

# Working with Homeless Women with Complex Needs

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**St Mungo's**   
Opening doors for homeless people

# St Mungo's – Our Vision

Everyone should have:

- A decent place to live
- Something meaningful to do
- Satisfying relationships with other people
- The good health to enjoy them



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# Who are the Women we work with in St Mungo's?

- Demographics
- Needs and ability
- Housing and Resettlement
- Women in contact with the CJS

# Case Study – Sarah

- Childhood experience of severe parental violence
- Contact with the care system
- Substance Use
- 4 children
- Housing History
- A life lived subject to assault

# Women's pathway into homelessness

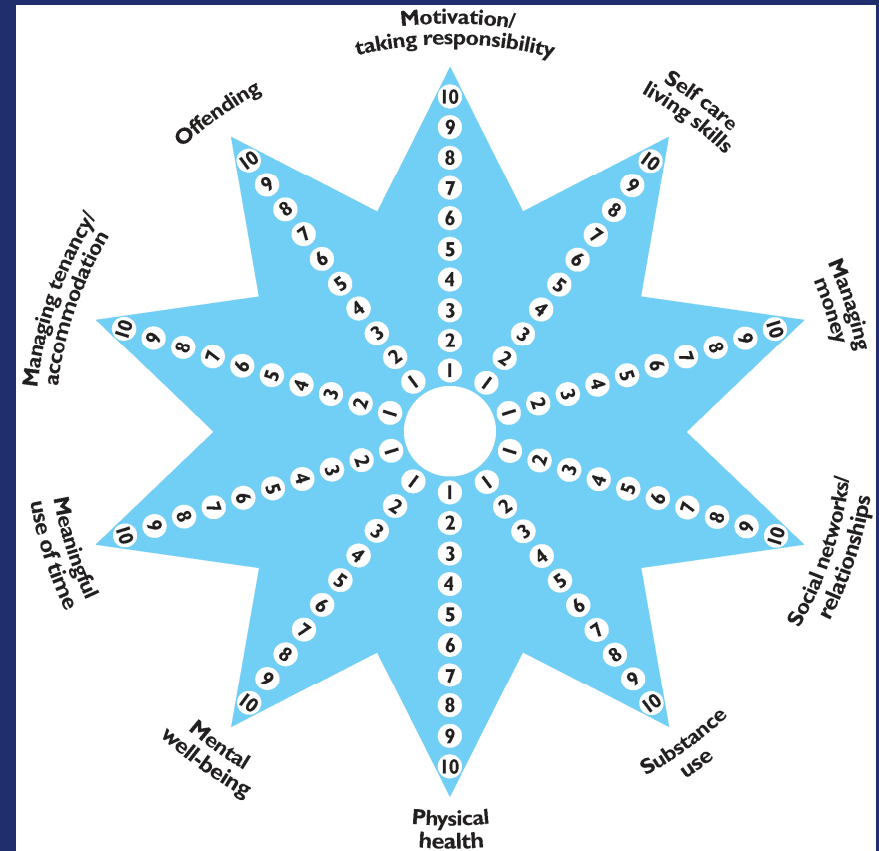
- History of domestic violence
- Traumatic loss of children/family
- Often not characterised by contact with homelessness/statutory services
- Childhood characterised by unstable housing and/or childhood /adolescent abuse

# Evidence and Research

- Outcomes Star Data
- Existing Sector Research
- Corston Review
- Better Deal For Women Peer Research
- Missing Families Report

# Using the Outcomes Star

- Measuring Soft Outcomes and distance travelled
- Can usefully provide an aggregate value for comparing across cohorts
- Mapped to the Cycle of Change



# Cohorts and starting point on the star

Cohort	Starting Point on Star
Older Male Drug Users	5.0
Younger Male Drug Users	4.9
Women	2.9
Clients Using alcohol	4.4
Dual Diagnosis (MH & SU)	4.1
Awaiting Flat	8.7





# Outcomes Star Research

- Women scored well in areas of self care and physical health
- The main areas of need were Substance Use, Social/Emotional, Offending history, Use of time
- Staffing Attitudes
- Mapping the Cycle of Change Against the Outcomes Star

# Better Deal for Women

- Complexity of needs
- Children and Families as the key recovery goal
- Accommodation recommendations
- Staff understanding and training

# Missing Families

- Addressing emotional and relationship problems
- The myth of the 'single homeless person'
- Approaching family work
- Developing relationships with children's social services

# What works - A Women's Strategy

- Lifeworks
- Psychologically Informed Thinking
- Chrysalis

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