



Welcome to the Summer Westminster Homelessness Partnership Newsletter – thank you for signing up! Please do pass this on to others in your organisation or networks who might be interested. They can sign up to receive regular updates by emailing becky@accendo-consult.co.uk.

WHP Strategy

The WHP strategy group has now agreed the partnership's strategy for the next three years. You can access the full document here: <https://whpartnership.org.uk/publications/>. Driven by the mission statement (Working together to end rough sleeping in Westminster), the strategy focusses on five broad priorities around the themes of:

- evidence
- health and equity
- influence
- service delivery
- supporting our partnership to thrive.

For each of the themes we have then developed:

- specific objectives for 2021/22 as we emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic
- longer-term priority areas for 2022/23 and 2023/24 as we shift to the challenges and opportunities of the new landscape.

Initiatives for 21/22 are set out in some detail and additional objectives for the following two years are also articulated. It is relatively short document, designed to be easy to access and understand. Please do take a look and ensure that others in your organisation have sight of it.

Changing Futures Funding

Westminster City Council has been awarded Changing Futures Funding! Changing Futures is a three-year, £64 million programme from the MHCLG aiming to improve outcomes for

adults experiencing multiple disadvantage – including combinations of homelessness, substance misuse, mental health issues, domestic abuse and contact with the criminal justice system. WHP organisations were involved in the discussions with the local authority that shaped their bid. The Westminster Changing Futures project will have a strong focus on younger people but will also include work to improve our responses to the broader group of people experiencing multiple needs in Westminster. For more information on Changing Futures see: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/changing-futures>

Westminster Rough Sleepers Drug and Alcohol Service

Westminster has been awarded PHE funding for 2021-2022 as part of what is a four-year PHE programme- one of 42 target areas in England. Turning Point – a WHP member – is leading on this initiative this with the aims of:

- ensuring that the engagement that people have had with drug and alcohol treatment services whilst in emergency accommodation is maintained as they move into longer term accommodation
- supporting people to access, and engage in, drug and alcohol treatment who have not yet done so
- building resilience and capacity in local drug and alcohol treatment systems to continue to meet the needs of this population in future years.

The programme, which involves South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust, Groundswell, Change Grow Live, City of Westminster, and the Central London Community Healthcare NHS Trust as well as Turning Point takes an integrated single partnership approach using outward facing using assertive outreach that can then embed itself in the local rough sleepers housing response.

This is very relevant to the WHP as it has developed out of the joint working of the Covid Rough Sleepers Response. This partnership has shown that even in the very difficult current context agencies can provide effective care planning, engaging rough sleepers and supporting them to progress recovery journeys with access to treatment, housing and health care. You can get in touch with Leon at Turning Point with any questions:

Leon.Nicholson@turning-point.co.uk

New blog: The Bridge

We have posted a new blog about the work of the Bridge. Have a look here <https://whpartnership.org.uk/general/the-bridge/> If you would like to write a blog yourself about a project or piece of joint work, or talk to us about your project so we can draft a blog for you to sign off, let us know!

And finally

Suggestions, questions, comments are always welcome here at WHP – please contact @WestminsterHP becky@accenco-consult.co.uk.