

PRODEC event – Solutions to homelessness for mobile EU citizens

Event overview

[PRODEC](#) is a European project focused on protecting the rights of destitute EU mobile citizens. The aims of the project over the next two years include identifying existing good practice where services support destitute mobile EU citizens and working with local authorities to address homelessness among mobile EU citizens.

This event will bring together local authorities from across Europe and share examples of projects that are working with mobile EU citizens who are homeless to defend their rights, support them into employment and find ways out of homelessness.

The event will take place over two days:

- **Roundtable Discussion:** bringing together European local authority delegates, London local authorities and organisations working with EU migrant homeless people to share examples of good practice, discuss challenges and potential solutions - with breakout sessions to discuss identified issues in more depth.
- **Study Visit:** European local authority delegates will visit Croydon Skylight and meet with LB Croydon to discuss the Migrant Employment and Accommodation Service project.

The event will focus on bridging the gap between the legal framework which confers EU citizens' rights and the difficulties, in practice, to realise those rights and entitlements, such as accessing housing assistance, welfare benefits and any other support they might need.

The interpretation of the notion of “worker” is central to the enjoyment of EU free movement rights by destitute mobile EU citizens. However, there is evidence of a trend towards a narrow interpretation of “genuine and effective” employment, which is used to exclude mobile EU citizens engaged in low-wage jobs or precarious working conditions from claiming the entitlements they should get as workers. Without these, it makes it very difficult to find a way out of homelessness.

In the UK, the response to EU citizens sleeping rough has mostly been based on reconnection or enforcement. However, some projects are taking a different approach and working with people to help them realise their rights.

Aims and objectives

- Sharing best practice across Europe – providing opportunities for local authorities to learn from each other.
- Encouraging a different approach to ending rough sleeping for mobile EU citizens – shifting from reconnection and enforcement approach to a focus on employment and support.

Draft agenda

Monday 9 December, 2-5pm – Presentations and discussion

Time	Allocation	Session	Notes and speaker/s
2pm	10 mins	Introduction/ opening remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Context of Brexit and how people's rights are changing. - Vulnerability to exploitation / modern slavery and the need for support & engagement. - Contrast between enforcement and support approaches.
2:10pm	40 mins	Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FEANTSA – overview of PRODEC project and notion of 'worker' - PILC – rights- based approach - Camden Council/Roma Support Group – Routes off the Streets project - Croydon Council/Crisis – MEAS project, employment support - FLEX/Westminster Council – Labour exploitation, modern slavery
2:50pm	30 mins	Discussion and Q&A	
3:20pm	20 mins	Break	
3:40pm	60 mins	Breakout sessions to focus on topics in more detail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employment support - Working with hard to reach groups - Labour exploitation
4:40pm	20 mins	Reflections on breakout sessions and closing remarks	

Tuesday 10 December, 10am-1pm – Study visit to Croydon Skylight

Time	Allocation	Session	Notes and speaker/s
		Tour of the Skylight	
		Presentation of MEAS project	
		Discussion and Q&A	

Suggested invite list

Organisation	Job
Connection St Martin's	Migration Policy and Services Coordinator
Homeless Link	Assistant Director, Practice and Partnerships
St Mungo's	Head of Policy, Campaigns and Research

St Mungo's	Head of Services (rough sleepers and migrants)
Thames Reach	
Glass Door	Migrant project coordinator
Praxis	Head of Services
Amnesty International	
Eastern European Resource Centre	CEO
Aire Centre	Director
FLEX	Networks & LEAG Officer
The Passage	Anti-slavery coordinator
RBKC	Modern Slavery & Exploitation Partnerships and Community Coordinator for the London Boroughs of Westminster, Hammersmith and Fulham, and Kensington and Chelsea
Croydon	Lead co-ordinator, Gateway Rough Sleeping and Homelessness Services
Croydon	Community Resources Delivery Lead, Rough Sleepers
Brent	
Luton	
LCR / Liverpool	
Bedford	
Milton Keynes	
London Councils	Principal Policy and Project Officer
GLA	Senior Policy Officer - Migration and Refugees
GLA	Senior Project and Policy Officer, Equality and Fairness team
GLA	Rough Sleeping Lead Manager
LGA	Homelessness policy lead
MHCLG	Rough Sleeping and Homelessness Advisor