

ONLINE CONFERENCE 23 - 24 MARCH 2021



PROGRAMME

BRANCHING OUT

Growing, Improving and Connecting
Housing First in Scotland

BRANCHING OUT

From pilots to pathfinder, and now branching out across Scotland. This is a pivotal year in the transition of Housing First toward becoming the default and rapid response for people whose homelessness is made much harder by experiences such as trauma and addictions.

Branching Out is an opportunity to take stock and learn from what's gone before us. And to be part of debating and shaping the national challenge ahead.

With 3 themes across 2 days, delegates can select from a variety of sessions, including personal testimony, conversations, keynotes, lively panel discussions, sharing of data and knowledge – and as always, the opportunity to get involved:

• FIRM FOUNDATIONS

This morning's theme is about how we create an integrated policy priority that achieves shared financial commitment and shared outcomes. We will also be launching the new National Framework for Housing First.

• OLIVE BRANCHES

This afternoon's theme is about building and nurturing our different roles and relationships. How local Housing First partnerships have been formed, how they function, why they work and what aspects have been more challenging.

• LOW & HIGH HANGING FRUITS

Day 2 is about the practical lessons learned, the early successes and some of the growing pains experienced. It will also explore what we will need that is still out of reach.

While Scotland is now viewed internationally as an example of how the Housing First approach can be implemented at scale, our national challenge is to keep growing, while learning and improving as we go. And to branch out further and faster, connecting with health and social care, community justice and more.

Don't miss the opportunity to be part of this important and lively event. We look forward to seeing you then.



Conference sponsored by
Salvation Army



Theme 1: FIRM FOUNDATIONS

The roots of Housing First in Scotland run deep and wide. As with any structure built to last, the attention to detail at the start has resulted in hardy structures that have endured in many areas despite an unimaginable stress-test over the past 12 months. This theme focuses on the firm foundations now needed for Housing First to branch out right across Scotland. Firm foundations mean high-level commitment and the right resources, at the right level, in the right places. And it means an integrated policy priority with shared financial commitment and shared outcomes. Join this theme for the launch of the National Framework for Housing First — and to explore how firm our foundations are, and what more needs done.



TUESDAY 23 MARCH 2021

09:30 – 09:45

Welcome from the Chair

A warm welcome and an introduction to two days of debate and deliberation

- **Marion Gibbs** Team Leader, Scottish Government

09:45 – 10:15

Ministerial Address and Q&A

- **Kevin Stewart MSP** Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning

10:30 – 11:00

Branching Out: A National Framework to start-up and scale-up Housing First

We are pleased to launch the national framework for Housing First. A comprehensive 'how to and why' and practical route-map to support local partnerships transition to Housing First.

- **Maggie Brünjes** Chief Executive, Homeless Network Scotland

11:00 – 12:00

Firm Foundations

This live lounge session will focus on how firm our foundations are. Do we have the high-level commitment in all the right places? And how do we embed Housing First as an integrated policy priority with shared financial commitment and outcomes.

- **HOSTED by Paul McNamee** Editor, Big Issue
- **Stacey Dingwall** Policy Manager, SFHA
- **Dr Neil Hamlet** Public Health Consultant, NHS Fife
- **Karyn McCluskey** Chief Executive, Community Justice Scotland
- **John Mills** Head of Housing, Fife Council and co-chair, ALACHO
- **Catriona MacKean** Deputy Director for Better Homes, Scottish Government

12:00 – 12:30

Sir Andrew Cubie in conversation with Susanne Millar

In most local authority areas, homelessness services are managed within local authority housing services. In Glasgow, homelessness services are integrated with the Health and Social Care Partnership – giving Housing First the strongest head start. Hear more about the firm foundations and aspirations for Housing First in Scotland's biggest city.

- **Sir Andrew Cubie**
- **Susanne Millar** Interim Chief Officer, GCHSCP

Theme 2: OLIVE BRANCHES

Housing First already draws together some of the most effective and collaborative organisations working in the field. Embarking on any cross-sector partnership is a leap of faith – a journey together that requires compromise, understanding and commitment. This theme looks in more detail at how local Housing First partnerships have been formed, how they function, why they work and what aspects have been more challenging. And most importantly, how this has been experienced by people who have taken up a Housing First tenancy. And branching out further – who are the partners Housing First needs to succeed that are not yet connected, and what do they need?



TUESDAY 23 MARCH 2021

- 13:15 – 13:30** **Welcome from the Chair:** A warm welcome and an introduction to theme 2
- **Marion Gibbs** Team Leader, Scottish Government

- 13:30 – 14:00** **Can't see the wood for the trees:**
The importance of relationships and connections
- **Ewan Aitken** Chief Executive, Cyrenians

OLIVE BRANCHES

30-minute pieces of pure partnership! Swap notes and draw inspiration from some of the most effective collaborations delivering Housing First. Each will be outlining how relationships have been formed, how they function, why they work and what aspects have been more challenging.

- 14:00 – 14:30** **Housing and Third Sector:** Housing First for Youth
- **Kate Polson** Chief Executive, Rock Trust
 - **Speaker tbc** Almond Housing Association

- 14:30 – 15:00** **Council and ADP:** Housing First partnerships in Highland
- **Iver Forsyth** Principal Housing Officer for RRTP Projects, Highland Council
 - **Debbie Stewart** Coordinator, Highland Alcohol and Drugs Partnership

- 15:00 – 15:30** **Housing First – 3 nations**
Housing First is at different stages and going at a different pace across Scotland, England and Wales. Some things are different – and some things are common. How can we help and learn from each other?
- **HOSTED by Claire Frew** Policy & Impact Manager, Homeless Network Scotland
 - **Alex Smith** Senior Project Manager, Housing First England at Homeless Link
 - **Katie Dalton** Director, Cymorth Cymru
 - **Sarah Rowe** Senior Policy Officer, Crisis UK

- 15:30 – 16:00** **Allan Jones in conversation with Donna Marvesley**
Allan is Housing Manager at Aberdeenshire Council. Donna is a tenant supported through the Housing First programme, with some important insights to share.
- **Allan Jones** Housing Manager, Aberdeenshire Council
 - **Donna Marvesley** Housing First Tenant

Theme 3: LOW & HIGH HANGING FRUITS

Almost every local authority area in Scotland is either starting-up or scaling-up Housing First. Big action and early successes have helped build positive momentum. But that doesn't mean there haven't been any challenges or that everything worked as planned. A decade of learning from the early pilots to the current Pathfinder provide short-cuts for local partnerships preparing to start-up or scale-up Housing First in all parts of Scotland. This theme will share the practical lessons learned, some of the growing pains experienced– and what we still need to reach for to grow, improve and connect Housing First across Scotland.



WEDNESDAY 24 MARCH 2021

09:30 – 09:45

Welcome from the Chair:

A warm welcome and an introduction to day 2 and theme 3

- **Marion Gibbs** Team Leader, Scottish Government

09:45 – 10:00

Ministerial Address

- **Angela Constance MSP** Minister for Drug Policy

10:00 – 10:30

Housing First and Equalities:

What we have learned, and what can we do better

- **Jackie Erdman** Non-Executive Director, Homeless Network Scotland

10:30 – 11:00

Learning from Research and Practice

As one of the largest providers of Housing First in the country, Salvation Army share the lessons from new research about what works and what doesn't.

- **Helen Murdoch** Housing First Operations and Implementation Manager (Scotland)
- **Malcolm Page** Assistant Director for Homelessness Services

11:00 – 12:00

Low and High Hanging Fruit

While a lot of ground has been gained, there remains a lot to do to ensure Housing First plays a full role in ending homelessness in Scotland over the next 10 years. From the early pilots to the current pathfinder, hear from those at the heart of managing change about the learning, some of the growing pains and their hopes for the future.

- **HOSTED by Patrick MacKay** Operations Director, Turning Point Scotland
- **Janeine Barrett** Senior Manager, North Ayrshire Council
- **Ann Carruthers** Homeless Services Manager, Renfrewshire Council
- **Olga Clayton** Group Director of Housing and Care, Wheatley Group
- **Josh Littlejohn** Founder and Group Chief Executive, Social Bite
- **Prof Sarah Johnsen** I-SPHERE at Heriot-Watt University

12:00 – 12:30

Video: Housing First is normal, it's fairer, it works — and everyone benefits

Introduced by:

- **Doug Gibson** Partnerships Manager, Homeless Network Scotland

You can return this form, book online or just get in touch with us at:

Housing First Scotland, Unit 16a, The Adelphi Centre, 12 Commercial Road, Glasgow G5 0PQ
homelessnetwork.scot/events | 0141 420 7272 | housingfirst@homelessnetwork.scot

Your Details

Name

Position

Organisation

Address

E-mail

Phone

THEME CHOICES

• 1 FIRM FOUNDATIONS

- Standard Rate £50
- Friends and Family — HNS, SFHA or HF Pathfinder Member £30
- Friends and Family — All in for Change or GHIFT Member £0
- Unwaged, using homeless services £0

• 2 OLIVE BRANCHES

- Standard Rate £50
- Friends and Family — HNS, SFHA or HF Pathfinder Member £30
- Friends and Family — All in for Change or GHIFT Member £0
- Unwaged, using homeless services £0

• 3 LOW AND HIGH HANGING FRUIT

- Standard Rate £50
- Friends and Family — HNS, SFHA or HF Pathfinder Member £30
- Friends and Family — All in for Change or GHIFT Member £0
- Unwaged, using homeless services £0

Payment

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