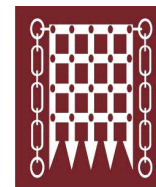


Westminster Social Policy Forum Keynote Seminar: Implementing the Homelessness Reduction Act and what next for homelessness policy?

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 18th January 2018

Venue: Central London

Draft agenda subject to change



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- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 - 9.30 **The vision for homelessness reduction**
Bob Blackman MP, Sponsor, Homelessness Reduction Act
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 - 9.40 **Use of resources to prevent and reduce homelessness - key findings from the NAO**
Aileen Murphie, Director, DCLG & Local Government Value for Money, National Audit Office
- 9.40 - 9.50 **Lessons learnt from the Housing (Wales) Act and examples of best practice**
Senior speaker to be confirmed
- 9.50 - 10.35 **Challenges for implementing the Homelessness Reduction Act: funding, partnerships and data collection**
With the Homelessness Reduction Act giving local authorities statutory duties to prevent and reduce homelessness from April 2018, how are councils preparing and what more needs to be done to address key issues for implementation, such as ensuring adequate resources are allocated to meet new legal responsibilities? What are the early indications for the Flexible Homelessness Support Grant in giving councils greater freedom to support a wider range of preventative services, and in addition to Government 'new burdens' funding outlined by the Minister for Local Government, what other funding and investment options should be considered to support implementation of the Act? What impact will the Act have on local authority housing companies between councils, housing associations, investors and other developers? How should data collection be changed so that the Government and local authorities can monitor the operation and outcomes of preventative measures and interventions as part of new duties?
Liz Davies, Barrister, Garden Court Chambers
Dominic Williamson, Executive Director of Strategy and Policy, St Mungo's
Senior representative, local authority
Questions and comments from the floor with **Aileen Murphie**, Director, DCLG & Local Government Value for Money, National Audit Office and senior speaker to be confirmed
- 10.35 - 10.40 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.40 - 11.10 Coffee
- 11.10 - 11.15 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.15 - 11.45 **Duty to refer and coordinating with other public authorities**
With the Government expected to set out which public bodies will have a duty to refer anyone homeless or threatened with homelessness to local authorities, what more needs to be done to prepare for meeting new requirements?
Dr Pippa Medcalf, Acute Physician, Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Lead for Homeless Health, Royal College of Physicians
Senior representative, police
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 - 12.15 **Further measures to prevent and reduce homelessness - next steps, new models and different approaches**
International case study: the potential for Housing First
Juha Kaakinen, Chief Executive, Y-Foundation, Finland
Key issues for the third sector in service delivery
Senior representative, third sector
The developing role of the private rented sector: affordable rent, utilising empty homes and eviction advice
Richard Lambert, Chief Executive, National Landlords Association
- 12.15 - 12.30 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 - 12.55 **The future for homelessness policy**
Val Keen, Head of Implementation, Homelessness Reduction Act, Department for Communities and Local Government
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Social Policy Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sam Dolton, Senior Producer, Westminster Social Policy Forum