

MEETING THE HEALTH AND RELATED NEEDS OF EASTERN EUROPEAN MIGRANTS.



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HOMELESS HEALTH PEER ADVOCATE GROUNDSWELL



HEALTH NEEDS

- Increasing numbers sleeping rough
- Alcohol related problems
- Drugs related problems
- Blood Borne Viruses
- Tuberculosis
- Mental health problems
- Occupational hazards
- Dental health



BARRIERS TO HEALTH

- Homelessness
- Perceptions of health services
- Access to health services



WELFARE SUPPORT

New restrictions for jobseekers (JSA):

- JSA - 3 months wait
- 6 month limit
- Not entitled to Housing Benefit
- Have to show evidence of work
- Minimum income level
- Work must be genuine and effective



PARTNERSHIPS AND JOINT WORKING

- Weekly walk-in clinic at the Greenhouse focussing on needs of E Europeans
- Health and welfare advice
- The Greenhouse, Groundswell and Thamesreach
- Interpreting and peer advocacy

Groundswell Homeless Health Peer Advocacy:

Peer Advocates will help you get your health problems sorted by:

- 1  Helping you make health appointments
- 2  Going with you to health appointments
- 3  Paying for your travel fares if needed
- 4  Staying in touch with you while you sort things out
- 5  Supporting you to have your say about the type of health care you get
- 6  Supporting you before, during and after appointments to understand your options



"As a Peer you can share your experience and show there is a solution, then clients can find their own confidence and begin advocating for themselves." (Advocate)