Shelter Symposium 2016

East London Housing Partnership
Margaret Williams
ELHP Collaboration

- Barking and Dagenham, City of London, Hackney, Havering, Newham, Redbridge, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest

- Registered providers
- Non statutory partners
- Other sub regions

- Multi agency group and training
Combined Community Response

Collaboration on domestic violence, homelessness prevention

Local Authorities
Registered Providers
Police
Faith and Community Groups
Advice/Support Groups
Charity/ voluntary sector
Health Sector
Schools/colleges/uni
Ex service users
DWP/Job Centres
LGBT partners

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CHARITY/ VOLUNTARY SECTOR
HEALTH SECTOR
SCHOOLS/ COLLEGES/ UNI
EX SERVICE USERS
DWP/ JOB CENTRES
LGBT PARTNERS
ELHP Partnership Working and Joint Commissioning

- East London Single Homelessness Project
- East London Staging Post
- Reciprocal Agreement/Pan London Reciprocal
- East London Womens Project
- FERSP
- Fundraising
- Training
- ELHP Team
Housing and Homelessness in East London

- 47,000 households on waiting lists
- 1,465 households accepted as homeless in last quarter
- Main cause of homelessness is loss of an AST and friends/family no longer able to accommodate and DV

- 132,000 women experience DSV or stalking
- 60 households accepted in the last quarter due to DSV
- 35% of women rough sleepers identify DSV as cause of homelessness
- 92 referrals to ELWP
- Hidden homelessness
ELHP Reciprocal Agreement

• To assist social housing tenants who need to move home, through collaboration between local authorities and registered providers in the East sub region

• Reduce and prevent homelessness
• Make best use of stock
• Reduce use of TA and B&B
Reciprocal Requests

154 requests since 2009

- Domestic or Sexual Violence: 47%
- Harrassment: 12%
- Safe & Secure: 24%
- Exitig Gang/Escaping from Gang Violence: 8%
- Under occupation: 1%
- Hate Crime: 1%
- Homophobia: 1%
- Witness Protection: 1%
- Family Link: 3%
Reciprocal Requests

Household make up -
• Single Woman 15
• Single Man 14
• Couple with children 18
• Couple without children 3
• Woman and children 95
• Man and children 4
• Others 5 (for example 3 adults sharing)

Total children of households 251
Pan London Reciprocal for DSV

- Operates through a named lead in each local authority in London
- Registered Providers can ask a named lead to make a request for a registered provider tenant
- Negotiations between the named leads
- Information on sub regional web sites
- Safer London Foundation coordinating and revising
East London Single Homelessness Project

- 3 year project
- Rent deposit and low needs support
- 337 people assisted
- Average cost £1,800
- Majority aged 26 – 55
- Cost analysis savings in excess 6m
- 40% returned to work, education, training or volunteering
Support Needs

- Tenancy support
- Welfare benefits/housing benefit
- Employment, education, training
- Dealing with DSV
- Mental health issues
- Debt/money management
- Physical health/self care
- Family/social networks

I had no help, no one helped me with anything. When I was in difficulty. Now when I have a problem there is someone I can talk to about it.
Causes of Homelessness

- Unemployment leading to loss of tenancy
- Health issues
- Relationship breakdown
- Domestic abuse
- Homophobia
- Offending/prison
- Family eviction
- Substance use
- No recourse to public funds
Case Study Ms B

• Ms B was living in a hostel and found to be suffering from anxiety, recurring depression and the effects of trauma following domestic violence and a sexual assault.

• She was accommodated through ESHP in a studio flat and support was provided.

• Support included setting up and managing accommodation; managing money to sustain her tenancy; social support to overcome isolation; addressing domestic violence issues and alcohol use; linking with health services and specialist counselling.

• After 10 months support Ms B reported that she was feeling more optimistic; was studying English and IT and aimed to work in tourism; she was also volunteering in the homelessness sector.
East London Womens Project

18 month project for homeless women with multiple needs
- delivered by St Mungos

Target 25 women actual 27 women assisted

Referral/support needs
20 had mental health issues (74%)
19 had experienced DSV (70%)
17 had substance misuse support needs (62%)
15 offending (55%)

Other – physical health/self care/family relationships/social relationships/tenancy and money management
Outcomes

- 27 women assisted
- 7 moved into PRS
- 1 in pathway flat
- 10 in rehab or supported
- 1 made her own arrangements
- 8 abandoned/prison/evicted

- 92 referrals
If partnership working works well we would expect to see -

• Reduction in DSV related homicides
• Increase in the number of offenders brought to justice
• Fewer Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE)
• Homelessness prevention options based on risk assessment and planning
• Early referral to supporting services
• Increase in early intervention and prevention of homelessness with the associated benefits
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