



A Manifesto for Brighter
Futures and Safer Homes



Introduction

by Blue Triangle CEO Gary Meek

Together, we can build a system focused not just on crisis, but on brighter futures.

Across Scotland, people are being pushed into homelessness by trauma, poverty and a housing system under immense pressure. Too many end up in crisis because help came too late — and once they enter temporary accommodation, they can wait far too long for a home.

At Blue Triangle, we walk alongside more than 400 people every day. We see incredible resilience. We see people rebuild their confidence. And we see how the right support can turn fear into hope.

This manifesto calls for five actions Scotland can make now: stable funding, trauma-informed support, more homes, real partnership, and prevention that works.

If Scotland gets these right, people will spend less time stuck in temporary accommodation and receive the dignified, rights-based support they deserve.

Together, we can build a system focused not just on crisis, but on brighter futures.

Gary Meek, Blue Triangle Chief Executive



Five Actions for Brighter Futures and Safer Homes



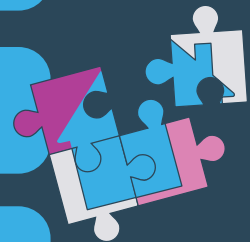
1) Make Trauma-Informed Housing and Support the National Standard

2) Guarantee Fair, Long-Term and Sustainable Funding for Homelessness Services



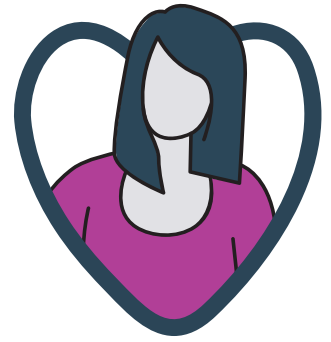
3) Deliver More Social and Affordable Homes Where They're Needed Most

4) Build Real Partnerships Across Housing, Health, Justice and Social Care



5) Make Homelessness Prevention a Practical Duty Across All Public Services

Five Actions for Brighter Futures and Safer Homes



1) Make Trauma-Informed Housing and Support the National Standard

Why this matters:

People in crisis need calm, safe, compassionate support. Trauma-informed practice helps people feel understood, reduces harm and improves long-term outcomes.

What we're asking for:

- A national trauma-informed framework covering all homelessness and housing support.
- A requirement for all commissioning and procurement of homelessness services to be trauma-informed by default, not optional.
- Training, supervision and reflective practice for staff.
- Accommodation standards focused on safety, dignity, privacy and stability.
- Stronger support for people with complex needs, including mental health and addiction support.
- Ensure all housing and accommodation types are properly recognised and considered, including supported accommodation, so they are not automatically classified as unsuitable temporary accommodation.

What this would do:

People would feel safer and settled much sooner, reducing crisis and preventing repeat homelessness.

2) Guarantee Fair, Long-Term and Sustainable Funding for Homelessness Services

Why this matters:

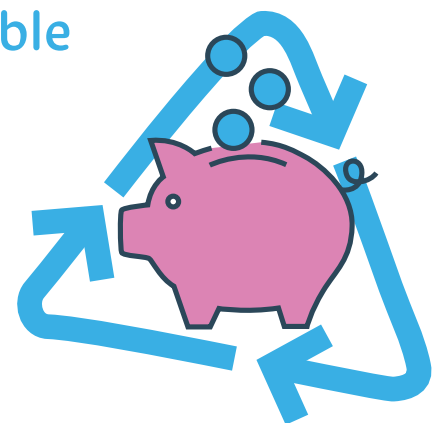
Fair pay for sector staff is vital, as short term, below cost funding fuels turnover and instability, weakening services and outcomes for people experiencing homelessness.

What we're asking for:

- Three-to five-year funding cycles that cover real costs, including workforce development and inflation.
- A National Supported Housing Fund to protect specialist services.
- Fair pay and conditions to retain skilled, compassionate staff.

What this would do:

Stable funding would protect vital services, keep experienced staff in post, and make sure people can move on from temporary accommodation without delays.





"I was eight months clean and sober on the 10th of July. I couldn't even get eight days before. I've secured my own house with Blue Triangle helping me, and they still continue to help me."

Blue Triangle Supported Person

Photo © Alasdair Watson

3) Deliver More Social and Affordable Homes Where They're Needed Most

Why this matters:

Without permanent homes, the housing system becomes blocked, leaving people who are ready to move on stuck and those entering crisis with nowhere suitable to go.

What we're asking for:

- Significantly increase social and affordable housing supply, especially one-bed and family-sized homes.
 - Provide targeted investment for areas with the highest homelessness rates, including Glasgow, which faces the greatest pressure.
 - Ring-fence funding for supported housing developments, so providers like Blue Triangle can expand where needed.
- Accelerate buy-backs and bring empty homes into use for prevention and move-on.
 - Remove bottlenecks in allocations to reduce time spent in temporary accommodation.

What this would do:

People would spend far less time stuck in temporary accommodation and be able to rebuild their lives in a stable, permanent home.



4) Build Real Partnerships Across Housing, Health, Justice and Social Care

Why this matters:

Homelessness spans housing, health, justice and social care. People need coordinated support.

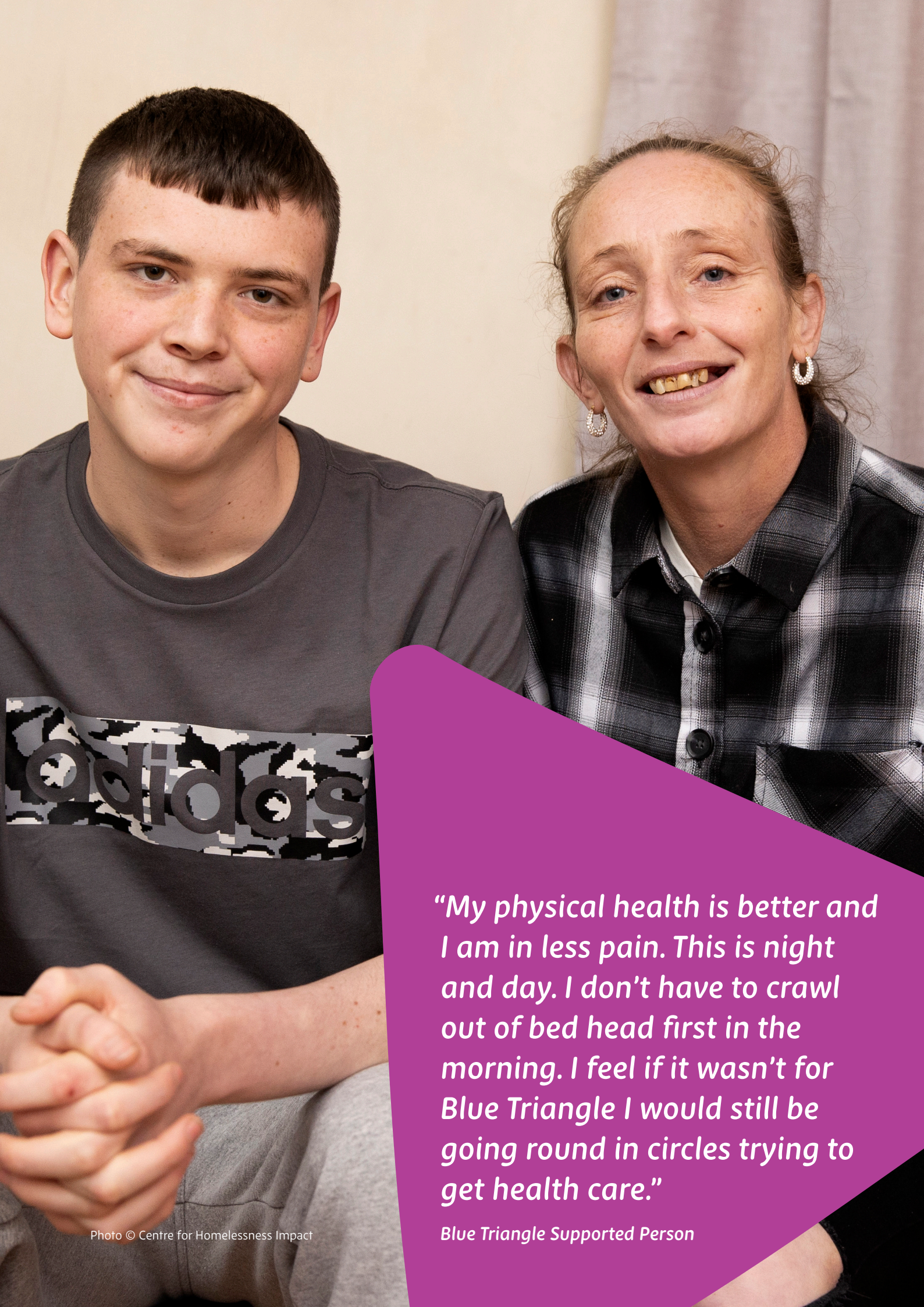
What we're asking for:

- Treat third-sector organisations as equal strategic partners, not just service providers.
 - Shared goals and data across services to close gaps.
 - Local multi-disciplinary teams supporting people in a holistic way.
 - Involve people with lived experience in designing, shaping and evaluating services.
- Services would work together, respond faster, and offer joined up support so people don't fall through gaps or face long waits.

What this would do:

Services would work together, respond faster, and offer joined up support so people don't fall through gaps or face long waits.





"My physical health is better and I am in less pain. This is night and day. I don't have to crawl out of bed head first in the morning. I feel if it wasn't for Blue Triangle I would still be going round in circles trying to get health care."

Blue Triangle Supported Person

5) Make Homelessness Prevention a Practical Duty Across All Public Services

Why this matters:

Most homelessness can be prevented if help arrives early enough.

What we're asking for:

- Fully implement the prevention duties in the Housing (Scotland) Act, ensuring every public body acts early to stop homelessness.
- Provide early help for people facing eviction, abuse, relationship breakdown or institutional discharge.
- Create clear referral pathways across schools, health, justice and housing.
- Fund expanded move-on options, including Housing First where appropriate.



What this would do:

People would get help early — before crisis — reducing the number of households becoming homeless in the first place.

What Success Looks Like

- ✓ People move on from temporary accommodation quicker.
- ✓ People with complex needs receive dignified, rights-based support.
- ✓ Services are stable, well-resourced and staffed by skilled, supported teams.
- ✓ Scotland shifts from crisis response to long-term prevention and recovery.



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