



## Gathering the threads...

Tailored support for local homelessness action

Scottish Churches  
Housing Action



no room for homelessness!

# Building strong relationships

Relationships – good and bad – make the world go round. Taking the time to build new relationships can make all the difference to your organisation.

**Relationships offer opportunities to complement services**

Relationships may be formal or informal: partnerships, service level agreements or swapping referrals can all offer opportunities to complement services and thus avoid duplication. This course covers:

- Formal and informal relationships
- Relationships in the context of homelessness strategies
- Communications and review

By the end of the programme, we hope you will

- **understand the value of co-operation, while staying true to your own organisation's vision**
- **have tools for developing partnerships**
- **gain ideas how to work with organisations of different sizes.**

The *Threads* programme is tailor-made to local needs, delivered in-house or by bringing organisations together to learn from one another. The *Relationships* session is aimed at people with responsibility for the overall strategy direction of the organisation, and at those who have to implement it.

## Programme outline

### 1. Reflective practice

Relationships take time but reflection is essential, to build on our strengths. We can be so busy that we miss what needs to be done.

### 2. Formal and informal

Formal partnerships are one way to work towards common goals. But sharing resources in less formal ways can strengthen our activities.

### 3. Links with the local authority

Local authorities each have a homelessness strategy to with action plans to meet local needs. Do we know where we fit in?

### 4. Communications and review

Communication matters to avoid misunderstandings and rivalries. Explore individual and organisational communication structures.

### 5. Networks

Networks provide support and information beyond one-to-one. Examine how these are built, re-built and maintained, and how to choose which are important to our organisation.

**Scottish Churches Housing Action** works in partnership with national and local bodies, statutory and voluntary.

To book or discuss, contact

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