



Greater Manchester Homelessness Action Network 3.3.2020

Results from workshop on priorities from the ten Greater Manchester boroughs

Please note: Stockport, Wigan and Leigh are in red as there was no attendance from either area, thus other attendees with knowledge of those areas filled them in.

It is important to note that the priorities selected from each area were heavily influenced by the organisations present at that table. This report highlights the most common themes across boroughs as local, GM/GMHAN and National considerations and ranks them in order of the number of times mentioned.

Local

1. Prevention
2. Move on Accommodation
3. Emergency Accommodation and Mental Health
4. No Recourse to Public Funds

GM

1. Prevention
2. Families who are Homeless/At Risk of Homelessness
3. Multiple Disadvantage and Complex Needs (including mental health and co-production)
4. Private Rented Sector and Landlords
5. Funding

National

1. Private Rented Sector
2. No Recourse to Public Funds
3. Criminal Justice
4. Social Housing/Rent
5. DWP/Benefits

All responses are given in detail below.



Bolton

Local Action

- ABEN should be made available all year round
- All Bolton charities/organisations to admit that refused asylum seekers do exist and to put things in place to protect them
- Mental Health - difficulties in accessing services
- Women - nothing available for female asylum seekers if no availability with Boaz
- Nothing available for single men or women who are granted leave to remain

GM Action/Focus for GMHAN

- Consistent pathways for refused asylum seekers across the borough

National/Political

- More needs to be done to protect refused asylum seekers. These men and women are very vulnerable and there is not much available to protect them

Bury

Local Action

- Online list of accredited private landlords that accept DSS
- More partnership working between agencies
- Places for homeless to go on the evenings and weekends
- Daytime - places that are safe and include activities
- Consistent offers - food/services
- Consistent advice/expectation management

GM Action/Focus for GMHAN

- Co-production with service users
- Clearer pathways to support from the ABEN services
- Getting the correct people in meetings
- Consistent advice
- Promote good practice across all 10 GM boroughs

National/Political

- More social housing
- Rent control
- Allocate more LHA to match current rates

Manchester

Local Action

- Manchester (MHP) emergency accommodation action group vision to be implemented
- More accommodation for women and LGBTQ to be provided
- Mental Health - lots more capacity needed in MH teams on the ground (previously had a MH housing team linked to the council in the 90's)
- Community building needed in order to prevent homelessness
- Local support (hubs, faith groups, safety nets)
- Preventative services aren't in place, meaning more people reaching crisis point.



- As numbers rise it's more difficult to prioritise to preventative measures - be proac

GM Action/Focus for GMHAN

- Structural causes of homelessness need to be addressed

National/Political

Oldham

Local Action

PREVENTION

- Mediation services
- 3 more staff recruited
- Service has come back inhouse

GM Action/Focus for GMHAN

MENTAL HEALTH

- Some of it in GM's give

MULTIPLE COMPLEX NEEDS

- Siloed working
- Whole system approach

EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION

- Standards
- Rogue landlords

Private Rented Sector

- Affordable stock
- Who's driving the market?

National/Political

- Move on for NRPF/EU settled status
- Social housing
- Rent caps

Rochdale

Local Action

- RSI, ABEN and Street Active partnership
- Homelessness network
- Homelessness board (strategic)
- Real change campaign
- HART?
- Community safety ops group
- MAST
- Housing First and complex needs panel
- Rough sleeper fortnightly task and target group
- MH allocation panel - supported accommodation
- Women's network

GM Action/Focus for GMHAN

- GM housing needs group



- Communication across the board from GM
- Family homelessness and couples
- Pets

HEALTH

- Move on accommodation
- OOB accommodation
- Lack of suitable accommodation
- Person centred and needs of individuals led
- Eradicate B+B's
- Funding
- Develop PRS

National/Political

- Affordable housing
- Fair allocation of funds to target prevention and homelessness
- Health outreach interventions
- Criminal justice - sentencing and Friday release
- Women
- Young people

Salford

Written as Local Action, but v. relevant to GM

- How do local meetings/strategy meetings connect to GMHAN?
- No forum for homelessness in Salford - need to create one
- Health and housing now working better together - how do we link in with GM + GMHAN
- Find out what good practice in prevention is happening locally (Broughton Trust)
- Maximising VCSE resources - food
- Siloed working - lack of infrastructure

GM Action/Focus for GMHAN

- Engaging people from Salford with personal insight

National/Political

Tameside

Local Action

- Send email to Prevent Homeless Forum, to invite to GMHAN
- Feedback points from GMHAN
- Invite portfolio holder
- Better pathways for people leaving NASS accommodation, and going into temporary accommodation
- Allocations policy to include care leavers up to 25 years old
- Mainstreaming homelessness
- Impact assessments

GM Action/Focus for GMHAN



- Access to MH services
- Social care eligibility across borders
- Joint commissioning
- Impact assessments

National/Political

- Real commitment to building homes
- Social housing policy - right to buy
- Welfare policy
- No recourse to public funds - policies
- Private sector - care leavers
- Private sector - over 21's shared room rate
- Alignment of role of corporate parent for care leavers - homelessness PN ends at 21, care leavers support ends at 25

Trafford

Local Action

PREVENTION - KEY OBJECTIVES TO STOP HOMELESSNESS

- Tenancy support
- D to R
- Working with RSL's
- Statutory and voluntary agencies
- Tackling rogue landlords
- Increasing social housing stock - PRS
- Getting people back into training and employment
- LHA plus model
- Shared ownership model

GM Action/Focus for GMHAN

PREVENTION

- Sustainment services across GM that all RP's commit to

PRS

- Landlords forum and pledge to work with GM's Ethical Lettings Agency

MOVE ON ACCOMMODATION

- Cross boundary partnership working to make accommodation more accessible

EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION

- Decent standards and sustainability

National/Political

PREVENTION

- Could legislation be put into place for RP's to provide sustainment

PRS

- Legislation needed to curve increasing rents and re-evaluate LHA rates, to reflect the rental markets

OTHER POINTS

- Homes England continue grant funding to support homelessness move on
- Tackle welfare reform
- Reduce debt



- Tackle MH reform
- Improve access to services
- Prevent crime reform

Stockport

Local Action

COMMS

- Clear
- Show improvement and agenda

LOCAL AGENDA

- Buy in
- Local work plan
- Incisive

PREVENTION

- Stop flow

OTHER POINTS

- Shared responsibility across public services (GP's Schools)
- Signposting to support before reaching crisis point
- Flexible community hub

GM Action/Focus for GMHAN

- Advance payments - debt, repayments
- Back payments - installments long payback, monitor (identify VA support given)
- Fines/sanctions - financial hardship, shortfall

National/Political

- Changes to how DWP operates
- Ministry of Justice - change how they fine people

Wigan and Leigh

Local Action

- Move on accommodation with support
- Social housing

GM Action/Focus for GMHAN

- Families
- Social housing

National/Political

- Welfare
- Social housing