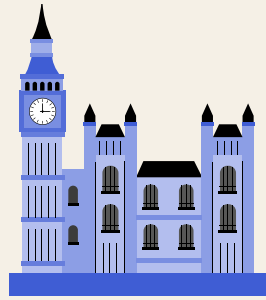


# One of St Mungo's key missions is influencing policy makers to make positive change through our clients' voices and our operational expertise.



---

Our policy team have had another busy year delivering this mission.

Ending homelessness requires political will and collaboration. We spent much of the last year preparing for the General Election with this in mind.

- In September 2023 we published the last report of the Kerslake Commission on Homelessness and Rough Sleeping, setting out how the government can end homelessness. We will reconvene the Commission to check on the progress of the recommendations and influence the government's homelessness strategy.
- In November 2023, following a joint sector campaign through the Cover the Cost Coalition, we successfully lobbied for Local Housing Allowance rates to be unfrozen and uplifted.
- In January 2024 we submitted our consultation response to the previous government's Criminal Justice Bill which contained provisions to criminalise rough sleeping and begging. Following a joint campaign, the government conceded and proposed to remove damaging provisions. The Bill expired due to the election and we are hopeful we won't see its return.
- Despite the surprise timing of the election, we achieved positive results with over 50,000 people signing our public letter to party leaders, asking them to extend and uplift funding for homelessness services.
- We made six General Election asks to lay the foundations for future influencing work. They cover emergency support, prevention, recovery and a long-term plan to end homelessness. We are already working to share our service expertise and client voices with the new government and ministers.