

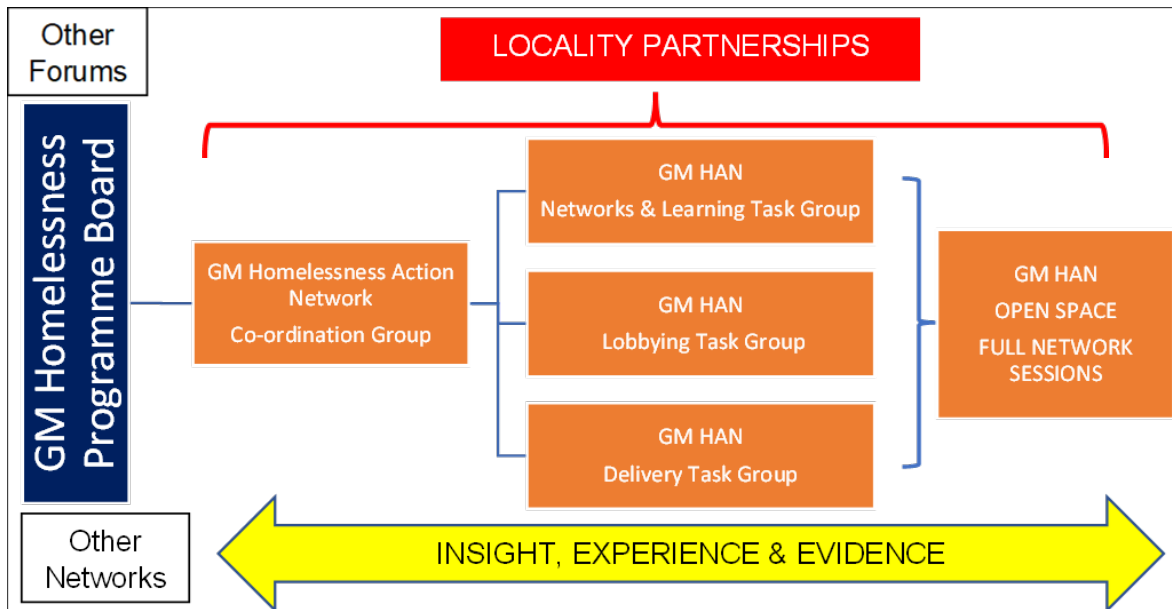


Greater Manchester Homelessness Action Network

Structure and Governance

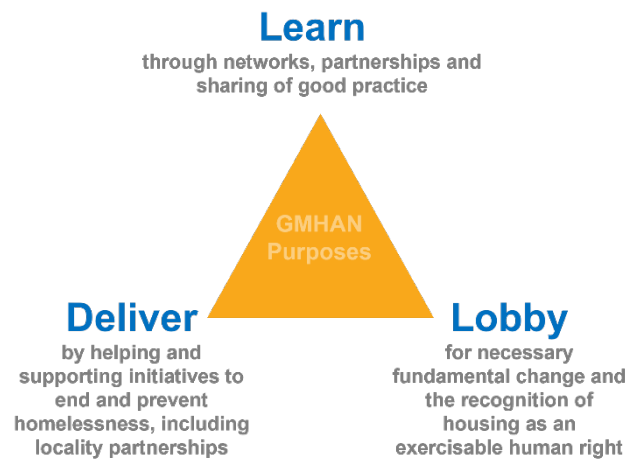
The Greater Manchester Homelessness Action Network (GMHAN) is a collaboration of everyone working to the mission of ending and preventing homelessness in Greater Manchester. It brings together all the different sectors, specialisms and experiences which are involved in achieving this mission, recognising that we can achieve more through collaboration and partnership

The structure of the GMHAN is designed to encourage ideas and action to take root that will lead to effective change. Ideas and actions within the wider Network of the GMHAN are represented in the Greater Manchester Homelessness Programme Board and any other forums and decision-making spaces where members chose to make representation. Our work is underpinned throughout by insight, experience and evidence from all those with a stake in ending homelessness in our city.



Anyone can be a member of the GMHAN. We are a collection of individuals not organisations, valuing the personal and organizational connections that people bring with recognition to the boundaries that this can create.

The Co-ordination Group facilitates and coordinates the flow of information and action within the Network, and is organised around the three purposes of the HAN:



The GMHAN has two representatives at the GM Homelessness Programme Board, a separate body which is chaired the Mayor of Greater Manchester. The Programme Board role is to provide comprehensive leadership in the development of a joint strategic approach to ending homelessness across Greater Manchester and scrutiny of joint programmes undertaken by partners from all sectors to achieve this. Representation on the Programme Board ensures the GMHAN is connected to wider activities, can hold wider partners to account and be held accountable itself for its role in ending homelessness.

Roles & Responsibilities

The main forums for the Network to connect to each other and wider work are:

- **Monthly Open Space.** Held online and open to all. Open Spaces will alternate between focusing on subjects of interest such as prison release or mental health and homelessness and being a space for Network members to bring queries, questions, or ideas.
- **Quarterly Full Network Sessions:** Held in person for all Network Members to connect, share ideas and contribute directly to plans and decisions emerging to end homelessness in Greater Manchester.



The **Co-ordination Group** and **Task Groups** co-ordinate and facilitate the Network.

Task groups: (expected monthly meet ups with ongoing communication between members around actions)

- Focusing on a specific area of the HAN (e.g. Learning; Lobbying; Delivery)
- Lead on directing and supporting activity around that purpose
- Propose their own short-term objectives to make progress toward it
- Set up theme sub-groups as necessary and utilise learning from other groupings in the wider eco-system
- Report back into the Co-ordination Group and wider network to involve others in emerging pieces of work and minimise duplication of effort
- Put forward topics for Open Space sessions and items at Full Network Events

All members of the Network are invited to join or Chair a Task Group by submitting a short Expression of Interest to the Co-ordination Group.

Co-ordination Group: (expected meet up every two months, at open meetings which anyone can observe and participate in if relevant so that all discussions can be inclusive)

- Maintain a coordinated and inclusive approach to ending homelessness
- Monitor progress and ensure the effective operation of the core functions of the Network
- Fulfil the Network's functions at a GM level, and support Locality Partnerships as local networks of change
- Make decisions required on use of HAN resources or recommendations to external partners, based on inclusive discussions and widespread agreement
- Ensure representation of all relevant voices and perspectives

Membership of the Co-ordination Group will be appointed based on the roles, responsibilities and viewpoints of individuals involved, and limited to maximum 12 individuals who hold accountability for delivering the above functions.

Appointees will include: line management of any paid resource, representatives to the Programme Board, Task Groups Chairs, funders, people with personal insight into homelessness, and at least one representative from a GM Local Authority, the Health & Social Care system, VCSE Sector, Faith Sector, Housing, and the GM Combined Authority. Members will rotate Chairing sessions and take mutual responsibility for delivering the Co-ordination Group's responsibilities.

All groups and roles will be supported by any paid, dedicated resource available to the Network but retain ultimate responsibility for delivering their objectives.



Values

The HAN is underpinned by the following values, which determine how we will operate:

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|-----------------------|--|
| Trust | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Seek to understand the experiences and knowledge of all contributors● Provide safety and support to make mistakes and learn from them |
| Drive | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Be an action network, not a talking shop● Committed to a whole-system partnership and advocating for local partnerships within this● Help the system to move forward by mapping systemic issues and their solutions |
| Honesty | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Speak truth to power, no matter where authority is positioned● Allow uncomfortable truths, holding on to the discomfort of truth and taking action based on evidence and experience |
| Empathy | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Create a collaborative and supportive environment● Remember the person behind the data and the pressures decision makers are under● Value different perspectives and vulnerabilities, constantly seeking to broaden the scope of understanding● Practice kindness in our treatment of each other and understanding of those we work alongside |
| Accountability | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Uphold our duty to try; understanding our success is measured not just by outcomes but trying new approaches, speaking discovered truths, and forging unfamiliar relationships● Taking responsibility and demanding mutual accountability with others we hold to account● Authority through action; unearthing the most accurate evidence and experience and taking action based on this evidence using individual and collective influence. |

This Structure and Governance was approved by GMHAN Advisory Board on 29 March 2022