

How can data improve the interventions and innovations for tackling homelessness

APSE Housing Online Seminar: Tackling the homelessness crisis
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**Centre for
Homelessness Impact**



Better data, better understanding

The new data-led framework being rolled out in England is a major breakthrough. It sets out to measure progress towards the shared vision for ending rough sleeping: that is to **prevent** it wherever possible, and where it does occur it is **rare, brief, and non-recurring**.

Having a **consistent data** set will help local areas identify where specific action is needed to drive **impactful action**.



Is TA good value for money?

Probably not, but we don't really know. Consistent data can help local areas **track the the cost and use** of TA, and assess whether approaches they're taking are commensurate with its scale and risk.

Joined up data can help **maximise the effectiveness of existing TA** provision through targeted interventions to reduce inflow and drive move-on from TA wherever possible.



We often don't know what works, where, for whom, why, and how

There is a **lack of causal evidence** in homelessness. We know very little about the impacts of most of our actions, including the potential for some interventions to even cause harm under some conditions.

Expanding our understanding of 'what works' means that we reduce the chances of **potentially misallocating** finite resources to ways of working that could be improved. This ensures people receive the services they need and **achieves better outcomes for all**.



Not all impact evaluations are equal

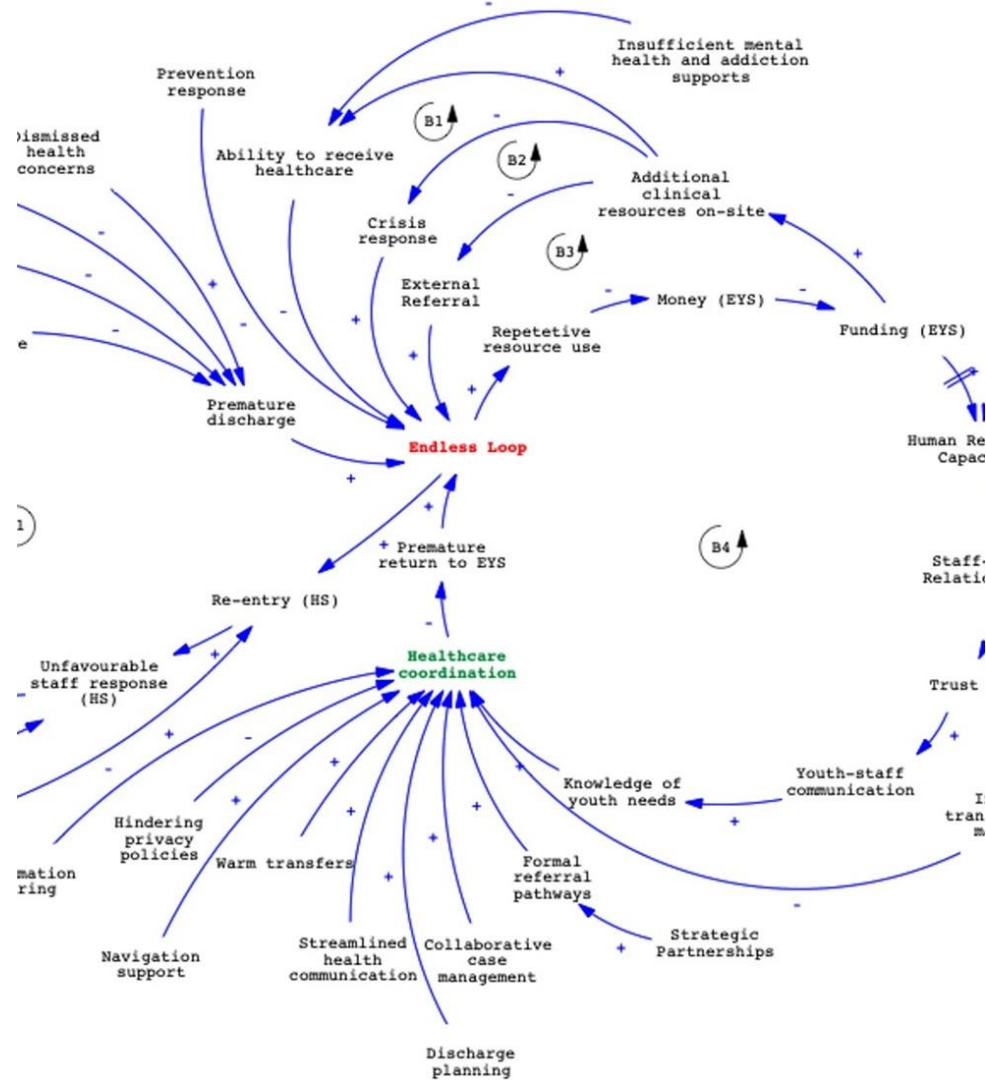
Among other things, we have greater confidence in findings on the impact of interventions where studies use **control groups**, where evaluations are many and are from a **variety of contexts** with varying policy landscapes, and where research is conducted in a **large group** of people that we can observe for a **long period of time**.



Build better systems, as well as better lifeboats

When it comes to homelessness the aim should be to respond to extreme cases, while **stopping the flow**.

Our '**systems-wide evaluation**' has the potential to act as a launchpad for new efforts to improve the current system.





Thank you !

Dr Abby Kendrick
Evidence and Data Lead
abby@homelessnessimpact.org

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