

# Together we can end homelessness:

## Sharing knowledge and best practice

Few years have shown so clearly the huge impact that policy decisions can have on the lives of people experiencing homelessness. Throughout the year, we have been hosting discussions with MPs and local commissioners to discuss the learnings from Everyone In and how we can use its legacy to end homelessness for good.

As a leading homelessness charity, St Mungo's shares its experience and expertise with our partners and Government to support solutions to end street homelessness for good. In a year characterised by reactivity and crisis, it was even more important to pause, reflect and share.

We hosted two virtual roundtable events for MPs this year. Each event was attended by around 20 parliamentarians and their staff. MPs had the chance to talk to St Mungo's clients who shared their experiences of homelessness, and of the services that helped them during the pandemic. Attendees also heard first-hand accounts from our frontline staff, focussing on our work as an organisation, how we collaborate with partners, and what made Everyone In a success.

We also launched quarterly Commissioners' Forums, bringing local authorities together to reflect on solutions and opportunities to provide effective services and strategies. The Forums have been attended by approximately 25 local authorities at each event and covered topics such as the relationship between health and homelessness, embedding good practice from the Covid-19 pandemic and Housing First – a service model that helps people with long histories of street homelessness through providing a secure home from which they can focus on their recovery.

These initiatives deepened relationships with decision makers on a local and national scale, and our roundtables with MPs also provided a vital platform for our clients to share their experiences with those able to drive change.



Right: clients speak to MPs at a parliamentary event in 2019. This year, clients and staff spoke to decision makers at our virtual event.



### The national picture

Nationally, the number of people sleeping rough went down

**37%**

in the past year.



**37,430**

people have been helped into accommodation through Everyone In (as of January 2021).



“In the last 12 months, we’ve seen an incredible effort from homelessness charities, public health bodies and local and central government. Now, we need to strengthen these relationships as we continue to work together to end rough sleeping for good.”

**Eddie Hughes, Secretary of State for Housing and Rough Sleeping**