



Expert Link

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Expert Link – Humanity, Honesty, Hope





Who we are

We are a peer led organisation championing the voice of people with lived experience of multiple disadvantages, including homelessness, mental health issues, substance misuse, offending and domestic violence and abuse.

Our purpose is to inspire, support and champion co-production, with the voices of people with lived experience at our heart.

We believe in humanity and the potential of all people. When we come from a place of honesty, we can create the change that we want to see and bring hope into our world.



And more!





Why it matters?

- Spots issues earlier
- Builds trust and stronger relationship
- Improves policy, practice and communication
- Helps services understand what support actually feels like
- Reduces the gap between intention and experience
- Impact on individuals





What good resident involvement looks like in SH

- Residents shaping support, standards and decisions
- Accessible ways to take part
- Paid/recognised involvement
- Safe, trauma-informed spaces
- Feedback loops



Supported Housing: What Good Looks Like

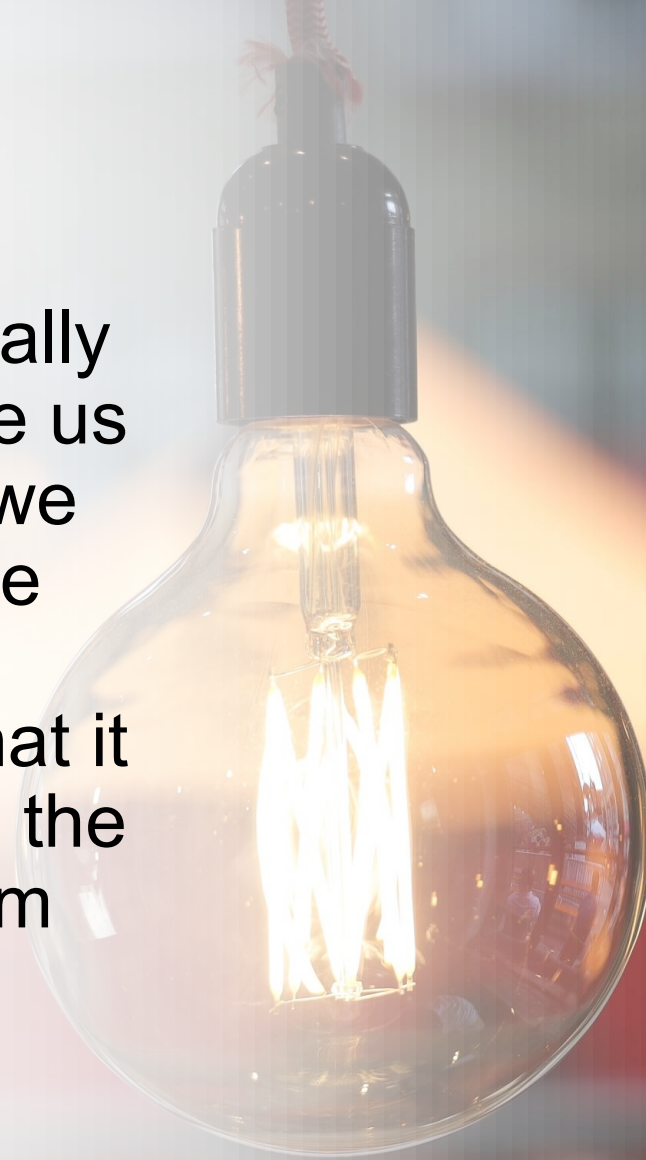
*A guide for
Residents*

National Expert Influencing Forum



“...for me and for my team it really helped us with our work, to give us a bit of reassurance that what we were proposing to do was at the right sort of level, that it was capturing the right elements, that it did mean stuff to residents and the information that that we got from you all, it was really helpful because it helped to refine and polish the standards”

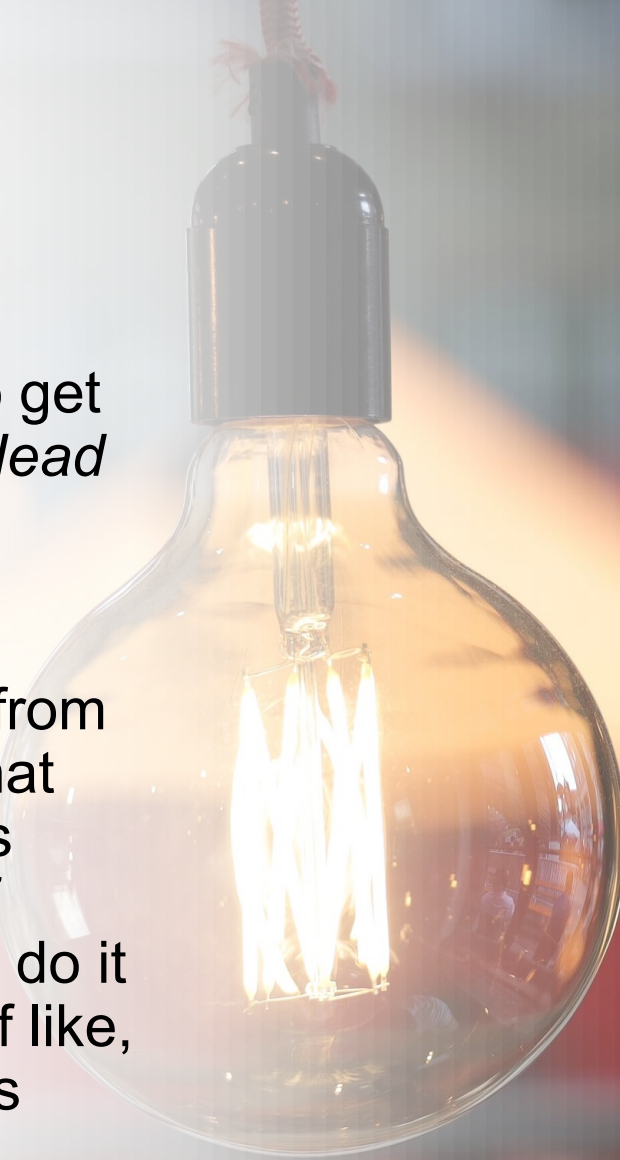
- *Senior Policy Advisor MHCLG*





“It would have taken people who hadn't experienced that, a much longer time, to get to a less good position.” – *Department Head MHCLG*

“The reason why this is exciting for me, from like a hard civil servant perspective, is that our decisions, our policy development, is likely to be better. Yeah, there are lots of other reasons, as to why else you would do it but we need to get away from this sort of like, ‘It's a nice to have type thing.’ It's just, it's going to be better. So, it's a no-brainer.”
- *Senior Evidence Policy Team MHCLG*





What providers can do next

- Be clear what is genuinely open to influence
- Involve residents early
- Resource it properly
- Support people to take part safely
- Feed back honestly on what changed and what could not





Questions

Any questions?

“It would have taken people who hadn't experienced that, a much longer time, to get to a less good position.”

– *Department Head MHCLG*

**If you would like to explore
co-production further please email me:
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