

Andy Burnham MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Andy Burnham,

Your commitment to “adopting a national Housing First philosophy” could be a seminal moment in our nation’s efforts to turn the tide on shamefully high levels of homelessness. As representatives of homelessness services working every day to end and prevent homelessness, we stand ready to work hand-in-glove with your team to make that vision a reality.

Like you, we have seen the positive difference a Housing First approach has made in Greater Manchester in supporting people to move on from homelessness for good. And we have seen success in pilot schemes running elsewhere in the country too.

But successive governments have failed to scale-up the successes of those pilots to a national approach. Without that national-level coordination and support, we risk going backwards.

Furthermore we need to embed the principle that underpins the Housing First philosophy – a system built around dignity, choice and what people need to thrive—across the whole country.

This will take strong personal leadership from you as Prime Minister, and active buy-in from all branches of Government to implement. But trust that the homelessness services across the country are willing to work equally hard to enable this, and we would be happy to meet with you, alongside representatives from across the homelessness sector, to discuss how we can support shaping a Housing First philosophy, and help deliver this transformation.

Signed,

Rick Henderson, Chief Executive, Homeless Link
Dom Wood, CEO, 1625 Independent People
Mark Grant, Chief Executive, Action Homeless Leicester
Adam Pemberton Wickham, CEO, akt
Andrew Lord, Chief Executive, ALABARÉ
Jennifer Hockey, Director of Business, BACKUP North West
Michael Angus, Director, Barons Court Project Ltd.
Moya Woolven, CEO, Basis Yorkshire
Tabitha Jepson-Pearce, Rough Sleeping Co-Ordinator, Bath and NE Somerset Council
Ros Holland, Chief Exec, Boaz Trust
Lorraine Mealings, CEO, Bournemouth Churches Housing Association

Rubina Bokhari, Chief Executive, Bradford Cyrenians
Patrick O'Dowd, Director, Caritas Salford
Tasmin Maitland, Chief Executive, Catching Lives
Lesley Howard, Head of Homelessness, Change Grow, Live
Stephen Bell OBE, CEO, Changing Lives
Mark Wood, Chief Executive, Colchester Korban Project
Chris Keating, CEO, Connection Support
Jill Charnock, Supported Housing Manager, Creative Change Housing Management
Matt Downie, Chief Executive, Crisis
Carina Fisher, CEO, Daylight Centre Fellowship
Alessandra Sciarra, Head of Policy and Public Affairs, Depaul UK
Paul Smith, CEO, Elim Housing
Clair Bloor, CEO, Emerging Futures
Andrew Humberstone, Head of Specialist Housing, Emh Group
Kelly Harrison, Accommodations Manager, Emmanuel House Support Centre
Duncan Lewis, CEO, Emmaus Hertfordshire
Chris Brill, CEO, Expert Link
Ryan McKiernan, Managing Director, Fat Macy's
Tom Hayden, Chief Executive, Good Shepherd Services
Alison Dean, CEO, Great Places
Deano Pickering, CEO Healthbus Trust
Jared Hodgson, CEO, Hope at Home
Julie Berti, CEO, Hope Housing Training and Support
Natasha Davies, Chief Executive Officer, Jimmy's Cambridge
Christina Isaac, CEO, Just Homes Charity
Roland Brown, CEO, Kingdom Way Trust
David Bristow, Manager, Lancaster & District Homeless Action Service Limited
Paul Morrish, Chief Executive, LandAid Charitable Trust
Sebastian Rocca, Founder and CEO, Micro Rainbow
Matthew Heasman, Chief Executive, New Hope Watford
Sarah Gorman, CEO, Oasis Community Housing
Suzanne Russell, Practice Supervisor Social Worker, Oxfordshire County Council
Michelle Kangan, CEO, Paper Cup Project
Penny Beale, Founder, Penny Beale Memorial Fund
Fiona Winchester, Chair, Peterborough Homeless Helpers
Christopher Hildrey, Director, ProxyAddress
David Perry, CEO, Seaview Project
Ulla Sandells, Team Manager, Second Step
Liz Rutherford, Chief Executive, Single Homelessness Project
Nahar Choudhury, CEO, Solace Women's Aid
Kate Gillhespy, Practice Development Trainer, Southdown
Tim Fallon, CEO, SPEAR London
Janette Beckett, Chief Executive, Spring Housing Association
Marsha Blake, Chief Executive Officer, St Basils
Sean Palmer, Executive Director of Transformation, St Mungo's
Peter Stepehnson, Chief Executive, St Petrock's (Exeter)
Amy Smith, DAHA Accreditation Manager, Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse

David Francis, Chief Executive, Stonepillow
Zoe Abbotts, CEO, StreetVet
Ged Dempsey, Chair of Trustees, The 3 Pillars Feeding the Homeless
Emily McCarron, CEO, The Bus Shelter Dorset
Fabia Bates, CEO, The Clock Tower Sanctuary
Pam Orchard, CEO, The Connection at St Martins
Kevin Gill, Chief Executive, The Faith Hope and Enterprise Company Ltd
Mags Mercer, Chief Executive, The Hope Hub
David Carter, CEO, The Whitechapel Centre
Steve Hoey, CEO, Turning Lives Around
Janice Hughes, Chief Executive, Two Saints
Emma Johnson, CEO, UnityMK
Lynn Cassidy, Service Manager, Waltham Forest Churches Night Shelter Ltd
Anthony Yates, Rough Sledeper Navigator, Wiltshire Councils
James Boulton, CEO, Wycombe Homeless Connection
Hélène Begg, CEO, YMCA Brighton
Nanette Mellor, Chief Executive Officer, YMCA Wirral
Cherisse Dealtry, Chief Executive, York Road Project
Amanda Dubarry, Chief Executive, Your Place
Hannah Asquith, CEO, Youth Concern