



Call for Proposals

Title: The scope of rural homelessness in Perth and Kinross and recommendations to address identified challenges

Background

Churches Action for the Homeless (CATH) is a long established Charity working in the field of homelessness in the Perth and Kinross area. CATH started in 1991 by providing a soup kitchen for people experiencing street homelessness.

Since then the organisation has grown to provide a range of services from crisis support to supporting people in their recovery. Last year we helped over 700 Households across Perth and Kinross.

CATH has a major remit in both the prevention and alleviation of homelessness and poor housing. Our service provision has evolved over the years in response to changing need. We are concerned that the true nature of homelessness in rural areas is not recognised. Consequently, we wish to establish the scope of homelessness or threat of homelessness in the rural areas of Perth and Kinross to assist forward planning for CATH and our potential partners in response to this need.

Goal of the Project

The goal of the project is twofold. Firstly, to scope the extent of homelessness across rural Perth and Kinross and secondly, to recommend solutions to the identified issues.

Outcomes

- An understanding of the scale of homelessness in rural Perth and Kinross: Whom does it affect; what form does it take; what is its prevalence; does it differ across the area; and what is the role of temporary accommodation in its immediate alleviation?
- Insight into the causes of homelessness in rural PKC.
- A number of recommendations to reduce homelessness and the risk of homelessness in rural Perth and Kinross. Those should be specific to particular areas, where necessary, and costed with suggested timescales.

What is in scope

The kinds of activity we imagine would be involved in this work include:

- Interview people living in the areas who have either become homeless or are at significant risk of doing so.
- Interview relevant housing officials and councillors within Perth and Kinross Council to understand the situation from the council's perspective.
- Interview local community councils, third sector and community organisations etc. to understand homelessness issues in local areas
- To conduct desk research into existing knowledge of homelessness across rural and remote rural Scotland identifying examples of good and/or innovative practice.
- To participate in the dissemination of the report including a limited number of presentations.

The kinds of experience and skills we will be looking for in our selection for a partner for this work:

- Knowledge of the housing/homelessness sector in Scotland – including ability to design solutions to identified issues. Preferably with a track record in analysing homelessness in a rural context
- Ability to undertake qualitative research
- Experience of undertaking similar projects in the past.
- Ability to work sensitively and constructively with organisations that are delivering services that are already under pressure and/or individuals with experience of homelessness.

General guidelines

Project Timescale	3 months
Project Budget	£25,000 including VAT.
Contact for administrative and budget queries	Richard Howat
Deadline for submission	November 30 th 2023
Shortlisting Interviews (if required)	December 7 th 2023
Notification of decision	December 21 st 2023
Start of project (or as negotiated)	Monday January 8 th 2024
Report due to CATH	April 8 th 2024
Please submit applications via email to: r.howat@cath-org.co.uk	

Application process

If you decide to apply, please send us a proposal of no more than 3 pages setting out:

- Your proposed approach to addressing this brief
- Your views on the challenges and risks of this project
- What experience you bring to the work
- A breakdown of your costs that help us to understand what we're paying for
- Contact information for two referees