Facilitator notes



The CIH presidential campaign for 2021-2022 is called Homeful and is led by CIH president, Jo Richardson.

Homeful is all about exploring housing-led approaches to resolving and preventing homelessness, not only street homelessness but all circumstances of precarious, unaffordable or unsustainable housing, particularly in the current context of growth in use of temporary accommodation.

The Homeful research project is working directly with charities and organisations to listen to the voices of people with experience of homelessness.

What you're doing

Today's workshop is a chance for you to bring together voices to help towards the Homeful action research project.

- The workshop has been developed as a crucial part of the project to give people a chance to have their say
- You'll take part in a series of short exercises which help you to think deeply about homelessness and the meaning of home
- The exercises are simple and discussion based so everyone can take part
- We will record the responses as we go through and these will be returned to the Homeful team after the workshop
- Your thoughts and feedback will be anonymous we won't be recording any personal information or anything that could identify you.

The workshop

- There are six questions that we'd like you to think about and answer to help inform the Homeful action research
- You can answer these in the form of words/short phrases on your Homeful workshop worksheets
- Remember, this is about your opinion there is no right answer, only yours
- You don't need to know a lot about homelessness or housing, you just need to give your opinion
- Try as far as possible to answer only the question you are on, and not the ones that will come further in the session
- While context is important, please consider the questions based on where we are today.

After the workshop

Once the workshop is complete, your workshop facilitator will send all the completed Homeful workshop worksheets to homeful@dmu.ac.uk. All responses should be anonymous, so please ensure there is no identifying information on any of these.

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The questions

What does 'home' mean to you?

Prompt participants to think beyond security and shelter and more about what home allows them to be and do

- In your group, discuss and think about answers to this question
- Identify up to five words/short phrases you think best answer the question you have 10 minutes
- Once you have agreed these, please record your answers on your Homeful workshop worksheets.

After the 10 minutes is up, ask the group to feedback their answers. Note the answers on a master Homeful workshop worksheet that you will send to us after the workshop.

When you hear the word 'homeless' what do you see?

You might encourage participants to draw, or to jot down key phrases and images. After a while, prompt participants to think beyond street homelessness

- In your group, discuss and think about answers to this question
- Identify up to five words/short phrases you think best answer the question you have 10 minutes
- Once you have agreed these, please record your answers on your Homeful workshop worksheets.

After the 10 minutes is up, ask the group to feedback their answers to you and the whole group. Again, note the answers on the master Homeful workshop worksheet.

Are there any essential social issues which you think cause homelessness or make it worse? Please list these.

These might be any social issues - for example a current ongoing debate is the cost of living crisis and the unequal effects - see further Jack Monroe on the Vimes Boots index.

- In your group, discuss and think about answers to this question
- Identify up to five words/short phrases you think best answer the question you have 10 minutes
- Once you have agreed these, please record your answers on your Homeful workshop worksheets.

After the 10 minutes is up, ask the group to feedback their answers to you and the whole group. Again, note the answers on the master Homeful workshop worksheet.

What does 'resolving homelessness' mean to you? And what measure would you use to describe this?

Please note this is a two-part question

- In your group, discuss and think about answers to this question
- Identify up to five words/short phrases you think best answer the question you have 10 minutes
- Once you have agreed these, please record your answers on your Homeful workshop worksheets.

After the 10 minutes is up, ask the group to feedback their answers to you and the whole group. Again, note the answers on the master Homeful workshop worksheet.

Can you share your thoughts on the systemic changes which need to be made to resolve all homelessness (not only rough sleeping)?

It will be particularly interesting to think about interdisciplinary change, beyond the housing sector - for example in health, education, employment and criminal justice.

- In your group, discuss and think about answers to this question
- Identify up to five words/short phrases you think best answer the question you have 10 minutes
- Once you have agreed these, please record your answers on your Homeful workshop worksheets.

After the 10 minutes is up, ask the group to feedback their answers to you and the whole group. Again, note the answers on the master Homeful workshop worksheet.

How do you think we can all work towards preventing homelessness in the future?

- In your group, discuss and think about answers to this question
- Identify up to five words/short phrases you think best answer the question you have 10 minutes
- Once you have agreed these, please record your answers on your Homeful workshop worksheets.

After the 10 minutes is up, ask the group to feedback their answers to you and the whole group. Again, note the answers on the master Homeful workshop worksheet.

