

## Health and Homelessness in Scotland: a discussion guide

Following on from the publication of the [Scottish Government's research into health and homelessness](#) there is an opportunity to reflect on how housing, health and social care can collaborate to provide a coordinated approach to dealing with and preventing homelessness.

The following questions are designed to facilitate meaningful discussion around topics such as data sharing, quality improvement and the redesign of pathways of care for people who experience homelessness and poor health. They are aimed at health and social care management, homelessness leads within local authorities, third sector service providers and service managers within NHS Boards.

### Discussion topics to explore with partners across health, social care and housing include:

- Who are the relevant stakeholders? – Who are the decision makers that would benefit from access to localised health & housing data?
- How might health and social care identify those at risk of homelessness where increased interactions with health could be an indicator of housing instability?
- How might health, social care and housing share data to develop homeless prevention approaches and improve coordination?
- What would need to happen to ensure effective collaboration across territorial health boards, health & social care partnerships and local authorities who deliver services?
- How might health, social care and housing evidence the impact on people with experience of homelessness of improved ways of working?
- How can health, social care and housing promote the findings of the research? – Clear links exist between increased health usage and homelessness, are there opportunities to intervene and create new referral pathways?

The topics listed above are by no means exclusive however they should help to form the basis of meaningful initial discussions between partners.