

Plenary 3

Homelessness – What's that got to do with me?

Speaker: Julie Marsh, South Liverpool Homes

Chaired by: Peter Long (Basildon BC)

Room: Queens room



National Housing
Maintenance Forum

NHMF
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2019



Why Are We Here?

To Leave This World
Better Than When
You Found It



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How is it for you?



What are the Challenges now?



Housing Crisis – CIH View

- Affordable homes for all regardless of tenure
- Need to build 250k-300k homes per year in England
- Backlog runs into hundreds of thousands
- Need to manages assets better – remodel if required
- Affordability ratio UK = 174.1 London 223.1 NW 128.3
- Increasing HB bill - £25bn a year
- Increasing homelessness – prevention and cure needed

Homelessness – the facts

- 160,000 Homeless households in Britain
 - 120,000 children in temporary accommodation
 - Street homelessness unquantifiable
 - Rough Sleeping forecast to rise by 76% by 2028
 - Cost of Rough Sleeping £20,128 vs £1,426 per person
 - Homelessness Reduction Act – limited resources
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- What difference can we make?

Why are people Homeless?

- Previously no duty to rehouse single homeless
- No right to remain/recourse to public funds
- Welfare Reform, Sanctions, Bed Tax etc.
- Domestic Violence and Abuse
- Drug and Alcohol Dependency
- Little or no family support
- Relationship Breakdown
- Mental Health issues
- Leaving Prison
- Leaving Care
- Unemployment



What can we do?

- Don't ignore the problem – choose to help
- Don't walk past without saying hello or referring for help
- Give homeless people a hot drink or a sandwich
- Donate to charities like Crisis and Shelter – £28.18
- Ask your organisations what they are doing to help
- Look for the signs of domestic violence – alert staff
- Look for signs of poverty – alert staff
- Look for signs of mental illness – alert staff

REMEMBER:
Repairs is the
single biggest
interface with
the customer

Potential Solutions

- Build more homes – at least 300,000 every year
- Simplify Allocations policies – no choice based lettings
- Housing First
- SLH approach – House, Feed, Clothe, Support, Train
- Ongoing Tenancy Support



What we need to deliver



Any Questions?

