



The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP
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Dear Chancellor,

Re: Housing First: Ensuring a Home for All in the Spending Review

During the pandemic, over 37,000 people were helped off the streets or out of precarious situations into safe emergency accommodation. For the first time in years, the number of people sleeping rough dropped dramatically. By giving people their own room as a safe place to sleep, people engaged with support - often for the first time in a long while - putting them on the best footing to find a secure home and move on from homelessness.

But supporting people off the streets was just one piece of the puzzle in what we know is needed to tackle one of the greatest social injustices of our time. Everyone In has been an extraordinary effort of humanity and determination to keep everyone safe during the pandemic. **But it has not ended rough sleeping or other forms of homelessness. There is still work to be done to make this a reality.**

With your focus now on recovery, this must include making serious progress towards ending rough sleeping. Helping people into stable long-term homes - not hotel rooms – and giving them the support needed to keep their home is central to this. Otherwise, we'll see people back on the streets or finding themselves moving from one cramped hostel to the next.

Housing First is one of the most important innovations in tackling homelessness of the last few decades. For people with a range of support needs, and who have a long history of homelessness, it's proven to work. Evidence from across the UK and internationally shows it has an 80% success



rate overall, higher even in many places. We need around 16,450 Housing First places in England, but right now there is a big shortfall with only around 2,000 Housing First places available.

In the long term, Housing First also saves us money. It stops people getting stuck in our homelessness system or in our emergency health services such as A&E because there's nowhere else to go. It means for every £1 invested in Housing First, Government will save £1.24.

We fully support the success of the Housing First programme as a bold solution to ending rough sleeping in this country and ask that you prioritise making this available to everyone in England who needs it in this Autumn's Spending Review.

We look forward to seeing Government action on expanding the availability of Housing First, and with it, an end to people living on our streets.

Yours sincerely,