



## **PRIORITIES FOR CHANGE**

# GOOD VIBES: RAISE AWARENESS OF POVERTY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES

People understand the effects that childhood poverty and trauma have on people and how these can be a cause of homelessness in later life

This month the Change Team were joined by David Reilly from the Poverty Alliance who spoke about key issues surrounding poverty including stigma; the mental toll experiencing of poverty has on people; and how poverty affects people in different ways.

By identzfying wider societal and structural issues that cause homelessness the Change Team want to use their own platform to raise awareness of poverty and social justice issues.

- Being in poverty is hard work, it limits people's ability to concentrate on simple, everyday tasks.
- 2 Ending homelessness is a socialist venture but we live in a capitalist society. Parents living in poverty feel guilt-tripped into providing things they cannot afford. Events, such as a school prom is an example where the gap between the rich and the poor is getting bigger. This is exacerbated by social media.
- Societal issues towards disability haven't progressed much, with the Change Team noticing that many disabled people still live in poverty.
- There is a need for more Cash First initiatives, people should be trusted to spend money on the things they choose.

The Change Team were able to contribute their own experiences towards creating a position statement to help change public perceptions of poverty and homelessness.

### **POSITION STATEMENT**

Poverty is not a choice and limits people's ability to achieve the best outcome for themselves and their family due to the inequality that it creates.

Poverty drives homelessness, some places are more affected than others. Having a targeted approach to helping people in financial difficulties will support people to have a better quality of life.

## TAKING THE TEMPERATURE

This summer the Change Team are setting off on a road trip across Scotland, to learn about the progress being made towards ending homelessness.

We will be holding a series of workshops and focus groups in 5 locations: Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Inverness and Kilmarnock.

#### **WE WANT TO FIND OUT:**

Whether we have made any progress towards ending homelessness?

If we have, where and how is this being achieved?

If not, in what ways could this be achieved?

What gets in the way of this being achieved?

Watch this space for more updates and information on how you can join the conversation.





## THE CHANGE TEAM | KEEP IN TOUCH

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