

Stephen Bell, OBE

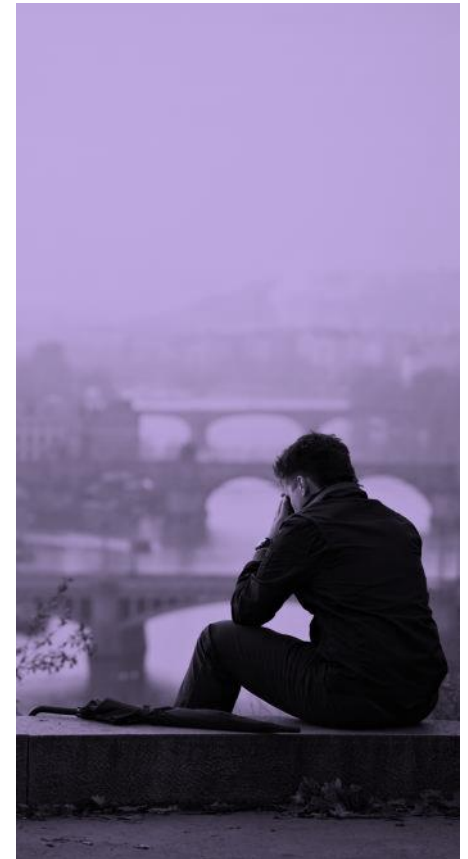
Chief Executive, Changing Lives

Who We Are

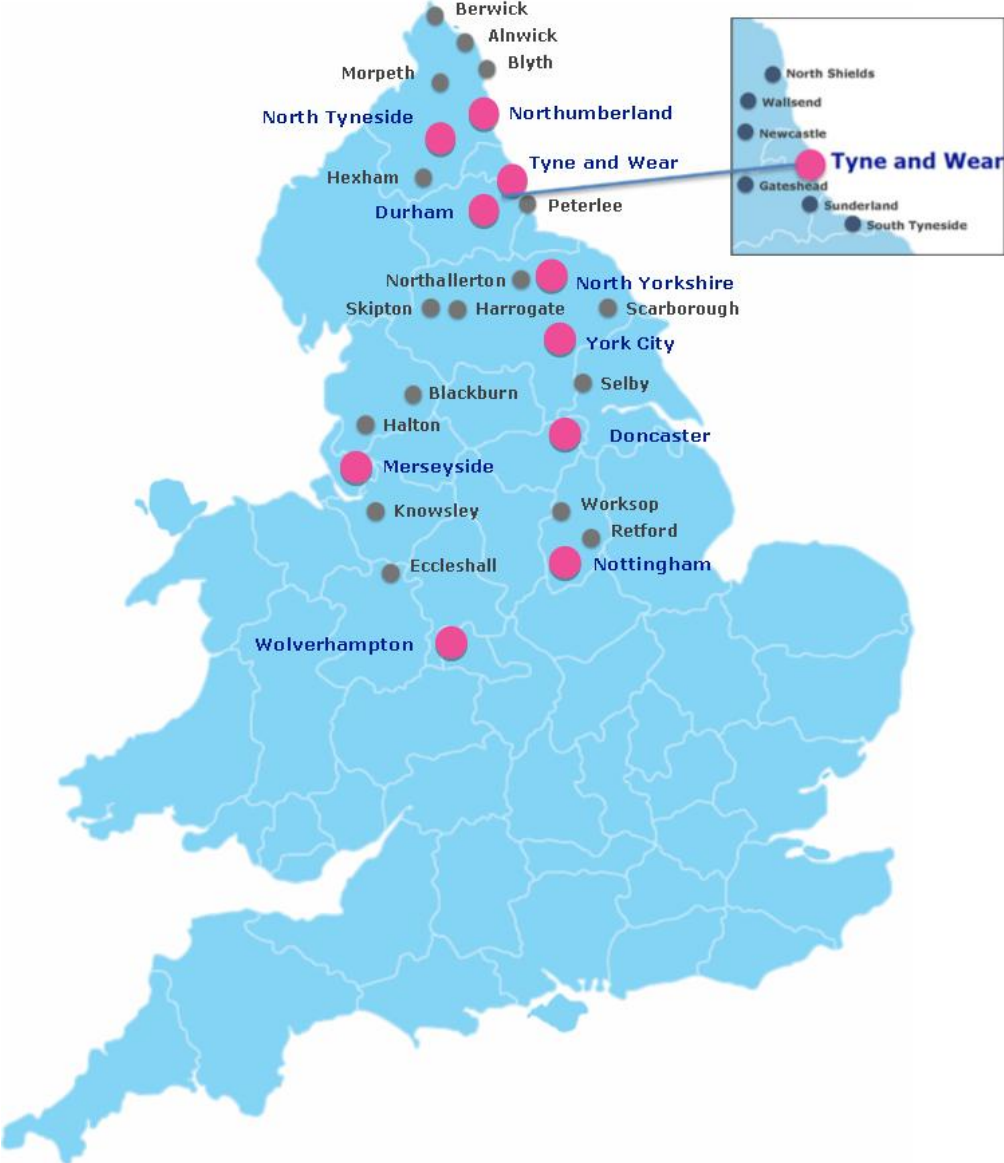
Changing Lives is a national, registered charity which provides specialist support for thousands of vulnerable people and their families, every month. Through our pioneering and innovative work we help people to make positive, lasting changes in their lives.



**Our aim is to
support people
to change
their lives
together**



Service Map



Impact on Young People

Client & Staff Demographics - Current by Directorate	No of Clients (ytd)	Female	Male	Under 18	18-24	25-40	41-60	over 60	% BAME
Housing & Homelessness	2,397	21.0%	78.5%	2.5%	21.5%	46.9%	26.0%	2.4%	4.4%
Health & Addictions	6,192	40.4%	32.2%	0.8%	0.4%	4.8%	4.6%	0.4%	0.2%
Women & Criminal Justice	6,903	90.6%	7.4%	7.8%	20.3%	41.9%	18.1%	2.3%	16.8%
Employment	494	26.1%	66.4%	6.3%	23.9%	32.0%	30.2%	2.4%	1.6%
Homelife	136	46.5%	51.2%	2.3%	4.7%	44.2%	44.2%	4.7%	0.0%
Enterprise	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Corporate Services	0	47.3%	50.5%	3.2%	11.8%	45.2%	36.6%	2.2%	1.1%
Overall	16,122	58.7%	29.6%	4.2%	12.9%	28.1%	14.6%	1.6%	8.0%

Does the current system let our young people down?

How will further changes in the welfare system adversely affect young people?

What is the future for young homeless people with further deep public spending cuts still to come?

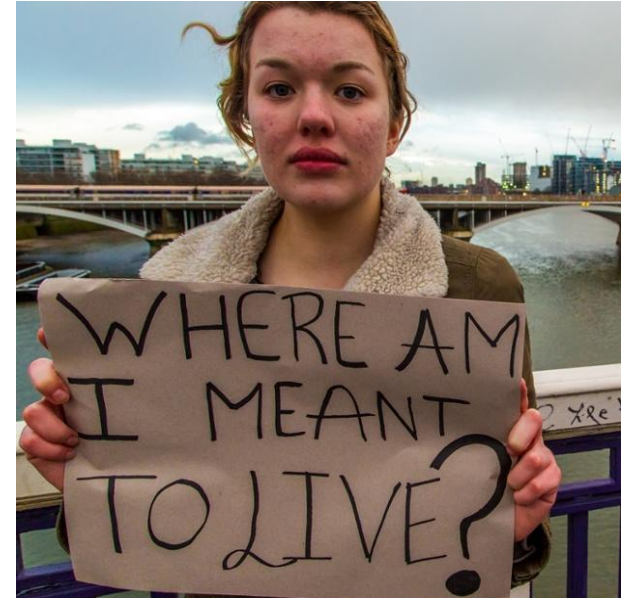


Tackling the consequences of homelessness for young people

Homelessness is rising at its fastest rate since the 1980's, last year we saw a national rise of 30%

Rough Sleeping

The Autumn 2015 rough sleeper counts suggested there were **3,569** rough sleepers on any one night in England. This figure has more than doubled since the Autumn 2010 counts which estimated **1,768** rough sleepers



Young people become homeless for a wide range of reasons but the most common is being asked to leave the family home by their parents

Complementary Contributions

Housing Associations are making a valuable contribution to homelessness prevention, directly and indirectly, through:

- Partnerships with Local Authorities (LAs), providing temporary and permanent accommodation for homeless households;
- • Working in partnership to tackle the causes of homelessness – addressing anti social behaviour, financial exclusion, and signposting to opportunities for education, training and employment.

..... Complementary Contributions

- The costs of failed tenancies and abandonment range from £4,000 to £10,500 per case. (Estimates from contributing associations)

Wider Impact of Homelessness

Homelessness is known to have impacts beyond the immediate housing issues & many studies have taken place. Common themes around homelessness emerge, including:

- loss of connection/support from friends & family
- physical & mental health impacts for adults & children
- disruption to schooling for children, & lack of space to play/study, impacting social & educational development
- worsening of existing problems, whether financial, health or addictions, leading to increased difficulty

in returning to & maintaining a stable tenancy & lifestyle

- difficulties accessing employment
- increased risk of injury & being a victim of crime
- reduced life expectancy – for rough sleepers, the average life expectancy is 42.

How can you predict who will become homeless?

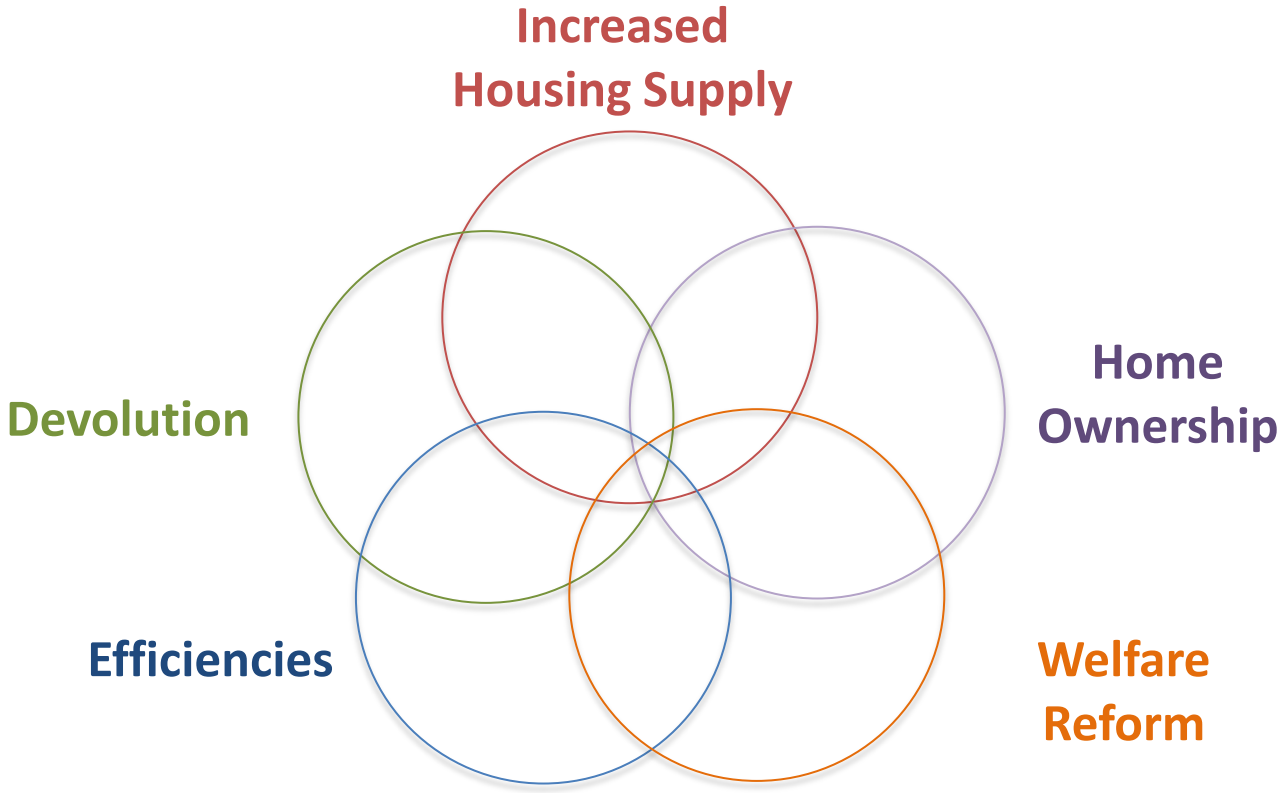
Homeless Risk Factors:

- Eviction Notice
- Homeless History
- Youth
- Domestic Violence
- Young Families
- Loss of Job
- Loss of Income

Prevention / Crisis Resolution

- **Identify the crisis**
 - **rapid assessment**
- **Focus on personal safety**
 - **is the household in immediate danger?**
 - **can the client stay in existing housing?**
- **Stabilise household**
 - **does the client have a support network?**
 - **are there any other community based services available?**

Government Priorities - Housing



Changes to Housing Benefit - capping all HB to LHA rates

- Proposals to cap all Housing Benefit payments to Local Housing Allowance rates (LHA is set at a rate that means 3 in 10 properties in an area are affordable to people on benefits).
- Rents in supported accommodation are higher than in general needs housing due to levels of staffing needed to keep people safe and ensure they can maintain their accommodation, and turnover of clients.
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- This would result in Changing Lives services losing £2m (3.5m in total) per year and all 19 supported accommodation places would be closed.
- Nationally this will impact on accommodation that supports people who are homeless, have learning disabilities, are fleeing domestic abuse and also older peoples sheltered housing, potentially resulting in a £4.5 billion shortfall for these services nationally.

Changes to Housing Benefit - Young People

- From April 2017, young people (aged 18–21) will no longer be able to claim housing benefit.
- Research indicates 80,000 young people become homeless each year.
- Young people in supported accommodation are likely to be exempt.
- However, the policy could increase levels of youth homelessness because:
 - Single Room Rate and benefit caps have forced families into smaller accommodation
 - history tells us that in the 80's a similar policy was adopted, which resulted in increased levels of homelessness into the 90's.
- Using Private landlords will also become more difficult as landlords won't risk taking on young people.

- Big Lottery funded, partnership led programme with £5.5m over 8 years.

- Working with individuals with multiple and complex needs across:



Homelessness and housing



Mental Health



Substance Misuse



Offending

- Working with the system to try and effect permanent system change
- Core partnership: Changing Lives, Oasis Aquila Housing, Mental Health Concern
- Delivery partners: Tyneside & Northumberland Mind, Age UK Newcastle, Tyneside Women's Health, Advocacy Centre North

OUR KEY PRINCIPLES

For our clients:

- A whole person approach
- Stickability
- No signposting
- Asset based approach/progression/EBE/personalisation funding

For the system:

- A whole system & preventative approach
- Try new things
- Reflective learning and development
- Listening and collaboration
- Sharing evidence and learning from the programme at a regional and national level

Uncertainty and Ambiguity

Thank You

Any Questions?