



annua

2007-08

report
& accounts



glasgow homelessness network

message from the ceo:

At GHN, we have always worked hard to keep a long-term perspective of homelessness that is neither insular nor simply single issue based - ensuring that our understanding and approach to eradicating homelessness is **outward looking, holistic and sustainable**, and that GHN remains true to its purpose despite changing circumstances.

We know that **housing** (temporary & permanent accommodation), **opportunity** (employment, earning and learning) and **wellbeing** (health, care, support and participation) are the essential and intertwined strands of both solving and preventing homelessness.

We recognise that homelessness continues to affect people in all countries, and is probably among the most extreme and challenging forms of structural and social poverty. In turn, rough sleeping and street homelessness (where people have *no* emergency, temporary or permanent accommodation) is probably the most extreme and challenging form of homelessness.

During this annual report period, a written declaration on ending street homelessness was adopted by the European Parliament. The cross-party declaration was registered last December 2007 by MEPs, and adopted in April 2008. It calls on the:

- EU Council to agree an EU-wide commitment to end street homelessness by 2015;
- EU Commission to develop a definition of homelessness, gather comparable and reliable statistical data, and provide annual updates on action taken and progress made in Member States towards ending homelessness;
- EU Member States to devise 'winter emergency plans' as part of wider homelessness strategy.

Scotland's own ambitions for tackling homelessness are now considered the most progressive in Europe. Instigated by the devolved Scottish Parliament, they will ensure that everyone assessed as homeless is entitled to settled accommodation by 2012.

Will Scotland's 2012 target ensure that this country can achieve the European target early, and remain a recognised good practice leader?

To answer this from a Glasgow perspective, we need to understand the circumstances of 07-08. We need to appreciate the distance travelled, while accurately and honestly assessing the distance of the journey remaining.

The year saw the final closure of Glasgow's remaining large-scale male hostels. This was a significant achievement for the City, a huge benefit for a large number of men who had been trapped in the revolving door of hostels and rough sleeping, and an important milestone within the broader context of eradicating homelessness where possible, and minimising the impact where it is unavoidable.

Sadly, front-line and Service User intelligence is reporting a level of human tragedy, including skipping and rough sleeping, triggered by homelessness not adequately dealt with. In some cases this is due to accommodation shortages and blockages, where significant attempts to resolve the problem continue to be frustrated. In other cases, early signs of the consequences of the economic situation and its impact on housing and employment are evident.

Scotland's 2012 target is in advance of the EU 2015 target. In Glasgow, we must not deprioritise homelessness, or think it is a problem solved. It is certainly different now. In the years to 2012 there will be a need for attention to annual targets to stem and reduce rough sleeping and street homelessness quickly and sustainably, and they must be set within a strategic and holistic approach to achieving locally the national aspirations for 2012 and the international aspirations for 2015.



Margaret Taylor
Chief Executive

about ghn:

GHN: a Scottish Charity and membership organisation

GHN's purpose is to work to end homelessness in Glasgow



GHN facilitates a wide range of cross sector joint working arrangements

Glasgow Homelessness Network is a Scottish Charity, registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator, and a Company Limited by Guarantee SC112361.

We are a voluntary and a membership organisation, with a Board of Directors elected annually by the members at the Annual General Meeting. The Board of Directors appoints a Chief Executive to manage the day to day running of the organisation on its behalf.

The purpose of GHN is to work to end homelessness in Glasgow and ensure that outcomes for people affected meet their needs, interests and aspirations.

Three aspirational aims describe how we work:

- GHN directly engages, involves and empowers people affected by homelessness to inform the prevention and alleviation of homelessness.

- GHN ensures that voluntary sector perspectives inform the prevention and alleviation of homelessness

- GHN emphasises the values of integrity, credibility and independence; and GHN's work practice is inclusive and empowering for all our stakeholders

We meet these aims across **three core work programmes...**

- ◆ *Housing*
- ◆ *Opportunity*
- ◆ *Wellbeing*

... which develop and promote our understanding that only holistic interventions will find sustainable solutions for homelessness.

We use **three methods** in our work:

- ◆ *Service User Involvement;*
- ◆ *Training & Capacity Building;*
- ◆ *Monitoring, Research & Evaluation.*

ghn:

Policy & Planning

During this year, GHN adopted an holistic approach to all aspects of our operational plan, which incorporates:

- ♦ *Housing*
- ♦ *Opportunity*
- ♦ *Wellbeing*

This means we recognise that achievement of our outcomes depends on how well we replicate, at planning and development level, recognised successes of holistic, person-centred responses to homelessness.

During 2007-08, GHN continued to work with a range of stakeholders to inform and influence the current policy environment, always promoting our holistic understanding. This included:

- Supporting NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde to achieve the Health and Homelessness Standards and our work alongside Glasgow City Council to develop the Framework to plan, develop and deliver these Standards.

- Facilitating Glasgow's Crisis Response System, which is built on a quantitative and qualitative evidence base to support seamless provision and transition of crisis interventions. More recently, scoping a parallel approach to homelessness prevention.

- Facilitating an expert Housing Policy forum who provide a consultative and advisory role, focusing on the road to 2012 in relation to legislative and policy changes. The group submitted responses to the many Scottish Government and Local Authority housing & homelessness consultations.

- Facilitating shared understandings of homelessness and employability for the DWP Glasgow Works Employability Strategy. This promoted an holistic and tailored approach that ensures a person's employability needs are considered alongside their housing, health and wellbeing needs.

GHN facilitates an expert Housing Policy Forum...



... who provide responses and briefings in the current policy environment

GHN supports GG&C NHS Board to achieve the Health & Homelessness Standards

Only effective partnerships will really deliver for people affected by homelessness...

... by responding to their Housing, Opportunity & Wellbeing needs and aspirations



GHN's training menu now explores this holistic approach

GHN believes that it is effective, open and transparent partnerships that will really deliver for people affected by homelessness in the sustainable longer term.

During 2007-08, we recognised that there was still work to be done and issues to be resolved as we continued on the road to 2012. We supported the critical role of the voluntary sector as providers of front-line intelligence for our statutory partners to assist their duties and responsibilities.

Continuing to promote our holistic approach, we also created:

○ Pathways to Construction: a pilot in partnership with Scottish Enterprise, Equal Access Glasgow, Construction Skills Partnership, Lodging House Mission and Skill to Build, with support from Connaught Construction. It offers a supported pathway into construction training, learning or work.

○ 4-Front Learning: a partnership with Anniesland College, North Glasgow Housing Association and Glasgow North Regeneration Agency, with funding from the Big Lottery Fund. The project aims to increase tenancy sustainment rates through careful cognisance of the evidenced role that enhanced employability plays in assisting routes out of homelessness.

○ A new training package, using a modular approach intended to reflect our holistic understanding of homelessness prevention and alleviation.

The overall GHN training menu now consists of:

- ◆ Homelessness: the Policy & Practice Context
- ◆ Employability & Learning
- ◆ Social Networks
- ◆ Health Inequalities
- ◆ Service User Involvement & Empowerment

This year, we increased our activity in local communities across Glasgow, promoting community ownership of homelessness prevention.

With this community based work often comes the need to raise awareness of homelessness. One of GHN's main tools in dispelling myths and tackling prejudice lies in the connections we have to people affected by homelessness and the services they need. This year saw, for example:

- Unheard Voices drama group building its membership and delivering performances across a range of venues, including a new pilot in secondary schools. A new marketing dvd was created by the group.

- GHN contributing to the Scottish Government's Awareness Raising and Best Practice sub-group of the Homelessness Monitoring Group, and more recently the Homelessness Monitoring Group.

- GHN developing a best practice framework for Service User Involvement, which was translated into a Toolkit to share learning with other organisations. The Scottish Government funding a national roll out of this learning and practice as part of the new Scottish Homelessness Involvement & Empowerment Network (SHIEN).

- GHN facilitating a Service User led project to develop a 'new-approach' model to Family Learning in Glasgow, in partnership with Glasgow Works. We created an empowering environment for lone parent families affected by homelessness to articulate, structure and present an approach to family learning that effectively engages.

- The rolling out of a GHN/CHCP pilot to find an effective methodology for independent intelligence from people affected by homelessness to inform & influence local developments

Tackled through our service user involvement activity...



... and the key contribution from our wider networks

GHN contributes to national awareness raising planning

GHN's Board of Directors are elected annually at the AGM and bring together a range of business expertise, as well as representing our wider homelessness networks.

All are committed to the sustainable prevention and alleviation of homelessness in Glasgow and support the pivotal role that GHN has within this:

- Adrian Davies
CONVENOR
- Hazel Baxter
VICE CONVENOR
- Roddy Mungall
**TREASURER
YMCA**
- Eileen McDade
**SECRETARY
GSC**
- Janet Leino
Salvation Army
- Andy Locke
Individual
- Patrick McKay
Blue Triangle HA
- Diana Graham
Individual
- Patrick McGrath
Southside HA
- Ian Lynch
SCA

GHN's staff team are committed to the vision and purpose of the organisation and bring expertise, knowledge and energy to GHN's work. Special thanks go to those who moved on this year.

At the end of March 2008, GHN's staff team were:

Margaret Taylor Chief Executive	Margaret-Ann Brunjes Planning & Development Manager
Murray Mair Finance Officer	Janice Higgins Office Manager

○ **development coordinators**

Claire Frew Housing & Homelessness	Martina Johnston-Gray Practice & Partnership
Stephanie Plotnikoff Service User Involvement	Eeva Sarkkinen Research & Evaluation
Austin Smith Support, Care & Health	Paul Turnbull Training & Capacity Building

○ **development workers**

Lesley Bon Service User Involvement	Caroline Kessell Service User Involvement
Laura Rolinson Service User Involvement	Anne-Marie Pinkerton Service User Involvement
Barry Sheridan Service User Involvement	

○ **volunteers**

GHN's volunteers bring diverse expertise in a wide range of fields. The advice, involvement and guidance they give GHN is invaluable. We recognise the unique contribution that people with experience of homelessness provide, and therefore some of our volunteering activity benefits from this specific experience (e.g, Unheard Voices; Peer Research; Peer Mentoring).

During 2007-08, GHN's volunteers included:

Charlie Ed Jason Kris Ronnie	Craig Frank Kevin Margaret Sandra	Donna James Kieran Maureen Tony
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financial information

○ funders & supporters

GHN is very pleased to acknowledge with thanks the funding and other support given during 2007-08 by:

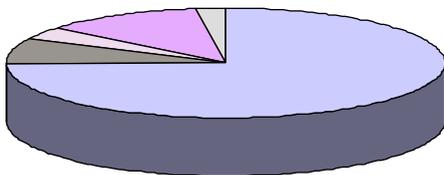
Glasgow Homelessness Partnership
 Glasgow City Council
 NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde
 Scottish Government
 The Big Lottery Fund
 Glasgow Works
 Learndirect Scotland
 Scottish Enterprise Glasgow
 European Social Fund: Equal

During the year far too many individuals to mention assisted GHN to meet our targets. We would like to make special mention of Sam Rowe, Archie Fairley, Stephen Connell, Shona Ulrichsen, SWAMP Creative Media Centre, Bob Allan's Pals and our new 4Front Consortium Partners, specifically Ann Marie Devlin, Bob Maguire and Tony Crosbie.

However we do so in full acknowledgement that there were many others.

○ income 2007-08

INCOME £609,329



- Glasgow City Council
- Big Lottery Fund
- NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde
- Grants/Donations/Fees/Other
- Scottish Government

○ expenditure 2007-08

EXPENDITURE £656,606



- Direct Charitable Expenditure
- Other administration expenditure

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 Glasgow Homelessness Network is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee.
 Company registered in Scotland No SC112361.
 Registered Office: 1st Floor, Granite House,
 31 Stockwell Street, Glasgow G1 4RZ.
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