

**Introduction and aims**

The Taskforce aims to develop a more joined up multi-agency approach across Scotland to this hidden and often misunderstood mental health issue. Our shared ambition is to better manage risk, keep people safe and make effective use of limited resources to support people who hoard, their families, communities and workers. It will adopt a life-span approach.

It appreciates that we operate in complex systems and need to understand barriers and levers in context to inform solutions.”

Our work together will apply [Iriss’s model for innovation and change](https://www.iriss.org.uk/approach/innovation-model) and we will honour the working together principles agreed.

**Role and function**

The Hoarding Taskforce exists to provide important oversight and collective leadership to better understand ‘the problem’ and co-design solutions

* Identifying the relevant questions to explore and understand the problem- locally and nationally
* Supporting connections- to build new knowledge through networks and across sectors
* Identifying priorities and agreeing first and next steps together, informed by all stakeholders and through the ‘explore’ stage of this work
* Utilising everyone’s assets and influence (as relevant) to - develop, test, trial new resources or ways of working; support the generation of new knowledge and spread and promotion of good practice.

**Taskforce members (listed alphabetically)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| The Care InspectorateChartered Institute of HousingClackmannanshire and Stirling HSCPClutterchatThe Hoarding AcademyIndependent Support PractitionerIrissGlasgow HSCP | MHO NetworkNHS ASP Leads NetworkPan-Lanarkshire HSCP Police ScotlandThe Self Harm Network (Penumbra)Scottish Government/National ASP CoordinatorScottish Fire and RescueScottish Federation of Housing Associations |

We also intend to recruit people who hoard as experts by experience to inform and drive forward this work, whilst recognising the challenges in doing this.

**Working together principles**

1. We develop positive relationships
2. We are appreciative of what everyone can bring
3. We reach out if there are others we need
4. We are honest, but also constructive and sensitive to others
5. We listen to understand and support communication by considering the language and methods we use
6. We speak up / step back so everyone can contribute
7. We talk things out to help make decisions
8. This is a safe space- ideas are for sharing; personal information is confidential (unless someone is at risk)
9. We look after ourselves and each other
10. We are reliable and committed.

**Timescales**

In 2024-25 our work will focus on developing ‘the team’ and exploring the problem before identifying the solution, recognising that we operate in complex systems and that we need to understand the different blocks and enablers.

Our work together in 2025-26 will move into developing and testing/trialling solutions or ‘shaping’ and ‘realising’ solutions, mirroring [Iriss’s model for innovation and change.](https://www.iriss.org.uk/approach/innovation-model)

**Meeting dates**

We intend to meet no less than every two months, and will adopt a hybrid approach to this alternating between online and in-person meetings. All meetings in-person will be in central Scotland, with partners taking turns to host. Those unable to join in-person will be able to join remotely.

**Materials**

All materials related to the project will be available to Hoarding Taskforce members via an open access site that you will be invited to.

All resources produced by the Hoarding Taskforce will be free for others to use.

**Contacts**

Iriss is project managing this work. To learn more about the Hoarding Taskforce, please contact: Kerry Musselbrook, Project Lead (kerry.musselbrook@iriss.org.uk)

or Louise Bowen (louise.bowen@iriss.org.uk) .