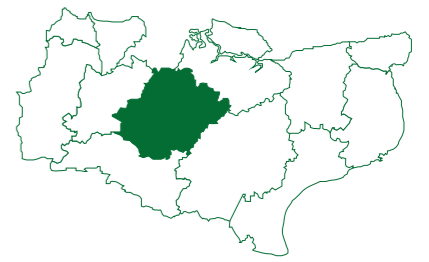


Housing First in Maidstone



Impact and social return on investment



About Housing First

Housing First is an internationally recognised approach that helps people who struggle to engage with typical homelessness services and have often been on the streets for years.

People are moved straight into their own home where they can eventually start to address other issues they are facing such as mental ill health or drug or alcohol dependency.

Housing First differs from other supported housing models because people do not have to prove they are ready for independent living. No conditions are placed on them, other than a willingness to engage with their support worker.

Housing First provides long-term support and recognises that if people feel safe and included, they will, in their own time, start to recover and make positive choices about how they live their life.

Our project

Maidstone Housing First is a successful collaboration between Porchlight, Maidstone Borough Council and Golding Homes.

Our report demonstrates the service's impact on individuals, in numbers and the forecasted financial savings.

To read the full report, contact headoffice@porchlight.org.uk

Case study

David moved in with a 17-year history of rough sleeping, offending behaviour and long-term drug and alcohol use.

After 18 months of living in his home, David has reconnected with his family. He is receiving benefits and paying his own bills.


David has addressed his dependence problems and has stopped committing crime. He has engaged with physical and mental health services and is getting the treatment he needs. David is starting to live independently and wants to work in the building trade.




What's been achieved

Since December 2018, Maidstone Housing First has intensively supported **10 people** who have multiple complex needs and have experienced rough sleeping on more than one occasion




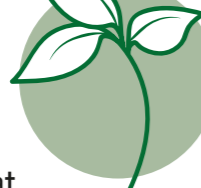
 Everyone has experienced an **improvement in their physical health**

Everyone who used drugs and/or alcohol has accessed the right support which has led to **4 people reducing use** and **3 stopping use**

 The **impact on A&E has greatly decreased** with only one person needing emergency medical treatment since being housed

Everyone supported has moved away from the rough sleeping community and begun to **build connections to their local community**

 So far, **everyone has maintained their tenancy** and not returned to rough sleeping

3 people  **have stabilised their lives** to the point where they feel that they can decrease the support needed

 Previous **offending behaviour** has fallen by **99%**

The financial savings

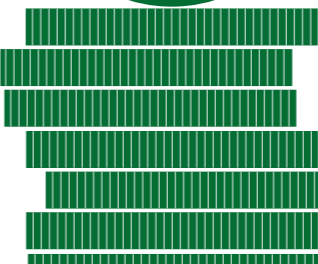
For every £1 spent on this project, there is a saving or social return of £13.24

Social Return on Investment (SROI) is a measurement tool that helps organisations to understand and quantify the social, environmental and economic value they are creating.

We used two calculations to work out the social return for our service.

1. Savings on reducing A&E visits, inpatient care and police interventions such as custody incidents.
2. The difference in the level of crime each person was committing in relation to their drug and alcohol use before and during Housing First.

Together they represent a total saving to society of £13.24 for every £1 we spend on Housing First.



“ I've seen people build homes, establish healthy relationships with their families, I've seen people's mental and physical health improve. Yes, the road is always full of ups and downs, relapses and recovery, but through it all the key thing is to support someone on their journey of self-reconnection rather than direct them to where you think they should be. ”

Housing First support worker

Porchlight 



golding homes