

# **Jane Cook**

**Health and Homelessness Adviser  
Rough Sleepers Initiative**

## **Ensuring person centred care through:**

- **The Rough Sleeping Strategy**
- **The Homelessness Reduction Act – duty to refer**

# Definition of health

‘State of complete physical, mental and social well being, and not merely the absence of disease and infirmity’.

Source: World Health Organisation

1. Basic needs of food, drink, shelter, warmth and purpose in life
2. Access to the widest possible information about all the factors which have an influence on a person's life
3. Skill and confidence to assimilate this information
4. ...Recognition that...people are complex wholes who cannot be fully understood separated from the influence of their environment, which is itself a whole of which they are part....The recognition that a person should not strive to fulfil personal potentials which will undermine the basic foundations for achievement of other people.

Seedhouse. D 1988

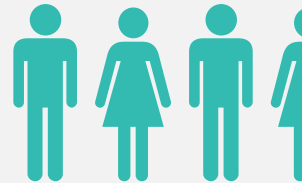
# Homelessness – the impact on health



**2.5x** more likely  
to have asthma

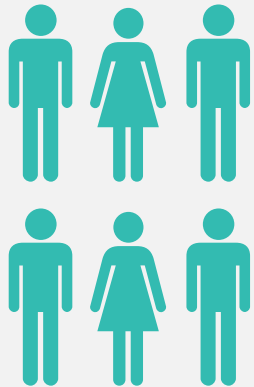
Hepatitis C rates are

**50x** higher

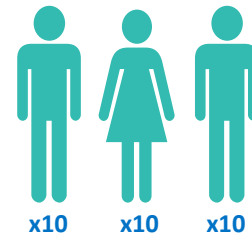


x10 x10 x10

TB rates are  
**34x** higher



**6x** more likely  
to have heart  
disease



x10 x10 x10

Hepatitis C rates are

**50x** higher



x10 x10

# Ambition and wider context

## **Rough sleeping strategy:**

Halve rough sleeping by 2022

End rough sleeping by 2027

# RSI Interventions

- **Housing – a range of housing**
- **Outreach**
- **Support – including health workers**

## **Based on:**

- **Prevention – HRA, outreach,**
- **Intervention – outreach, care navigators, referral pathways**
- **Recovery – housing, accommodation, young futures fund**

# Health Commitments

- **To carry out a Health Audit of health care provision in 83 areas**
- **Support Health & Wellbeing boards**
- **Ensure Safeguarding Adult Reviews & application of learning**
- **Promote learning of effective models:**
  - **Primary health care**
  - **Hospital discharge and intermediate care**
  - **End of Life Care**
- **Test housing status in health data collections**
- **NICE guidance**

# **Homelessness Reduction Act (April 2017)**

**Reformed England's homelessness legislation by placing duties on local authorities to intervene at earlier stages to prevent homelessness and to provide services to all who are eligible**

**If Homeless or threatened with homelessness and eligible:  
Local authority legally obliged to assess and provide meaningful assistance to prevent or alleviate homelessness irrespective of priority need  
Relief duty lasts for 56 days  
Personalised care plans**



# HRA – Duty to Refer

**Came in to force 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018**

**Named public authorities will have a duty to refer a person who is homeless or threatened with homelessness to a local authority of their choice:**

- **Inpatient care**
- **Emergency departments**
- **Urgent care centres**

# Meeting health needs – what is key

- **Person centred care in partnership with individuals a human rights approach to care**
- **Place based approach - proactive outreach and engagement**
- **Prevention – early interventions and a targeted approach**
- **Partnership approach Integrated commissioning and care**

**Person centred care is a human rights approach to care that supports equality. CQC 2018**

# 7. Contacts

Jane Cook [jane.cook@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:jane.cook@communities.gsi.gov.uk)

T. 07766 516371