

ALL IN FOR CHANGE



TOP TABLE BRIEFING | JANUARY 2024

ABOUT THIS BRIEFING

This briefing is what we want the Homelessness Prevention and Strategy Group (HPSG) to know and to prioritise. It is based on the evidence and information that the Change Team has considered and the broad range of conversations we have had since the last HPSG meeting.

WHO WE'VE CONNECTED WITH

Since we last met, we have connected with a wide range of people in local and national government, the third sector and people using services in Scotland.

We had a welcome meeting with Housing Minister Paul McLennan, where we shared our findings from the last [national roadshow](#), including what we believe needs to happen to close the gap between good policy and the reality people experience.

All in for Change have contributed to all HPSG Task and Finish Groups and continue to support the recommendations from each group. And we were heavily featured in [Scotland's Annual Homelessness Conference](#) in Perth in October. We hosted workshops, took part in panel sessions and shared experiences and reflections on how to 'be more human' and how to be braver.

WHAT WE WANT YOU TO KNOW

Risks and issues:





The temperature on the ground is uncertain – people are understandably worried about the housing emergencies being declared and the ongoing impact of the cost-of-living crisis. We hear concerns that progress on homelessness could be lost if we don't continue to invest in housing and homelessness.

On the bright side:

There is optimism about the work of each of the task and finish groups. The themes of the annual conference – about being more brave and more human – really hit home. Our networks can see how being bolder and having a more human attitude could help to make it easier and quicker for people to navigate through homelessness.

THE TOP TABLE

These are our questions for HPSG members *and/or* the operational or development teams that you lead across your organisation or wider sector.

		Our questions or requests
	Scottish Government	How will we make progress on homelessness this year when the housing budget has been cut? How will that be communicated?
	Local Authorities	What plans are in place at local level to get ready for the prevention duties? And how can the Change Team help the roll-out of a training and awareness programme for those with a duty under the new Housing Bill?
	Housing Associations	We need more homes let to homeless households across all local authorities, particularly those who have declared a housing emergency. Can the Change Team help to share good examples of local collaboration led by housing associations to inspire other areas?
	Health and Social Care	How can we use the delay to the National Care Service to ensure that the role of homelessness services is made clearer?
	Advice and Advocacy Organisations	Do advice and advocacy organisations expect more people using their services because of the budget cuts and housing emergencies in at least 3 council areas?
	Third Sector Support Services	We know times are tough and budgets are tight. We ask that services work more collaboratively together and share budgets and practice to the benefit of those they are supporting.



THE CHANGE TEAM | KEEP IN TOUCH

16a Adelphi Centre, 12 Commercial Road, Glasgow G5 0PQ

0141 420 7272 | changeteam@homelessnetwork.scot

www.homelessnetwork.scot

Homeless Network Scotland is a charity registered in Scotland (SCO 03453) and company limited by guarantee (SC112361).
Registered Office: Adelphi Centre, 12 Commercial Road, Glasgow G5 0PQ. CEO: Margaret-Ann Brünjes