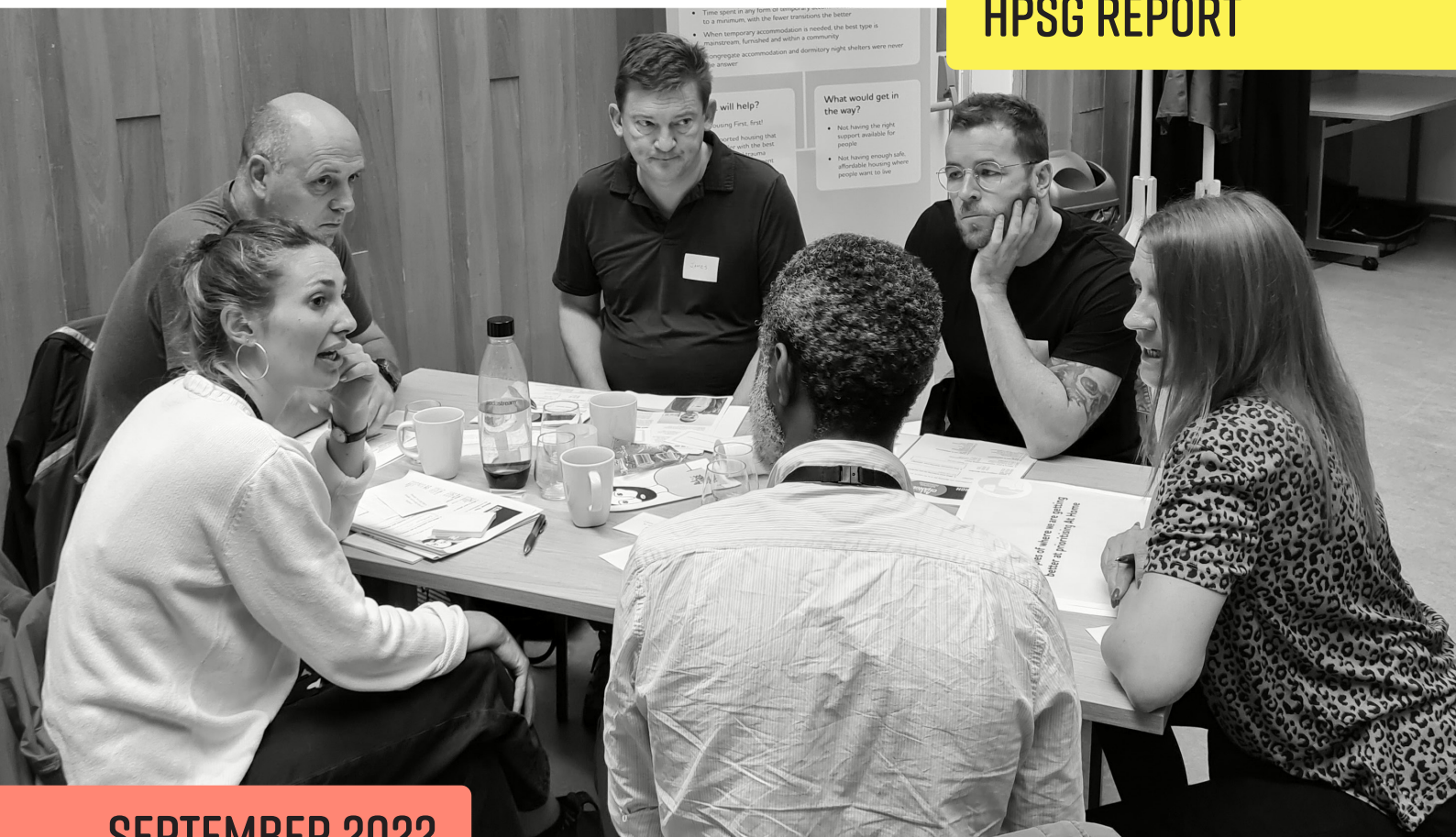


ALL IN FOR CHANGE

HPSG REPORT



SEPTEMBER 2022

OUR PRIORITIES FOR CHANGE

Over the past 4 months the Change Team have continued to meet on a monthly basis to explore the priorities they highlighted at the beginning of the year.

We have had experts join us on topics including, Reducing Temporary Accommodation, Raising Awareness of Poverty and Social Injustice and Flexible and Person Centred Support.

By exploring these important topics to detail, we have created joint position statements and are using these to influence our networks to make real change on the ground.

IMPROVE AND REDUCE THE NEED FOR TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

John Mills, chair of ALACHO and co-chair of the Temporary Accommodation task and finish group to provide context and explain the focus of the task and finish group.

The Change Team discussed their own experiences of temporary accommodation looking to answer the questions raised by the task and finish group. The number of people in who are having to stay in temporary accommodation in Scotland is unacceptable. We must start to reduce the number of people being accommodated this way.

RAISING AWARENESS OF POVERTY AND SOCIAL INJUSTICE

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 identifying 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.

POSITION STATEMENT

Being provided temporary accommodation should always have a positive impact on someone's life.

Focusing on finding permanent housing options for people experiencing homelessness as soon as possible would resolve many of the problems.

We would have fewer people in temporary accommodation, we would be able to provide high quality temporary accommodation when it is absolutely necessary – and we would prevent further transitions and trauma for people in the homelessness system.

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.

FLEXIBLE AND PERSON CENTRED SUPPORT

We were joined by Claire and Anne-Marie from Transform Forth Valley, a service working to support individuals and families who are impacted by substance use and/or societal, financial or health inequalities. Their person-led, joined up approaches reflect the Change Team's mission to influence the sector to create a support system which puts people first.

POSITION STATEMENT

Competitive tendering prevents people from getting the support they need. More focus needs to be made on supporting people with the most complex needs, allowing for continuity and trusted relationships to be formed.

Support should not be limited to a period of time but flexible to the needs of the person and their circumstances, with the option to re-engage quickly if someone feels that's what they need.

Up-skilling communities and introducing community hubs and place-based coordinators would allow people to tap into local support - having everything they need at their disposal. People need to feel empowered and part of a community, with those from less represented groups also involved.

COMING UP...

The Change Team have plans to explore two further priorities before the end of the year:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Youth Homelessness



TAKING THE TEMPERATURE

The Change Team are hosting a series of roadshow events to meet people who are experiencing homelessness and frontline staff who work in homelessness services. So far they have hosted workshops with frontline staff in Glasgow, Kilmarnock, Edinburgh and Dundee. The purpose of these events is to see what progress is being made towards the aims in Ending Homelessness Together, what is working well and where there are gaps or barriers to progress.

To date we have spoken to 95 people, many from voluntary and public housing and homelessness sector but also those from other sectors - mental health, violence reduction, police to name a few.

Next we will be visiting Inverness, and holding a series of focus groups with people currently using services. We will be issuing a report on our findings in December.

WE ARE ASKING PEOPLE:

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?



ALL^{IN} FOR CHANGE

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