



HOMELESSNESS

Greater Manchester Combined Authority

Making an End to Rough Sleeping a Reality

Tackling homelessness and rough sleeping are key priorities for the Mayor and the local authorities in Greater Manchester.

The challenge

Since 2010, rough sleeping has increased by 165% in the UK. Following the financial crash, homelessness became increasingly commonplace across the country. In Greater Manchester however, our goal is to end the need for rough sleeping by May 2020, alongside developing a 10-year strategy to prevent and reduce homelessness.

Greater Manchester's successes

The most recent full count of rough sleepers, conducted in November 2018, found a 10% reduction in the number of people on the streets in Greater Manchester compared to the previous year. Greater Manchester welcomed the first reduction in those sleeping rough since 2010, with eight boroughs' numbers stabilising or falling and only two increasing. This achievement is in part due to projects such as:

Social Impact Bond for Entrenched Rough Sleepers (SIB) - The Greater Manchester SIB launched in December 2017, led by Great Places, as one of eight in England. It is a payment-by-results programme, with a value of £1.8m. The programme involved the SIB and 15 of Greater Manchester's housing providers, offering properties and intensive support to 200 of the most entrenched rough sleepers over three years.

The success of the programme resulted in an additional £829k secured from government, with the final number of referrals at 526 in July 2018.

Housing First Programme - In the budget of November 2017, Greater Manchester awarded £8m to deliver a Housing First programme for up to 400 people over a three-year period. Following staff recruitment and set-up arrangements, the programme began in April 2019.

In practice, Housing First directly relocates rough sleepers out of shelters, or off the street, into self-contained flats. GMCA is working with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to deliver as many sustainable outcomes as possible through the Housing First programme.

A Bed Every Night (ABEN) - The A Bed Every Night programme commenced in November 2018 to extend the severe winter provision year round. Originally intended to last until 31 March 2019 ABEN was extended. This extension is due to the programme's success with around 1,650 people having been assisted into night shelters since the start of November 2018, and 524 being helped to move on to a fixed address. The extension of ABEN phase 2, to June 2020, is a demonstration of the benefits of devolution, with the NHS agreeing £1.5m of funding to support the scheme.

Further initiatives

The Greater Manchester Homelessness Action Network was established to coordinate charities and agencies working together to help as many people with the limited resources available. The organisations work towards the 4 'R's':

Reduction - To prevent rough sleeping in the future.

Respite - To provide a safe place for people off the street.

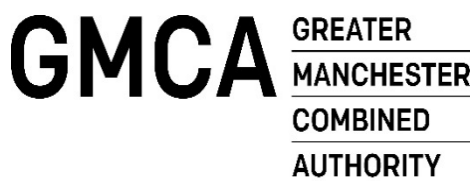
Recovery To manage issues, to stabilise individuals and to work towards independence.

Reconnection - To enable individuals to lead meaningful lives with choice and agency.

Greater Manchester's progress is also down to enormous charitable and philanthropic responses in the city. Examples include the 'Raise the Roof' concert, in which a mix of some of the biggest and most influential bands and artists, from across the city region, came together to raise money for the Mayor's A Bed Every Night programme.

Tackle4MCR has also been established as a combined effort of Manchester City captain, Vincent Kompany, and Andy Burnham. This campaign has and continues to organise fundraising initiatives, throughout the football season, for the benefit of the Greater Manchester Mayor's Homelessness Fund.

Key to our success are stakeholders in the public, private, and VCSE sector continuing to work together to tackle homelessness in Greater Manchester.



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Greater Manchester Combined Authority brings together the ten Greater Manchester councils and Mayor, who work with other local services, businesses, communities and other partners to improve the city-region. <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/>