

**NO CHOICE
WITHOUT
OPTIONS**

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WITHOUT
CHOICE**



PROGRAMME

Scotland's Annual Homelessness Conference

Online | 5, 6 & 7 October 2021

#MyChoice

Choice. From the housing we want to live in, to the area we want to settle, to the support we want to tap into.

Hello and the warmest welcome to our annual homelessness conference.

Three questions matter

- How can we ensure real-world options match the policy ambition?
- How do people exercise choice and control when options are sometimes limited?
- How do we enable informed choices, not enable others to make choices for us?

It's not an exaggeration to say Scotland has some of the best housing and homelessness policies in the world. From the ground-breaking 2012 target (giving everyone a right to housing) set in motion in 2003. To the rapid rehousing policy objective of 2018 and forethought of Housing to 2040. And to new and imminent policy — around prevention duties, unsuitable accommodation, eviction protocols and rent controls.

But how do we reach a place where great policy works — every time, and for every person? For a sector with this ambition, choice is the core principle that will lead us through the dilemmas and debates about what options are 'right' for whom, and in which circumstances. And what options are available, where and how quickly — while continuing to call for and create the options we need.

Choice is a fundamental aspect of our wellbeing and our belief in our ability to shape our own lives.

This year's conference will explore choice — and real-world options — and invite you to help shape what matters most, exploring:

- **Housing Choice**
- **Support Choice**
- **My Choice**

Because there's no choice if there's no options. And there should be no options, without choice.

Please sit back and enjoy the next three days – or join in and participate.

Thank you all for joining us.



With thanks to our event sponsors and supporters The Salvation Army,
Bethany Christian Trust, Keegan & Pennykid and Crisis.





Rapid Rehousing means to reduce time in temporary and 'homeless' places in favour of mainstream housing in ordinary settings. This is the transition in strategy and supply that is now underway in Scotland. It also needs a shift in how homelessness is widely understood; a symptom of social and economic inequality that needs redressed, not personal mistakes or differences that need a specific 'homeless' living arrangement. An awareness too that this includes some people who don't think they deserve an ordinary home of their own. However some of us, much smaller in number, don't want mainstream housing, have no rights to it, or need longer-term care. So what is the role of supported or shared housing in this case? How much do we need, what are the features of it — and who pays for it?

AM 09:45 – 10:00	Welcome from Homeless Network Scotland A warm welcome and an introduction to three days of debate and deliberation.	Maggie Brunjes Chief Executive, Homeless Network Scotland
10:00 – 10:30	Housing Options The Prevention Review Group recommended new duties on the wider public sector and a housing options response which balances choice with security and stability. With a Scottish Government consultation on these new duties due to open this winter, hear the latest update on what this means – and why it matters.	Ashleigh Simpson Head of Policy and Communications (Scotland), Crisis and Board of Directors, Homeless Network Scotland
10:30 - 11:00	Interval	
11:00 – 12:00	SHARED SPACES The future role of supported and shared housing as a response to homelessness in Scotland.	
11:00	Housing Choice Dr Beth Watts, chair of the Shared Spaces Research Advisory Group, sets out what we already know and why this new research is welcome.	Dr Beth Watts Senior Research Fellow, ISPHERE at Heriot-Watt University
11:15	Research Launch Anna Evans led the Shared Spaces research and will present the research findings that will help shape what happens next.	Anna Evans Director, Indigo House
11:45	Q&A Any questions?	
12:00 – 12:30	Interval	

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<p>PM 12:30 – 13:30</p>	<p>Panel Discussion and Q&A Expect a lively debate on the future role of shared or supported housing – with the opportunity to have your say.</p> <p>Hosted by Karen Grieve Team Leader, Scottish Government</p> <p>Yvette Burgess Director, Housing Support Enabling Unit</p> <p>Helen Carlin Chief Executive, Rowan Alba</p> <p>David Disotto Associate, Homeless Network Scotland and GHIFT at the Glasgow Alliance to End Homelessness</p> <p>Eileen McMullan Policy Lead, Scottish Federation of Housing Associations</p> <p>Kate Polson Chief Executive, Rock Trust</p>	
<p>13:30 – 14:30</p>	<p>Your Views Consider the big questions at your roundtable. Then share your take-aways with the full conference.</p>	
<p>14:30 – 15:00</p>	<p>Interval</p>	
<p>15:00 – 16:30</p>	<p>FAIR WAY FORWARD When there's no rights to housing and no duty to provide it. A fair way forward for people with recourse to public funds in Scotland.</p>	
<p>15:00</p>		<p>Kirsteen Paterson in conversation with Sabir Zazai</p> <p>Kirsteen, 2021 Scottish Press Awards nominee for coverage of immigration issues – interviews Sabir as he reflects on current events, his own journey from Afghanistan to the UK and what a fairer way forward in Scotland would look like.</p> <p>Kirsteen Paterson, Journalist, The National Sabir Zazai, Chief Executive, Scottish Refugee Council</p> <p><i>In association with The National</i></p>
<p>15:45</p>	<p>Fair Way Scotland A renewed commitment to end destitution was prioritised in this year's Programme for Government and in the Scottish Government and Scottish Greens Shared Policy Agreement.</p> <p>But what will this really take? Fair Way Scotland is a 5-year strategic plan to design-out destitution, ready to be delivered by a consortium of Refugee Survival Trust, Safe in Scotland, Scottish Refugee Council, Simon Community Scotland and Turning Point Scotland.</p> <p>It is supported by a monitoring, evaluation and learning partnership of Homeless Network Scotland, I-SPHERE at Heriot-Watt University and Joseph Rowntree Foundation.</p> <p>Find out why this, why now - and what you can do to make it happen.</p>	<p>Hosted by Deborah Hay Joseph Rowntree Foundation</p> <p>Elaine Cameron Chief Executive, Refugee Survival Trust</p> <p>Annika Joy Chief Executive, Safe in Scotland</p> <p>Lorraine McGrath Chief Executive, Simon Community Scotland</p> <p>Wafa Shaheen Head of Asylum, Integration and Resettlement, Scottish Refugee Council</p>



Many people that experience homelessness have a right to support, but not always a choice on the type of support they want. And for those of us that need specialist health or social care support, the service that is most needed is also often the most in demand. And what too the role of 'non-professional' support? Helping people to connect with families and friends for support, or to make positive connections in the community. Today's theme will consider how well this is all balanced and what more needs done.

AM 09:45 – 10:00	Welcome from Homeless Network Scotland A warm welcome and an introduction to day two.	Martin Gavin Head of External Relations, Homeless Network Scotland
10:00 – 11:30	PEOPLE-LED SUPPORT Exploring self-directed support through the lens of homelessness. Where are we at, and where should it be going?	
10:00	Self Directed Support: 10 years on Dr Martin Kettle helps set the scene and shares the learning from 10 years of Self-Directed Support in Scotland.	Dr Martin Kettle Senior Lecturer, Glasgow Caledonian University
10:30	Panel Discussion and Q&A Expect a lively debate on new opportunities for self-directed support in the evolving homelessness policy and practice context.	
	Hosted by Janine Kellett Head of Homelessness Unit, Scottish Government Pauline Lunn Director, In Control Scotland Ailsa McAllister Project Manager, Social Work Scotland SDS Team	Patrick McKay Director of Operations, Turning Point Scotland Faith Ougham Associate, Homeless Network Scotland <i>and Change Lead, All in For Change</i> Rebecca Pringle Team Manager of Housing Strategy, East Lothian Council and Board of Directors, Homeless Network Scotland
11:30 – 12:00	Supporting Cities Hear about how a focus on the customer journey is putting people first and driving improvement in Glasgow. And gain an insight into how cities are planning their recovery from a unique set of homelessness challenges experienced during the pandemic.	Pat Togher Assistant Chief Officer Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership
12:00 - 12:30	The Role and Consequence of Charity What is the role and consequence of charity for people experiencing homelessness and poverty? How can it be re-imagined in a way that is reciprocal, creates solidarity and restores balances of power? Andrew and Cameron are co-authors of the recently published book 'Charity and Poverty in Advanced Welfare States.'	Dr Andrew Clarke and Prof Cameron Parsell University of Queensland, Australia
12:30 – 13:00	Interval	



Learning Lots!

Your choice. Select a breakout session and take part in a shared knowledge event, with plenty of time for debate and discussion too.

PM
13:00 – 14:30

Lot 1

Choice in Addiction Treatment

Host: Dr David McCartney
Clinical Lead, LEAP, NHS Lothian

Supported by: David Pentland
Policy Officer, Scottish Government

As a GP in inner-city Glasgow in the 1990s looking after people with addiction, Dr David McCartney worked in an environment where there was very little choice around treatment. Fast forward to today and treatment is better; the evidence base has grown, waiting times are said to be reduced and there is more choice. However, the issue of person-centred care with the patient as partner is an aspirational one that is hard to achieve; the route to choose something other than Medication-Assisted Treatment is not yet a clear path.

Learn more about the evidence of what works, about choice and shared decision making in addiction treatment and recovery - and take part in discussion and debate

Lot 2

Better Choices in a Psychologically Informed Environment

Host: Robin Johnson
Founder and Editor of PIElink

Supported by: Doug Gibson
Homeless Network Scotland

There is no right way to be a PIE, no simple tick box of things you must do. Instead, it means making conscious choices about what support to offer, and how best to provide it. The PIEs framework also aims to help services think through the choices you make and the environment you create to support good decision-making among people using your service.

Learn more from Robin Johnson, founder and Editor of PIElink, a popular resource exchange on psychologically informed environments

Lot 3

Choosing a Managed Alcohol Programme

Host: Rankin Barr
Managed Alcohol Programme Lead

Host: Frank Reilly
Strategic Lead, Simon Community Scotland

Supported by: David Ramsay
Homeless Network Scotland

The Managed Alcohol Programme (MAP) launched in July 2021 and is the first of its kind in Scotland. It is a collaborative multidisciplinary project led by Simon Community Scotland.

Drawing from evidence from Canada, and with links to an international MAP network, the project has ambition to deliver an integrated response for a small number of men who are alcohol dependent and experiencing homelessness. By providing controlled, regular quantities of alcohol in a safe environment, it aims to stabilise lifelong addictions, stop people from drinking harmful products with the long-term hope of coming off alcohol altogether. MAP is a registered Housing Support Service.

Learn more about the evidence behind the MAP approach, what it intends to achieve and for whom – and explore the role it could play in Scotland.



14:30 –15:00	Interval
15:00 – 16:30	<p>Homelessness Monitor Scotland Launch</p> <p>We are proud to welcome the launch of the Homelessness Monitor to this year’s conference, hosted by Crisis UK.</p> <p>The Homelessness Monitor provides an independent analysis of the homelessness impacts of recent economic and policy developments in Scotland and elsewhere in the UK. The latest Scotland edition is being launched in late September. This event will feature a presentation of findings, with a focus on the impact of Covid-19 and intense policy activity on homelessness in Scotland, and projections for how homelessness in Scotland might look in the future. There will then be a panel discussion on the implications of these findings going forward.</p> <p><i>Hosted by Crisis and chaired by CEO Jon Sparkes, the event includes a presentation of findings by Heriot Watt University, before a Q&A session, featuring a panel with Maggie Brünjes of Homeless Network Scotland, Catriona MacKean of the Scottish Government, and John Mills of ALACHO.</i></p>

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Choice matters. It is fundamental for our wellbeing and our belief in our ability to shape our own lives according to our preferences. There are many factors that influence the choices we make which are unique to us and based on our own experiences and circumstances. People with a housing concern or crisis experience a system of limited resources and options which means hard decisions. And so while continuing to improve the housing and support options that are needed to match what people want – we need to ensure that people affected by homelessness have access to the same options as other members of the public and enabled to choose the right option for them.

<p>AM 9:20 – 9:30</p>	<p>Welcome from Homeless Network Scotland A warm welcome and an introduction to day three.</p>	<p>Maggie Brunjes Chief Executive, Homeless Network Scotland</p>
<p>9:30 - 10:00</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <p>Cabinet Secretary Address Shona Robison MSP Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing & Local Government</p> </div>	
<p>10:00 – 10:30</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <p>Keynote: Why Choice Matters Thought-provoking keynote on the nature of choice – and making hard decisions. Ruth Chang’s research on choice and decision-making has been profiled by various media outlets internationally. Ruth has also given lectures or been a consultant to a variety of industries and institutions on this theme.</p> <p>Professor Ruth Chang University of Oxford</p> </div>	
<p>10:30 – 11:00</p>	<p>An Equal Choice How the risk of homelessness is not distributed evenly, and affects different groups of people in different ways. This further affects choice and options in housing and community.</p>	<p>Aaliya Seyal Chief Executive, Legal Services Agency</p>
<p>11:00 – 11:30</p>	<p>Interval</p>	

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11:30 – 13:00

Lot 4

Whose Risk?

Host: Oliver Townsend

New System Alliance Lead
Platform Wales

Supported by: Derek Holliday

Homeless Network Scotland

Risk, and our assumptions about it, has been a significant barrier to change in a number of sectors. Across different settings, ideas that were once seen as risky or taboo, have become foundations of person-led and strengths-based practice. In this session, we will consider what risk is, how we traditionally have managed it - and the challenges and barriers in making positive changes.

Oliver Townsend has over a decade of experience working in the third sector with a particular focus on homelessness and social care. He recently completed a Masters in Welsh Government and Politics, where he completed a thesis on the links between conceptions of vulnerability and policy-making.

Lot 5

Capabilities and Choice: What does a good life look like?

Host: Sam Thomas

Senior Research Fellow
I-SPHERE at Heriot-Watt University

Supported by: Doug Gibson

Homeless Network Scotland

Whatever challenges a person might be facing in their life, they will have their own view of what a better life for them would be like. If services and systems are to provide effective support, they need to understand the different ambitions that people have for their lives and create the conditions in which those ambitions can be realised.

One way to do this is through taking a capabilities approach, which focuses on people's opportunities to be and do things that they have reason to value. In this session, we will look at the idea of capabilities, explore its implications for how we think about individual choice and inequality, and review evidence from recent empirical research in Scotland looking at how it can be applied in practice.

Sam Thomas is leading a three-year learning programme looking at innovative relational and capability-based responses to poverty and disadvantage across Scotland. Sam previously led work influencing the UK government at Making Every Adult Matter, a coalition of charities working to address multiple disadvantage.

Lot 6

National Care Service: choice and options

Host: Martin Gavin and Claire Frew

Homeless Network Scotland

There was a view that the independent review of adult social care stopped short of consolidating the links between housing, homelessness, health and social care. Therefore, the consultation on a National Care Service may present a new opportunity to join the dots between housing, homelessness, health and social care. It also presents the opportunity to align new duties to prevent homelessness with health and social care.

Homeless Network Scotland has consulted widely on the proposed National Care Service through the lens of housing and homelessness. We have carefully recorded the deliberations and clarified the opportunities and dilemmas.

Learn about a new framework proposing how homelessness and housing could be aligned in a National Care Service, based on evidence, experiences and reflections.

<p>PM 13:30 – 14:30</p>	<p>ALL IN FOR CHANGE All in for Change is a big and inclusive umbrella driving a collaborative effort on the ground to end homelessness in Scotland. It is driven by a Change Team of people closest to the issues, with frontline responsibilities or personal experience of homelessness or both and uses easy language and a very informal working approach.</p>	
	<p>Taking the Temperature Report on a National Conversation on progress toward ending homelessness in Scotland.</p>	<p>Representing the Change Team Amanda Wells Faith Oughman John Paul Purcell Tracy Polson Viki Fox</p>
	<p>Have Your Say</p>	
<p>14:30 – 15:00 Interval</p>		
<p>15:00 – 16:00</p>	<p>Freedom of Choice? Choice Informed By Trauma Awareness</p> <p>How does the science of trauma help us understand how free people really are to exercise choice – and then how do we explain that to others? Our final session offers insights and stories about how personal choice is viewed by those in authority within the criminal justice system and demonstrates how an understanding of the impact of trauma for those dealing with the reality of addiction and homelessness can change minds and outcomes.</p> <p><i>Hosted by Ishbel Smith of Heart In Mouth, conversationalists will include Iain Smith (Scottish Lawyer of the Year 2020) and James Docherty and Kirsty Giles of the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit.</i></p>	<p>Host: Ishbel Smith Heart in Mouth</p> <p>Guests:</p> <p>James Docherty Scottish Violence Reduction Unit</p> <p>Kirsty Giles Scottish Violence Reduction Unit</p> <p>Melissa Rutherford Rutherford Sheridan Solicitors and Notaries</p> <p>Iain Smith Keegan Smith Solicitors</p> <div data-bbox="1870 893 2116 1228" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="1926 1236 2083 1268"><i>Ishbel Smith</i></p>

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