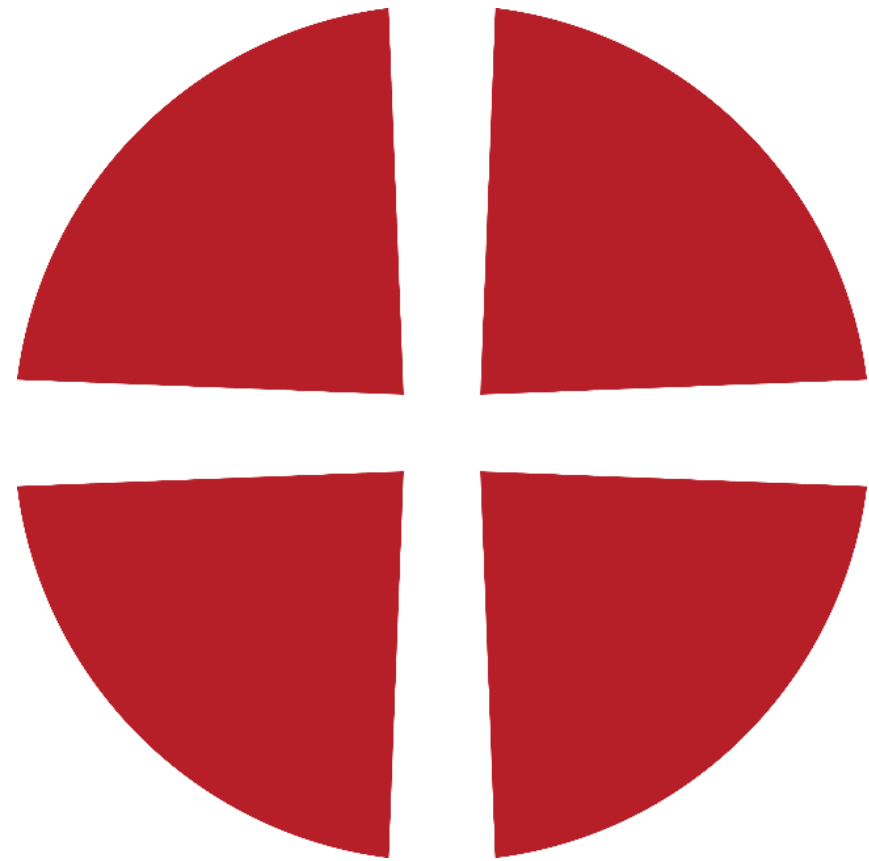
GREATER MANCHESTER HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION STRATEGY



GREATER MANCHESTER HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION STRATEGY



THE METHODIST CHURCH



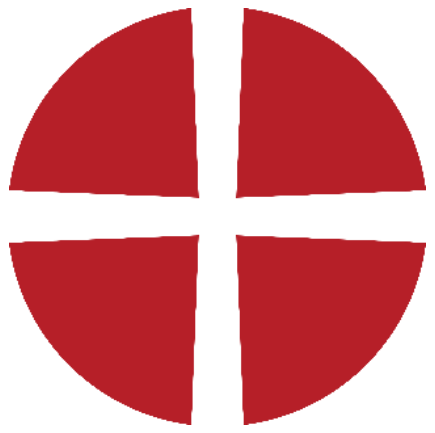
Compassion

Campaigning

www.methodist.org.uk



GREATER MANCHESTER HOMELESSNESS ACTION NETWORK

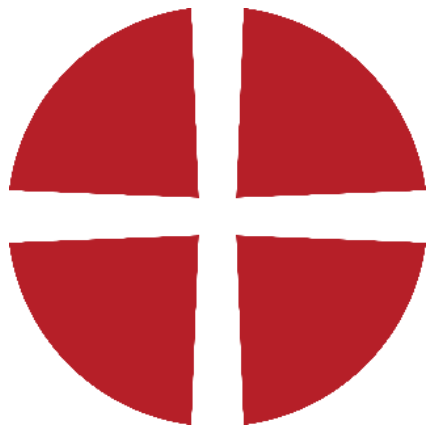


Cross-Sector and Whole-Society

www.gmhan.net



THE GM MAYORS CHARITY



**Emergency Responses, Places and Spaces,
and Targeted Prevention**



www.gmmayorscharity.org.uk

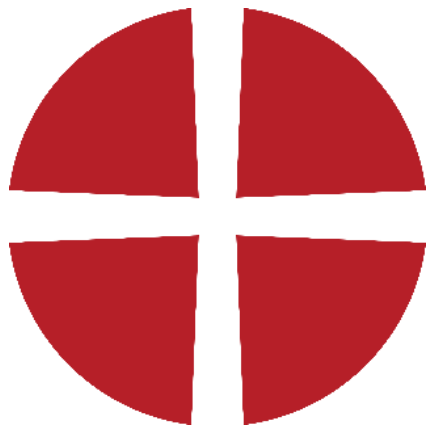


CENTRE FOR HOMELESSNESS IMPACT



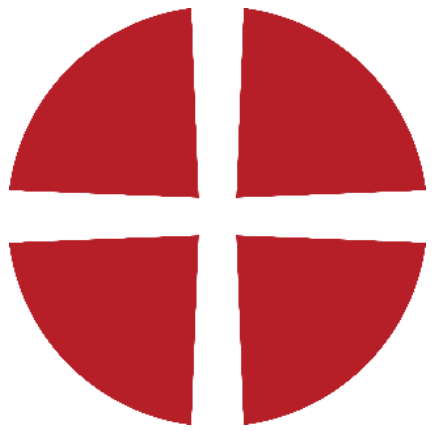
**Mobilise changemakers, support
implementation and make evidence
accessible**

www.homelessnessimpact.org



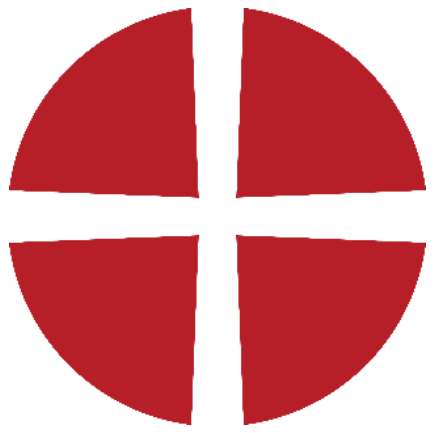
FROM CRISIS RESPONSE

TO PROACTIVE PREVENTION



OUR UNIQUE ASSETS

People



Places

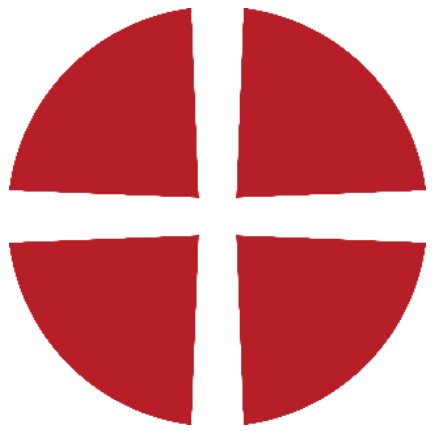


Passion



OUR VALUES

Dignity



Agency

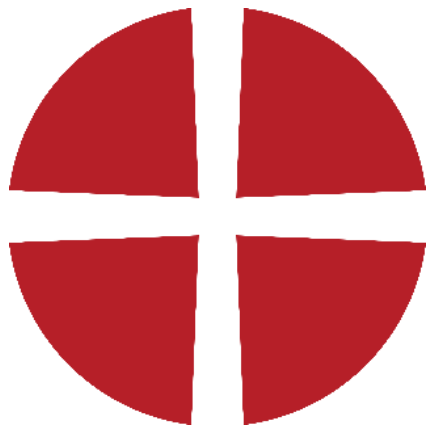


Power

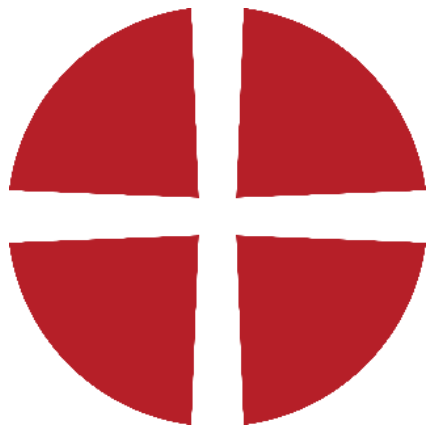


**FROM ISOLATION
AND DISCONNECTION**

**... to Community
and Belonging**



A CALL TO ACTION





What needs to change?

**What are our
organisations doing
locally?**