



Public Health
England



Protecting and improving the nation's health

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To:

Chief Executives of all local authorities (unitary, upper tier and lower tier)
CCG Accountable Officers
Directors of Public Health
Local Resilience Forum Chairs
ICS / STP Chairs

For the attention of:

CCG Directors of Primary Care and Acute Care
NHS STP/ICS Leads
CCG Safeguarding Leads
Heads of Service - Housing Leads
Health and Wellbeing Board Chairs
Directors of Social Care – Children and Adults

27 August 2020

Dear Colleague,

For Action: South East Multiple Exclusion Homelessness Transition Framework

We are delighted to share with you the *South East Multiple Exclusion Homelessness Transition Framework*, which has been developed by members of the South East Homelessness Network and supported by the South East Association of Directors of Public Health.

The purpose of the framework is to provide local areas or systems with a set of guiding principles, which can be used to develop transition and recovery plans for people who are homeless.

Why has this framework been developed?

Following Dame Louise Casey's call to action to get 'Everyone In' in March 2020, local authorities, with their local partners, have put in place unprecedented emergency accommodation, health and care arrangements for large numbers of rough sleepers, hidden homeless and other multiple exclusion homeless people on a scale that has not been seen before. In the South East:

- In excess of 3,666 people have been accommodated as part of ‘Everyone In’ – this is likely to be an underestimate and compares to an estimated 865 rough sleepers that we knew about pre COVID-19
- Across England and Wales, the average age of death for homeless men is 45 years and for homeless women is 43 years
- In 2018, there were 79 deaths in homeless people in the South East
- There have been 16 coronavirus deaths in England in the homeless population up to 26 June 2020
- People who are homeless often have multiple and overlapping health needs, most notably:
 - Alcohol, drugs or mental health needs – 20%
 - Just alcohol misuse needs – 42%
 - Just drug misuse needs – 41%
 - Just mental health needs – 50%
- Information coming out through health needs assessments undertaken during the pandemic in London have also highlighted significant needs relating to acquired brain injury and learning disabilities.

A huge amount of excellent work has been done across the South East to support people who are homeless during this time. There is still more we can do to ensure that the systems and mechanisms are in place to enable us to provide appropriate, safe, timely, high quality accommodation and access to health and social care as we move through this pandemic and on to winter and the possibility of further COVID-19 outbreaks.

How do we use the framework?

The framework is designed to be used to start a multiagency conversation at a local level. There are five domains within the framework – multiagency partnerships and system wide approaches; leadership; co-creation and co-production; health and accommodation. Each domain has one or two principles. It is suggested that:

- You bring together a group of key stakeholders e.g. health, housing, public health, criminal justice, voluntary and community sector, social care (using existing mechanisms, where they exist)

- You use the principles to have a discussion and map where you feel you were pre-COVID-19, where you feel you are now and where you want to be as a system or local area in relation to each domain and principle
- You collectively agree the aspirational level you want to achieve, gold, silver or bronze for each principle, and use this to inform and develop your plans and mobilise wider conversations where these are needed

As we restore and recover all of our services, it is imperative that we do not leave anyone behind. We encourage you to use this framework to enable local action that addresses the inequalities faced by people who are homeless.

This is a live and evolving document and we are keen to share examples of the excellent work happening across the South East. If as you go through this process you find examples of practice that are silver or gold whether before the COVID-19 pandemic or now we are keen to hear about these to add to the practice examples within the framework. If you have practice you would like to share please contact karen.simmonds@phe.gov.uk

If you have any comments or questions relating to this framework, please contact emma.seria-walker@phe.gov.uk

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who contributed to the development of the framework.


Yours sincerely



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