

Lorraine Brown:	<p>Question for Carin</p> <p>What is the level of literacy amongst rural homeless? Can they read posters for instance or are more verbal/personal contacts needed?</p> <p>I guess this leads to the question is there a need for access to education amongst the homeless?</p>
Carin (she/her):	<p>Thank you for this question. I think it's important to think about homelessness as an issue that can affect anyone, and to remember that there will be many people around us quietly experiencing issues with finances, poverty, family breakdowns and debt. The definition of homelessness is broad and incorporates those at risk of homelessness as well.</p> <p>Therefore any information provided needs to be targeted not only to rough sleepers, but also to members in the community experiencing other forms of homelessness, for example sofa surfing, precarious housing, risk of eviction, unsafe/unsuitable housing, and so on.</p> <p>That's the long way of me saying that yes, there will be people lacking literacy and needing translation services, but there will be many who are very able to read leaflets and find information/signposting very useful.</p>
Lorraine Brown:	<p>Thanks Carin, my experience was in working with adolescence, many of who struggled with education and have poor literacy so wondered how this translated into the wider picture. So many thanks for your answer - and also for your work and presentation.</p>
Keith Smith: :	<p>In Wisbech we have a worker to help people access training and employment skills. A number of our clients are illiterate.</p> <p>We also support a number of migrant workers who do not have English as their first language. We now employ 5 staff from different ethnic backgrounds who can speak Russian, Polish, Lithuanian, Rumanian and other eastern European languages. So we translate a lot of documents. Goggle translate is now also very good.</p>
Carla Quenet	<p>The Methodist Church also offers Mental Health First Aid training at a reduced rate.</p>
Carin (she/her):	<p>Regarding 'warm spaces', we had a huge amount of positive feedback from people experiencing homelessness and poverty using these spaces.</p>
David Sutherland - Suffolk:	<p>On of the things that shocked me coming to a rural area from an urban area (Manchester) was the giving out of tents - and even being sent individuals by probation officers to obtain tents, in Manchester a tent was seen as extremely dangerous whereas in rural they seem more acceptable</p>
Caroline Hewlett:	<p>There are many interconnected issues - yes, second homes...but also the availability of sustainable work that is better paid than minimum wage, which means that affordable housing is really affordable.</p>

Rosemary Radcliffe:	There is a tension between building new affordable homes, and maintaining the green belt. Is there a way forward?
OwenCarney:	Some wealthy near me clubbed together to buy a house for refugees. They rented the house, keeping the property as an investment. Seemed to be a clever use of wealth
Lorraine Brown:	<p>2nd homes are creating a huge divide in this area.(Peak Park) Many families don't want to leave the village but can't afford the housing. Our villages are very small and therefor have limited housing stock. On the other hand some villages seem to accept that if the holiday cottage is held by someone in the village and it is allowing them to stay local because it provides an income then it's acceptable.</p> <p>Interesting that 2nd homes in Wales are now charged higher rates!</p>
David Sutherland - Suffolk:	Both Hope into Action (https://www.hopeintoaction.org.uk/) and Green Pastures are valuable Christian based providers of accommodation for this need
Carin (she/her):	<p>www.research.kent.ac.uk/rural-homelessness</p> <p>https://englishrural.org.uk/about-us/research/rural-homelessness-counts-coalition/</p> <p>C.Tunaker@kent.ac.uk</p>
Lorraine Brown:	<p>Breakout Group Questions</p> <p>Reflect on what you have heard. Name one thing you've heard that stands out? What are you inspired to do? What starting actions can you do in your own community?</p>