

Getting it Real Getting it Right

involving service users in housing options



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SHIEN is the Scottish Homelessness Involvement & Empowerment Network.

With investment from Scottish Government, SHIEN works with over 800 partners to ensure that people with lived experience of homelessness can be involved in the decisions that affect them.

The Conference

• What is Housing Options?

All local authority areas in Scotland are now developing a new way of understanding and responding to the housing needs of local people. 'Housing Options' is about combining a person's legal rights to a home with a broader look at all the possible options open to them. This could include social or private renting, home ownership or help to stay where they are.

• What are people saying about it?

That it will provide a fuller range of choices, while making sure that people have clear, impartial advice and be empowered to find the option that is right for them. Some people say that it will prevent homelessness, by supporting households with problems much earlier. Others say that it will only 'gatekeep' - prevent people who are homeless from using their right to a tenancy in the social rented sector (a permanent 'council' or 'housing association' flat or house).

• Who is this FREE event for?

For everyone who has an interest in housing and homelessness across Scotland and who wants to create the opportunity for people with *lived experience of homelessness* to produce a Scottish 'Housing Options' model *alongside* practitioners and policy makers.

We are also delighted to welcome HOPE to our conference; an active new European network led by people who've experienced homelessness. HOPE are interested in meeting and working with people from Scotland who are affected by homelessness.

• What will happen on the day?

'Getting it Real' will start with some scene-setting and a drama performance, followed by the big Housing Options debate! The panel for this debate will include service users, front line staff, managers and planners - as well as taking any comments or questions from the floor.

Then it's over to you - in your roundtable discussions we have created an open space for you to comment, inform, share perspectives and raise issues that you feel should be prioritised through an equal and open process.

Our 'Shared Solutions' method minimises delegates being 'talked at' and maximises opportunities for equal sharing and learning. The atmosphere is relaxed and informal, makes information as accessible as possible for all, provides space for networking, a nice lunch and a 'fun' element to the day. *We look forward to seeing you!*

The Programme

10.00 - 10.15

REGISTRATION & COFFEE

10.15 - 10.25

Stephanie Plotnikoff

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

SHIEN Coordinator
Glasgow Homelessness Network

10.25 - 10.35:

Marion Gibbs

WHAT IS HOUSING OPTIONS?

Homelessness Team Leader
Scottish Government

10.35 - 11.00:

UNHEARD VOICES

- Drama Performance

11.00 - 11.30:

HOUSING OPTIONS - THE DEBATE!

Panel Discussion, with policy makers, practitioners, service users and you...

11.30 - 11.45:

REFRESHMENTS & EXHIBITIONS

11.45 - 12.30:

SHARED SOLUTIONS:
roundtable discussion

12.30 - 12.45:

FEEDBACK

12.45 - 12.55:

HOPE (HOmeless PEople)

An introduction to a new network that is solely led by people with experience of homelessness across Europe.

12.55 - 13.35:

LUNCH & EXHIBITIONS

13.35 - 13.40:

Welcome Back

13.40 - 14.15:

SHARED SOLUTIONS:
roundtable discussion

14.15 - 14.30:

REFRESHMENTS & EXHIBITIONS

14.30 - 15.10:

Feedback & Open Discussion

15.10 - 15.25:

It's Just a Bit of Fun...

15.30

CONFERENCE CLOSE

The Booking Form

First Name: _____

Surname: _____

Position: _____

Organisation: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Tel: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Are you (please tick):

A Service User

Front line staff

A Service Manager

Policy/Strategy

Please tick if you are a SHIEN Subscriber. SHIEN subscribers are guaranteed a place at the conference.

Please tick if you have any special access, communication or dietary requirements (specify):

This event provides an excellent opportunity for service users to influence national policy and local practice on this theme.

We kindly invite staff in services to ensure that the people using their service are aware of this event and supported and encouraged to attend. Public transport travel expenses for service users will be fully reimbursed with a receipt.

The Small Print!

To reserve your place at *Getting it Real* please **book online** at: www.ghn.org.uk/shien/conf2012

Or you can complete and return this form to:

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Tel: **0141 276 4825**
Email: janice@ghn.org.uk

This form may also be faxed to: **0141 276 4821**

Please note that all conference bookings will be confirmed by email.

CANCELLATION POLICY

SHIEN recognises that delegates may have to cancel their bookings. If such a situation arises, we appreciate notice at your earliest convenience.

SHIEN free events are popular and oversubscribed and we work to allocate cancelled bookings to delegates on the waiting list right up to the day of the event. To support this, a cancellation fee of £20 will be applied where 48 hours notice has not been given for your cancelled booking. This does not apply to service users who are unable to attend.

