
London Destitution Advice Network

16 June 2015, 3-5pm

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, 5th Floor, Kings Place, 90 York Way, N1 9AG

1. Welcome and apologies

2. Matters arising

3. Agency news roundup

Members' updates about their organisation and any changes to their services.

4. The meaning of vulnerability and priority need – Housing Act 1996

Chris Morris – Managing Solicitor, SHELTER

Chris will explain the findings and implications of the judgment in the case of *Hotak and ors v LB Southwark* [2015] USKC 30 in which Shelter and Crisis intervened. This case considered the interpretation of the term vulnerable in the assessment of whether a homeless person is 'in priority need' of accommodation within the meaning of s189(1)(b) HA 1996.

5. Lewisham Council's No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) Model

Abi Brunswick – Director, Project 17 and Clare Jennings - Solicitor, Matthew Gold

Abi will speak about Lewisham Council's restrictive policy approach to applications for Social Services support under s17 Children Act 1989 from families with NRPF. She will explain Project 17's concerns and response to Lewisham's policy model, which culminated in Project 17 taking legal action by instructing Clare at Matthew Gold solicitors. Clare will describe the basis for her judicial review challenge of the Mayor of Lewisham's decision to extend for another year their 'robust front door approach' and eligibility criteria for families with NRPF seeking s17 support.

6. Asylum Support Update

Anna Dixie, ASAP

Anna will give an update on developments in asylum support.

7. A.O.B.