



Leicester's Homelessness Charter

TACKLING HOMELESSNESS TOGETHER



@HomelessCharter

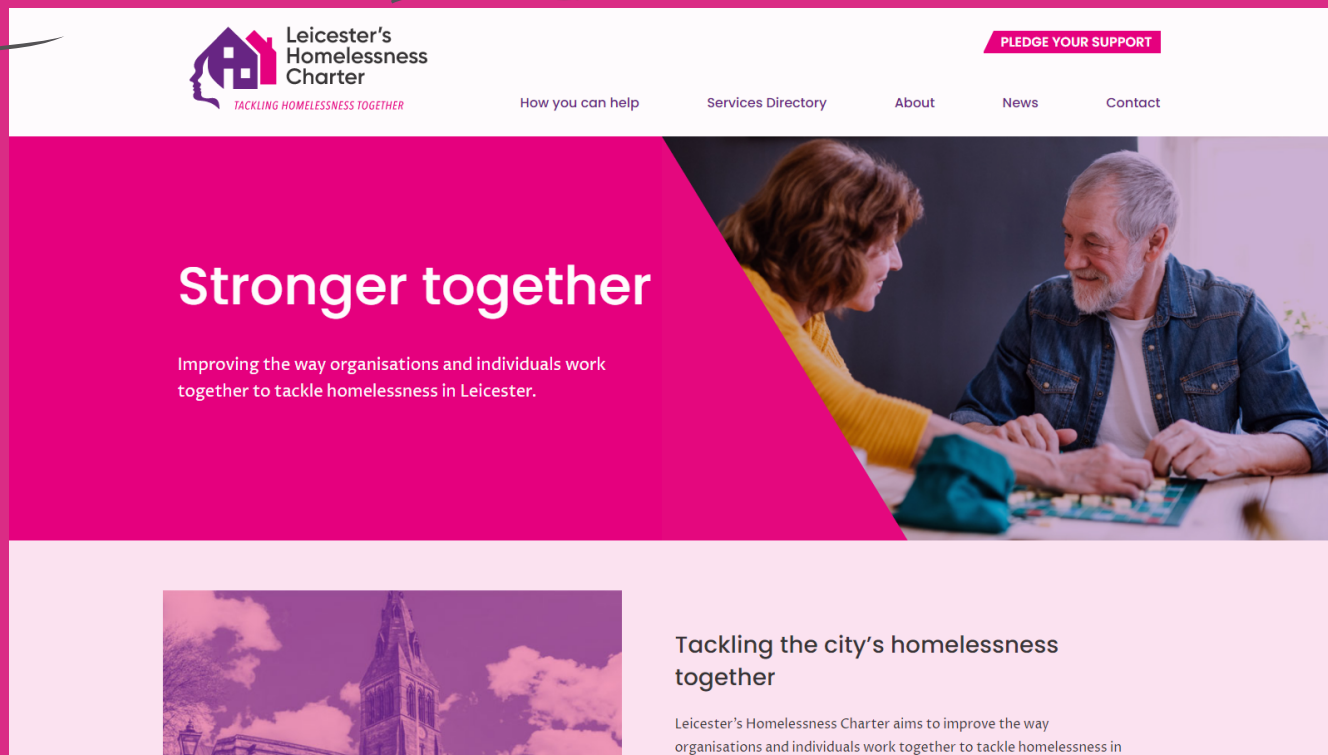


@LeicesterHomelessCharter



eilidh.stringer@togetherleicester.org.uk

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We are pleased to say that our [new website](#), including a services directory, went live earlier this month. It is designed as a resource for the local community to learn about initiatives related to homelessness and to find out more about Leicester's Homelessness Charter and how to pledge support. Over the coming months, we will be adding blog posts and interviews with local people who have experienced homelessness or those supporting someone who has. Please get in touch if you would like to contribute or if you would like to add or amend a services entry on [our directory](#).

Over the coming months we are inviting homelessness day services in Leicester to connect and engage through a series of conversations and workshops. We are delighted to be working with Tasmin Maitland of [Teasle Consulting](#) to bring organisations together and work towards a shared vision for Leicester's day services. If you haven't been contacted already and would like to be a part of this work please contact eilidh.stringer@togetherleicester.org.uk.

News and updates

- A new national research project, led by De Montfort University and University College London, is calling for families who are living in temporary accommodation, with children under the age of 5 years, or professionals who are supporting them to take part in a survey or interview. The study seeks to identify ways to help young children to recover from challenges caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. For more information please visit the [project website](#) or email kriss.fearon@dmu.ac.uk
- Dear Albert have held their first homelessness lived experience forum and would like to thank those that attended. The next forum will be held on Tuesday 4th May. Anyone with personal experience of homelessness is very welcome to attend. For more details please [get in touch with the team](#). You can also [download and share this flyer](#)
- SHARP are recruiting a Housing Advice Caseworker Covid 19 Response on a 6 month contract. [Find out more here](#)
- St Martin in the Fields Frontline Network are [offering training grants](#) to help frontline staff in the homelessness sector to access training. Individuals can apply for up to £500, and groups for up to £1000. Please contact Local Network Coordinator, Joe Coules for more information - Joseph.Coules@stmartinscharity.org.uk.

A closer look...

This month we're taking a closer look at Leicester's Homeless Mental Health Service (HMHS) and the vital work that the team do in the city. The team is recognised nationally as a model of excellence in various research articles and were awarded the Health & Social Care award - for 'Mental Health & Wellbeing' in 2008 - recognising their achievements in reducing health inequalities and ensuring ease of access to mental health services & support.

We spoke to Phil Johnson and Suzanne Elliot (pictured prior to the pandemic) who told us more about their work. We've included an excerpt below.

[To read the full interview please visit our website.](#)

Tell us about your roles and how you long you've been working with people who are homeless

I'm Phil Johnson and I've been employed as a mental health practitioner (MHP) and Nurse with the service since 2002, and took on the Senior MHP role in 2004, leading & supervising the MHP team in day to day operational management & service development.

I'm Suzanne Elliott, Clinical Psychologist with the HMHS and I have been with the team for 15 years.

My role is about supporting the psychological wellbeing of people who are homeless and also supporting staff teams to make their services more psychologically healthy for service users and workers. This means I offer direct 1:1 psychological therapy or neuropsychological assessment with people who are homeless, alongside lots of indirect work such as training, reflective practice and consultation for teams working in the city with people who are homeless. I also do a lot of work supporting agencies to work together collaboratively.

What does the HMHS offer for people in Leicester?

The HMHS offers people who are homeless in Leicester City individualised mental health assessment and support as well as access to mainstream NHS mental health services locally provided within Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT). We offer an 'open door' policy providing flexible access to anyone who is without permanent accommodation (or within 3 months of new tenancy commencement), and accept referrals from anyone meeting this criteria presenting with mental health issues and requiring further intervention. For those wanting to find out more specific details, we have a [flyer which can be downloaded and shared](#).

[Read the full interview here](#)



"Homelessness services across the country know Leicester to be a place of outstanding good practice in relation to homelessness; this is because all agencies supporting people who are homeless in Leicester work closely together. All agencies have a lot of respect for each other and are in regular contact with each other."

Suzanne Elliott