

Consultation Summary

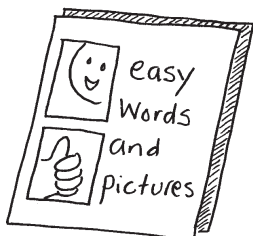
Birmingham

Homelessness

Prevention Strategy

2017+

24 August - 5 October 2017



This leaflet is easier to read



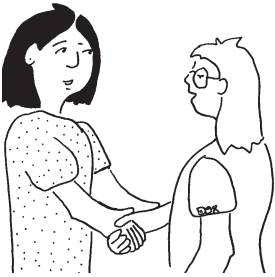
What are we trying to achieve?

(This part will help you answer Questions 1 and 2 in the Consultation Questionnaire)



We think Birmingham should be a place where we all work together to stop homelessness. Different organisations in Birmingham agree with this idea.

We have used lots of information to plan how to stop people becoming homeless.

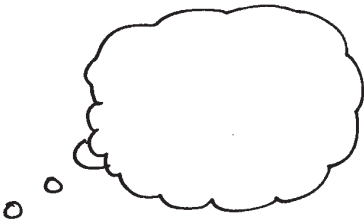


We need to make sure that people have help early on so they do not become homeless. And we need to make sure there is help for people who are homeless.



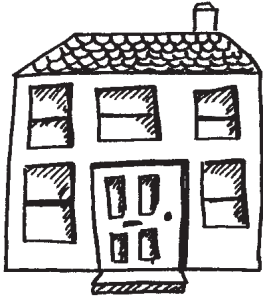
There are 5 things we think we should try and do to stop homelessness in Birmingham. We want to:

- Make sure that people know about the different sorts of housing available to them
- Stop people from becoming homeless
- Help people as soon as possible if they become homeless so they get support and somewhere to live
- Help people with problems caused by being homeless. Support people who have been homeless so they do not become homeless again
- Help people to get homes they can afford. And help them to keep their home.



We want to know if you think these are the right things to do.

What is homelessness?

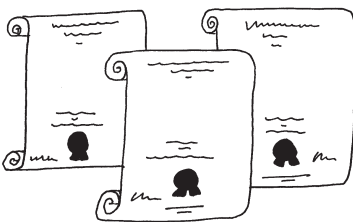


You are **homeless** if:

- You don't have a home you can live in.
- You have a home but it is not suitable for you to live in. For example, if your house is not safe to live in. Or if your home is not big enough for your family.
- You sleep in the open such as on the streets. Or you sleep somewhere that is not made for living in such as a car park. This is called **street homelessness**.

We want to help people who are homeless. And we want to stop people becoming homeless.

Why do we need a plan to stop homelessness?



Every Council must have a homelessness strategy. It is the law.

Homelessness affects a lot of people in Birmingham.



We already help people who do not have a home. But we need to do more to stop people becoming homeless in the first place. We need to know more about why people become homeless.

Health and happiness

If you do not have a home it can make you ill and unhappy.

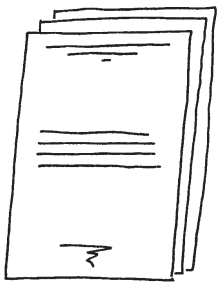
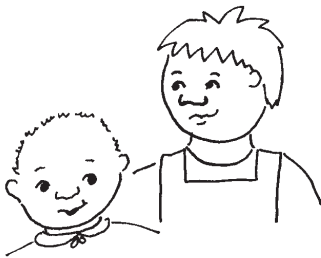
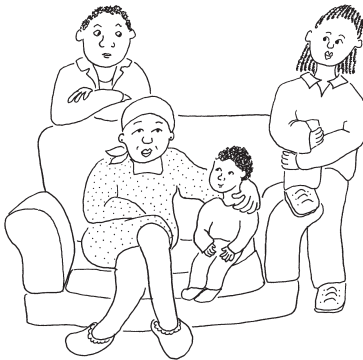
Some people in Birmingham do not earn very much or are not working. It can be hard for them to get the home they need for their family.

Lots of families in Birmingham do not have somewhere to live. This means that lots of children in Birmingham do not have somewhere to live.

If children do not have a home it can make them ill. It can also make them sad. This can carry on for a long time.

We need to know more about how being homeless affects adults and children.

People who live on the streets can have lots of problems. We need to find better ways of helping them.

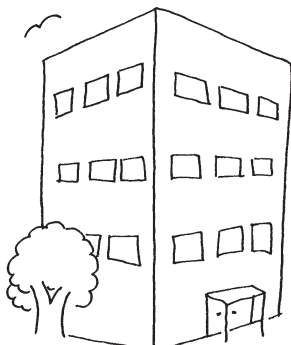


Homes in Birmingham

There is a plan about homes in Birmingham called 'Birmingham: A Great Place to Live'. It tells us about problems with homes in Birmingham and what we are going to do to about them.

We need to help people who do not have somewhere to live by making sure:

- When people do have a new home they can live there for as long as they want to.
- There are enough homes for everyone.
- People can live independently.





There are lots of reasons why people may not have somewhere to live such as:

- There are more and more people living in Birmingham. They may find it hard to get the right home for them.
- A landlord may decide not to let someone carry on living in a rented home. The person may then have nowhere to live.
- Sometimes people cannot stay in their family home. But when they move out they may have nowhere to go.



- Some people are abused at home. When they move out they may have nowhere to live.
- Birmingham has lots of large families. It may be hard for them to get big enough homes.



- Lots of young people cannot afford their own home.

What do we want to do to stop homelessness?

(This part will help you answer Questions 3 and 4 in the Consultation Questionnaire)

We need to change the way we work so we stop people from becoming homeless.

We plan to use the Positive Pathway model.

In the Positive Pathway model different organisations work together to stop people from becoming homeless.

It is already being used in Birmingham to stop young people from being homeless.



The Positive Pathway model has 5 parts. This is to make sure people get the right help as soon as possible.

The five parts are:

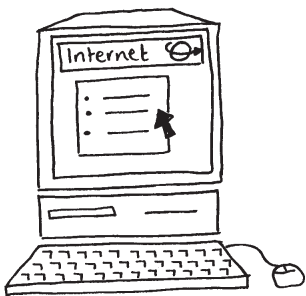
- Universal Prevention
- Targeted Prevention
- Crisis Prevention and Relief
- Homeless Recovery
- Sustainable Housing.

1. Universal Prevention

This gives information and advice so people do not get problems with where they live. It will help people to live independently.

It is for anyone who needs it.

You will be able to get information and advice:



- Online



- In schools and universal services. (Universal services are services that everyone can use such as health services)

- In the community.



This fits with other work being done in Birmingham to make things fairer for people.

2. Targeted Prevention

Some people are more likely than others to become homeless such as:

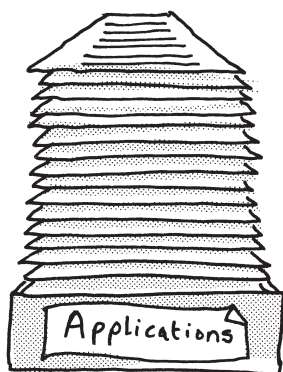
- Care leavers. Care leavers are young people who were looked after by their local authority
- People leaving prison
- People who are abused in their home
- People who have mental health problems
- People who have problems with alcohol or drugs
- Bereaved people. This is when you lose someone you are close to
- Families who have lots of problems
- People who do not have enough money and people who cannot pay their bills.



Targeted prevention helps people and families who are more likely to become homeless. It helps them with their problems early on.

Organisations will work together to make sure the right things are in place for this to happen.

3. Crisis Prevention and Relief



This helps people who need somewhere to live very quickly.

We will make sure that organisations know what to do when there is a crisis or emergency.



Organisations will work together so that emergencies do not affect people so much.



4. Homeless Recovery

This is for adults and children who have been homeless.

People who have been homeless may have lots of problems. They may have problems with their health or with keeping their new home.



Homeless Recovery will help people with their problems. It will also help stop people becoming homeless again.

5. Sustainable Housing

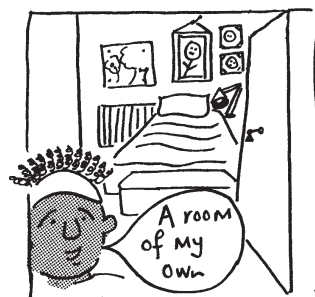
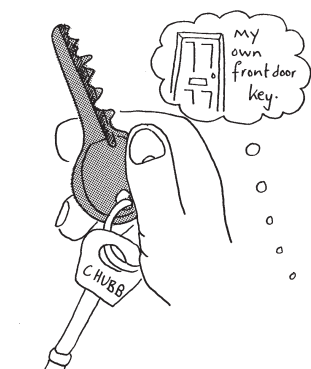
We will think how we can make sure there is:

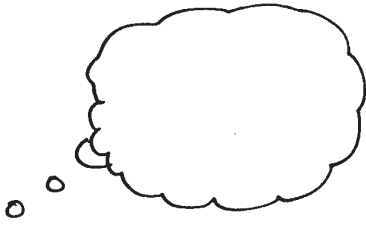
- More housing
- Different types of housing
- Safe housing
- Good quality housing
- Housing that people can afford.

People in Birmingham may be living in the wrong sort of housing for them. We need to have different sorts of housing so people have a choice.

We will think about choices of housing for:

- People who live alone
- People who live with their family
- People who live in other sorts of shared homes.





Tell us what you think

We want to know what you think of our plan to stop people being homeless in Birmingham.

Please fill in the questionnaire and send it back to us using the FREE postal address at the bottom of the page.

You can also tell us what you think in the following ways:

Website:

www.birminghambeheard.org.uk

Twitter:

@healthybrum

Email:

homelessnessconsultation@birmingham.gov.uk

Telephone:

0121 303 5154

Write to:

Homelessness Prevention Strategy Consultation

Freepost Plus RSYS – HKBC – XBLA

PO Box 16465

Birmingham

B2 2DG