

Having and Keeping a Home: follow-up Equal Opportunities Committee call for views

In September 2012, the Equal Opportunities Committee published its report *Having and Keeping a Home: steps to preventing homelessness among young people*. The Scottish Government responded and has provided updates expressing its continued commitment to tackling youth homelessness.

The Committee would like to find out how things have changed since the report's publications, and is keen to hear from young people who have experienced homelessness, local authorities, voluntary organisations and other stakeholders involved in preventing and managing youth homelessness.

You may wish to structure your response around any of the following questions that are relevant to you—

- What is your experience or involvement with youth homelessness?
- Is there more support available, for instance mediation, counselling, supported accommodation or funding?
- How have things changed for young people experiencing homelessness since 2012?
- Are there additional issues for young people who are leaving care?
- What new approaches have been introduced, and how effective have they been?
- How well is the Housing Options approach working towards reducing instances of youth homelessness?
- Has the number of young people presenting as homeless changed?
- Has there been any changes to funding for voluntary organisations?
- How might the implementation of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Bill help to tackle youth homelessness?
- Is the Getting it Right for Every Child helping schools and local authorities to tackle youth homelessness?

We invite submissions, in writing, **by Friday, 23 May 2014.**

Please—

- **Structure your response using the themes and questions above** – if you wish to add any further issues, use additional headings at the end of your response.
- **Read the [policy on treatment of written evidence by subject and mandatory committees](#)** before sending your submission.
- **Try not to exceed 6 sides of A4.**
- **Send submissions by email** to equal.opportunities@scottish.parliament.uk or **by post** c/o the Clerk, Equal Opportunities Committee, TG.01, The Scottish Parliament, EDINBURGH, EH99 1SP.
- **Contact us** with any queries, by email or by post as above or by telephone on 0131 348 5408.