

Welcome to St Paul's. Hope Starts Here.

ST PAUL'S SOCIAL VALUE PARTNERSHIP
SANCTUARY X ST PAUL'S HOSTEL

Sanctuary



Founded in 1977 by the Worcester Council of Churches, St Paul's Hostel exists to make homelessness in Worcestershire temporary, by design. We provide accommodation and intensive support for 44 adults, alongside resettlement flats and housing-led services for people with the most complex needs.

Of those referred:

- 100% are already homeless.
- 50% are rough sleeping at the point of referral.
- Over 90% have a local connection to Worcester.

Nearly all of our residents have overlapping challenges: substance abuse, mental health needs, and trauma. Without sustained, specialist support, people become trapped in a cycle of rough sleeping, crisis interventions, and repeat homelessness.

We are not just a roof over people's heads. We are a community. A place of safety, and a pathway to recovery and independence.

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OUR VISION

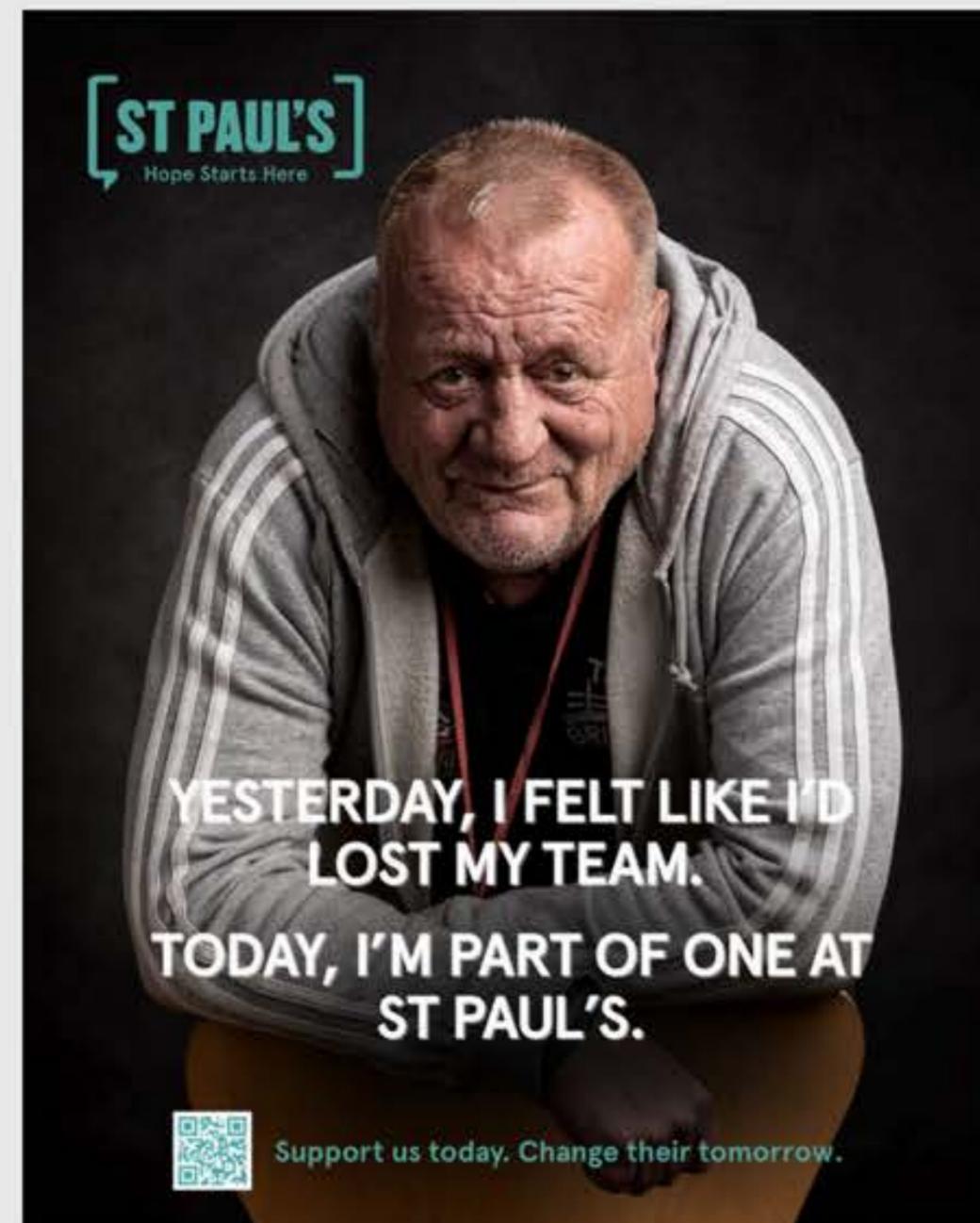
Everyone has a place where they belong. We're committed to breaking the cycle of homelessness - making it rare, brief, and non-recurring.

At St Paul's, we reject the idea that homelessness is inevitable in our society.

OUR MISSION

To bring a sense of immediacy & action to the causes, symptoms & effects of homelessness.

St Paul's is an independent charity, which brings urgency, compassion, and practical solutions to help break the cycle of homelessness.



OUR VALUES

Action

We take responsibility, follow things through, and focus on practical action that makes people feel safer and more stable.

Fairness

We challenge unfair systems, indifference, and barriers—and advocate for change.

Partnership

We collaborate with residents, colleagues, and partner agencies, share decision-making, and recognise lived experience, to bring better outcomes.

Trust

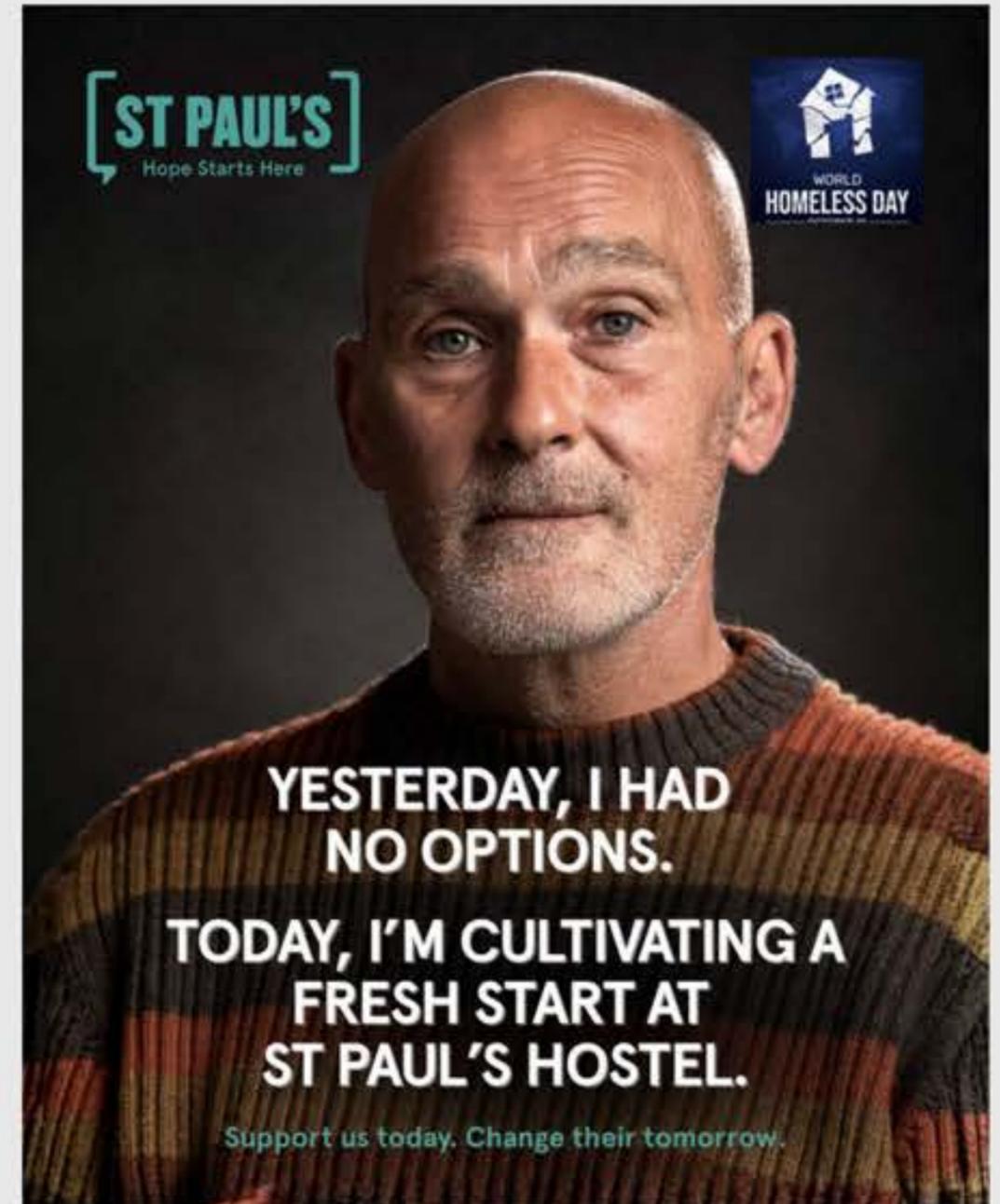
We walk alongside people with consistency, carefulness and respect. Listening and reliability are central to we work.

Equity & Choice

We create the conditions for meaningful choice, often for the first time. Support is personalised, inclusive and promotes self-confidence.

Accountability

We value honesty and transparency. We are clear about what we can (and can't do), and communicate openly and consistently with residents, partners, and each other.



WHAT WE DO & WHY

St Paul's takes over 300 referrals each year, more than 65% from Worcester City Council, with over 90% having a local connection to Worcester. Of those referred, 100% are already homeless and 50% are rough sleeping.

Homelessness is not inevitable. However, it could be said that some are more susceptible, outcomes of life changing events such as; relationship breakdown, loss of employment, poor health are largely dependent on the support network available at a time of crisis. At St Pauls, almost all of our residents face overlapping challenges: substance use, mental health needs, and trauma. Without support, people become trapped in a cycle of rough sleeping, crisis interventions, and repeat homelessness.

We work to break that cycle through:

- **Accommodation** – safe, supported housing.
- **Recovery** – time, therapy, diagnosis, medical reviews, harm reduction.
- **Move-On Support** – preparing people for independence; financial management, domestic skills, pathways to employment and social enrichment.
- **Partnership** – working with local services, corporates, and the community to tackle root causes.



crisis → **safety** → **recovery** → **independence**

Our goal is that no one in Worcestershire experiences homelessness as a permanent or recurring condition.

MOVE ON

The "Move On" initiative at St. Paul's Hostel focuses on supporting residents as they transition from homelessness to inter-independent living. This program has already helped 12 people move since June 2025. is designed to help individuals secure their own homes and rebuild their lives with dignity and stability. The dedicated team works tirelessly to provide practical assistance, emotional support, and resources, ensuring that residents are equipped to sustain their tenancies and thrive in their new environments. Recognized for their impactful work, the Move On team plays a crucial role in addressing homelessness and fostering long-term change.

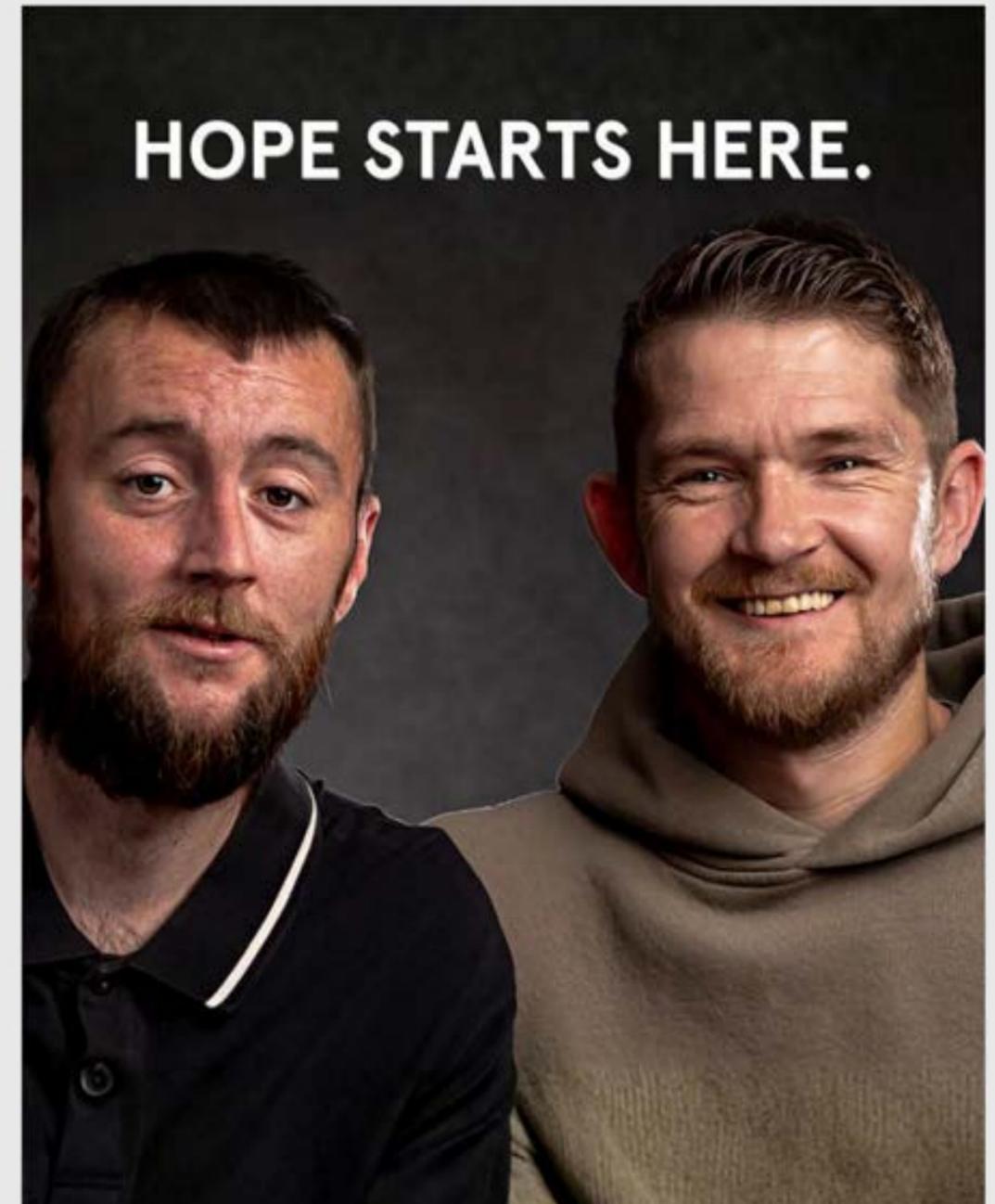
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MOVE ON - CASE STUDY #1

Stephen moved into St. Paul's Hostel on 04/04/2025 after rough sleeping in Worcester city centre. Following the tragic loss of his wife and daughter to COVID complications in 2024, Stephen, a veteran, struggled with PTSD, depression, and health issues, including a heart attack. After a suicide attempt, he received mental health support before arriving at the hostel, where he was grateful to have a safe place to stay.

At St. Paul's, staff supported Stephen in accessing medical care, which led to a life-saving pacemaker fitting. He participated in activities, including presenting an award on Veteran's Day at a Worcester City match, a moment that made him feel proud. With the team's help, Stephen accessed Adult Social Care and moved into Meadow Court on 27/11/2025, where he found a supportive community and new friends.

Reflecting on his journey, Stephen shared, "I feel like a King."

Steve is a regular visitor to the hostel, and we really enjoy seeing him.

RESIDENT - STEPHEN



MOVE ON - CASE STUDY #2

Sam has been connected with St Paul's Hostel since 2018, living there on and off over the years. After a period of private renting, Sam returned to the hostel when he faced the risk of homelessness due to falling behind on household bills.

Determined to regain his independence, Sam worked closely with his Move-On Support Worker to find a permanent home. He actively placed weekly bids on properties and, through persistence and dedication, was eventually offered a tenancy with Platform Housing Association. In September, Sam successfully signed his tenancy agreement and moved into his new home.

With ongoing support from his Move-On Worker, Sam is in the process of turning his new house into a home. Continued support will be available as he works toward his long-term goal of living independently.

Sam remains an important part of the St Paul's community. He contributes by working in the kitchen, assisting with cleaning, and regularly taking part in hostel trips and activities. Even as he begins this new chapter, Sam continues to be a valued member of the St Paul's family.

RESIDENT - SAM



PARTNERSHIP

At the heart of every success story is partnership.

We are committed to raising awareness of the vital role we play in the community and the statutory duties owed to people experiencing homelessness. As we move forward, we aim to strengthen how we evidence social value—both locally with businesses and nationally with funders—highlighting homelessness as a critical social-value priority that requires collective action.

Support from local businesses is essential in amplifying our impact. Beyond financial contributions, businesses bring expertise, networks, and a shared commitment to building a stronger, more inclusive community. Together, we can address the root causes of homelessness, empower individuals to rebuild their lives, and create lasting change.

By working in partnership, we can demonstrate the tangible benefits of investing in social value, from reducing the long-term costs of homelessness to improving community well-being and build a future where everyone has a place to call home



HOW A SOCIAL VALUE PARTNERSHIP WITH YOU COULD WORK

A social value partnership between Sanctuary Housing and St Paul's represents a powerful alignment of shared values and a commitment to creating meaningful change.

Sanctuary's as a non-for-profit organisation with a mission to provide homes for people on low incomes and for those with additional needs and support perfectly complements St Paul's.

Both organisations strive not just to provide a roof, but to equip people with the confidence and skills to live independently.

Our partnership can focus on social impact on the residents of St Paul's, specifically:

- Stability and recovery
- Skills development and peer leadership
- Mental health and wellbeing

Reducing the likelihood of repeat homelessness

This partnership would:

- **Align** Sanctuary's community investment and sustainability values with a measurable, high-impact social cause.
- **Deliver** transparent social impact reporting, showcasing the tangible benefits of collective action on local homelessness.
- **Provide** opportunities for meaningful engagement through shared expertise, funding support, and success stories of individuals moving from exclusion to independence.
- **Highlight** the importance of recovery, resilience, and sustainable living within the Worcester community.
- **Position** Sanctuary Housing as a leader in corporate social responsibility and a champion for inclusion and belonging in Worcestershire.

HOW A SOCIAL VALUE PARTNERSHIP WITH YOU COULD WORK

Driving a culture for change

- Sanctuary could work to help bring change by sharing knowledge to improve outcomes where their services mirror trauma-informed practice
- **Access to L&D which embeds TI into practice and helps bring a motivated, confident and happy workforce and client group**
- **Partner with St Paul's in the provision of Move On properties** alongside the Recovery and Reconnect team
- Move On - sustaining accommodation once moved from SPH into the community

Helping us raise awareness through your channels, and how together in partnership, we are breaking the cycle of homelessness

- Give St Paul's a voice at forums and meetings - work with the hostel to build agreed successes
- Piggybacking marketing - internally feature in Sanctuary news regularly - what would this look like
- Access to funds directly and indirectly, which support the objectives of St Paul's
- Activation of volunteers from Sanctuary Housing

Other Asks

- Funding for training and access to the emerging leaders initiative
- Access to centralised training resources - online and in person
- Invitation to enter awards in our arena

What do we need financial help with:

Mental Health and Wellbeing - £62k per year - Recovery and therapeutic services are provided for those in the hostel, people at risk of homelessness and those who have moved on. This means that for those that need it most, they can access qualified counsellors and therapists free of charge and without waiting until it is too late.

Move on and Personlisation - £20k per year. When residents move on, the property they access is often without furniture, carpets, blinds and domestic basics, such as kitchenware and bedding. We always try to create a home for our residents, somewhere they are proud of and feel safe in. This can be challenging without funding. With the success of our move on we need circa £20k per year, with a plan to move on 15 people each year.

Together, [Sanctuary Housing](#) and [St Paul's Hostel](#) share a deep commitment to building sustainable futures and transforming lives. By combining Sanctuary's expertise in providing quality homes and community care with St Paul's dedication to empowering individuals out of homelessness, this partnership offers the opportunity to deliver real, lasting change for vulnerable people across Worcester.

What do we need financial help with:

Stability and Recovery -£38-40k per year

St Paul's has a high prevalence of residents with co-occurring substance and mental health needs. In the absence of external services meeting the need of St Paul's, we are recruiting a Substance Misuse Worker - Leading to harm reduction, crisis de-escalation, overdose prevention and pathways into detox/rehab, reduced drug-related deaths, acute health episodes and emergency service demand.

Skills Development and Peer leadership - £38k role and £30k creating choices

St Paul's employs a Support and Development worker, this role is unfunded and costs us £38k per year. It is vital to the successful and sustained move on of our residents. Residents are supported to develop skills for employment, access social networks, build confidence to avoid loneliness when moving on. Regular trips are organised requiring funds for tickets, transport, sustenance - a provision we fund raise for and which costs the hostel circa £30k per year

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ARE YOU READY TO JOIN US TO BREAK THE CYCLE OF HOMELESSNESS?

IF YOU SEE THE VALUE IN THE WORK WE DO, REACH OUT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT PARTNERING WITH ST PAUL'S TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

ERICA BURLACE, CEO

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