
Evolve outlines need for more government funding throughout the coronavirus pandemic

Evolve Housing + Support is a leading homelessness charity in London, providing housing and support to over 2,000 people each year. Evolve offers support tailored to meet people's individual needs, including housing, employment and skills training, mentoring and counselling. The organisation responds to the government's call for evidence answering the question, 'is the Government's financial response to coronavirus sufficient'?

Evolve Housing + Support is calling on the government to release more funding to the homelessness sector as demand rises for emergency provisions such as staffing issues grow.

Although we welcome the government's decision to increase funding to the homelessness sector during the coronavirus pandemic over the last month, it in no way meets the need that the sector is experiencing.

Staff shortages, sick pay and the increased needs of our service users continue to strain our budgets. In an organisation of 250 employees, we have in this short space of time experienced over 60 days of leave taken since 11 March due to Coronavirus related reasons. This does not take into account the high number of additional licenses for remote access that we have had to supply to enable all of our non-support staff to work from home, nor additional on-call costs to ensure that all of our support staff have full and additional management support throughout the duration to deal with this crisis.

We are facing potential future funding cuts, as well as public and corporate fundraising being strained due to job losses and huge sectors going into financial difficulty.

As a charity we already work to constrained budget's to ensure we provide the most to the people we help.

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