

Changing Futures Programme Sussex: Nomination Information & FAQ



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About the Changing Futures Programme Sussex

The Changing Futures programme is a £77 million joint initiative by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and The National Lottery Community Fund, the largest community funder in the UK. The National Lottery Community Fund has invested over £21 million, adding to the £55 million of Government funding, extending the length of the programme to help local partnerships develop longer term and more effective support for those in need.

Within Sussex the Changing Futures Programme works across East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton and Hove with local partnerships to test new ways of bringing together public and community sector partners to help people change their lives for the better.

For more information, please get in touch via email: Changing.Futures@westsussex.gov.uk or check out our website: www.ChangingFuturesSussex.org

- **East Sussex:** ASCMH.ChangingFuturesDuty@eastsussex.gov.uk
- **West Sussex:** Changing.Futures@westsussex.gov.uk
- **Brighton & Hove:** ChangingFutures@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Definition of Multiple Disadvantage

Multiple disadvantage or multiple complex needs (MCN) is defined by the national Changing Futures Programme as *'people who experience three or more of the five primary disadvantages or needs at the same time: homelessness, current or historical offending, substance misuse, violence & abuse, and/or poor mental health'*.

The intensity and frequency of needs and the level of risk as a result of those needs are factors to consider. Some individuals may have multiple and complex needs with a moderate level of risk present whilst others may have a higher risk.

Primary areas of disadvantage or need are defined as*:

- **Homelessness:** Broadly defined as not having a settled place to stay, such as sofa-surfing (staying with family or friends because the individual affected has no home of their own), staying in temporary or refuge accommodation, or rough sleeping (street homelessness).
- **Offending Behaviour:** Having contact with the criminal justice system, including the police, probation and or Community Safety Services.
- **Substance Misuse:** Broadly defined as not only regular use of illegal street drugs but also over the counter and prescribed medications, 'harmful' drinking of alcohol, dependence on cannabis.
- **Violence & Abuse:** Being a victim of interpersonal violence and abuse. Such as having been raped or sexually assaulted or suffering violence or subjected to coercive control by any perpetrator.
- **Poor Mental Health:** Is defined as struggling to cope due to mental health difficulties having a detrimental effect on someone's wellbeing and functioning. Mental illness may also be present which may or may not be diagnosed. Self-neglect, mental capacity issues and hoarding may also be present. This definition also includes poor mental health as a result of trauma that continues to impact on an individual. This can also include trauma that maybe as a result of loss of child residence arrangements.

*The definition is not exhaustive and professional judgement should be used to identify those who are struggling to cope, and those who may need support and safeguarding interventions.

How Will Data / Information Be Used?

- Any information provided by a client will not affect the services or benefits that they receive now or in the future.
- Information will be kept safe and confidential, and handled with care and in accordance with the law.
- Information will only be used to help with the research.

Why Does the *Changing Futures Programme* Collect Data / Information?

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) is the government department responsible for funding the Changing Futures Programme nationally.

Changing Futures Sussex on behalf of the national Programme would like those being supported by the Programme to take part in research to help understand how well Changing Futures is working.

The learning will help to improve services in future.

The Programme Evaluation collects crucial data which has 3 Objectives:

- **Objective 1:** Is to provide evidence on whether (and why/how) Changing Futures has made a difference to how public service systems operate, including considering how system level changes affect the way services operate, are delivered, and are experienced by people who experience multiple disadvantage.
- **Objective 2:** Is to provide evidence on whether (and why/how) Changing Futures has made a difference to individuals who experience multiple disadvantage, considering both the relative impact of the direct service delivery models funded as part of the Changing Futures Programme and the impact of any system level changes brought about as part of the Programme, and how the roles and relative importance of the different aspects (may) develop over time.
- **Objective 3:** Is to assess the value for money of the Programme and make recommendations on the most effective use of any additional resources going into this area in future.

Alongside quantitative data analysis, the evaluators will also deliver thematic 'deep dives' on system change and provide qualitative and theory-based primary evidence to help explain outcomes.

What Data / Information Does the *Changing Futures Programme* Collect?

The Changing Futures Programme is asking for information* specifically around:

- Wellbeing
- Background
- Health & safety
- Living situation
- Services used

Clients personal identifying information **will** be removed before any information is shared and the researchers looking at the information will **not** know whose information it is. Clients will **not** be identified in any research reports.

**Clients will be asked for some of this information every 3 months*

Data / Information Sharing

In order to understand whether the Changing Futures Programme is helping to improve outcomes for people, compared with those who didn't take part, the Programme would like to collect personal data which will be shared with other organisations.

Data is shared with the Changing Futures Programme; however, clients choose what is then shared with the evaluators and inclusion in the research is not mandatory for inclusion in the Changing Futures Programme. Clients can choose whether to participate in the research side of the project with or without identifiers, or not at all.

Consent *With* Identifiers:

This means that a client gives their permission for information to be collected about them and that this can be shared with the geographically relevant local authority (e.g., Brighton & Hove City Council / East Sussex County Council / West Sussex County Council), the Changing Futures national evaluation team and DLUHC, who will then provide my personal identifying information, such as my name, date of birth, gender and national insurance number, to the Office of National Statistics so the research can use information on my benefits, my health and health care use, and any contact I may have or have had with the criminal justice system.

Consent *Without* Identifiers:

This means that the client gives their permission for information collected about them by the geographically relevant local authority and Changing Futures Sussex to be shared with Changing Futures national evaluation team. The information sent to the evaluation team **will not** include any information which can identify individual clients (for example, date of birth, national insurance number, NHS number and/or postcode).

What Means Will the *Changing Futures Programme* Use to Collect Data / Information?

The Individual Outcomes Questionnaire:

- This will provide a baseline understanding of beneficiaries' situations relating to stability, finances, social connectedness, health and wellbeing, safety, and experiences of services/support. This will then allow programme evaluators to track progress and the impact of the programme on these outcome areas as updates are provided via quarterly individual outcomes returns.
- This will combine data held by the programme and provided directly by individual beneficiaries. The first of these surveys must be completed in the first 6 weeks of an individual joining the programme (for all beneficiaries joining the programme within this financial year)

The Historical Background Questionnaire:

- This will provide information on personal histories and demographics for programme beneficiaries, allowing programme evaluators to understand how the programme impacts different groups and to contextualise changes.
- We will ask that this information be provided within the first 12 weeks of an individual being engaged on the programme.

Dis-aggregated Engagement Data:

- As well as providing aggregated engagement data in your quarterly monitoring reports, we will ask you to provide this as individual level data alongside the outcomes returns

Additional Information

The national evaluation team are made up of the following organisations:
CFE Research, Cordis Bright, Revolving Door Agency, University of Sheffield, Qa Research, Collaborate for Social Change.

They will ask the national organisations below for information about the services you have used, where relevant:

Name of organisation	Type of information they might share, if relevant
Department for Work & Pensions (DWP)	<p>The types of benefit received and for how long (start and end date of entitlements).</p> <p>We will only provide information to DWP so that they are able to identify clients in their records, for example by using a clients National Insurance Number, date of birth, gender, and postcode.</p>
The Ministry of Justice	<p>Number of arrests, cautions and convictions, time spent in prison.</p> <p>We will not ask for details of the type of offence, we just want to know how many times these things have happened.</p> <p>We will only provide information to Ministry of Justice so that they are able to identify a client in their records, for example by using your National Insurance Number, date of birth, gender, and postcode.</p>
NHS Digital	<p>Number of visits to A&E, nights spent in hospital, number of hospital appointments.</p> <p>We will not ask for any details of medical conditions; we just want to know how many times a client may have used these services.</p> <p>We will only provide information to NHS Digital so that they are able to identify you in their records, for example by using your NHS number, date of birth, gender, and postcode.</p>

If a client has given permission to share their information with another organisation, then they can ask us to stop sharing the information at any time. If information has already been shared with DLUHC then they will use it as per their privacy notice:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/changing-futures-privacy-notice/changing-futures-programme-privacy-notice>