



MEAM impact report

—
2015–2016



Making Every
Adult Matter



Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) is a coalition of the national charities Clinks, Homeless Link and Mind.

Our vision is that everyone experiencing multiple needs in every local area can reach their full potential and contribute to their communities.

Four key aims help us achieve our vision:

1 National networks

We support areas across the country to change the way that services work for people with multiple needs.

2 Understanding what works and influencing change

We help government and officials understand the challenges faced by individuals with multiple needs, and ensure local and national policy helps people get the right support.

3 Public awareness and reducing stigma

We work to improve the public's understanding of multiple needs and reduce negative views.

4 A stronger MEAM coalition

We ensure that we are well-placed to achieve these ambitions.

Why does it matter?

At least 58,000 people in England face a combination of problems such as homelessness, substance misuse, mental health problems and repeat contact with the Criminal Justice System.

They are part of a much wider group of people that experience multiple disadvantages in their lives.

Individuals with multiple needs live in every local authority area. They ‘ricochet’ between local services without ever getting the help they need, at significant cost to themselves, local communities and the public purse.

Evidence has shown that better coordinated interventions from statutory and voluntary agencies can improve wellbeing and reduce the cost of service use. But while some local areas are making progress on better coordinated interventions, others are not; and the national policy environment is not always supportive.

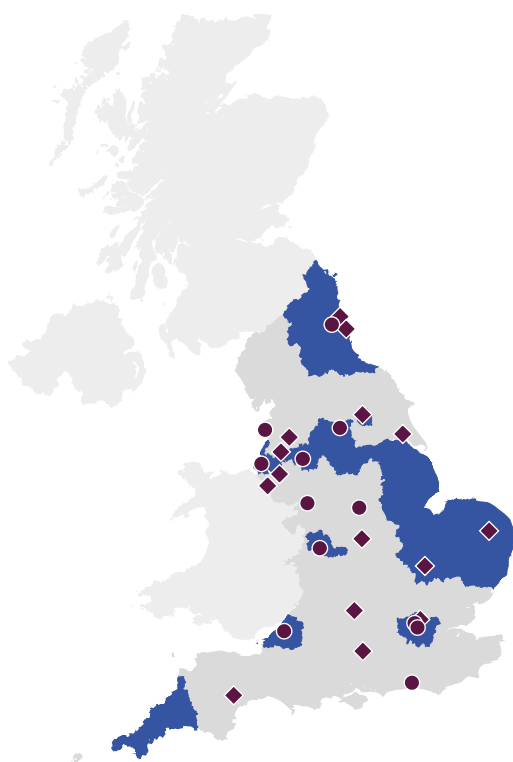
We are here until everyone facing multiple needs can reach their full potential and contribute to their communities.

Activities and impact

During the year we supported 27 partnerships across the country to improve their local service responses for people facing multiple needs.

Fifteen of these areas are using the MEAM Approach – a non-prescriptive framework to help local areas design and deliver better coordinated services – while twelve are part of the Big Lottery Fund's Fulfilling Lives programme, which we are pleased to support.

- Non-devolved areas
- Devolved area
- ◆ MEAM Approach
- Fulfilling Lives partnerships



WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

- ▶ Seven new areas joined the MEAM Approach network, bringing the total to fifteen.

“MEAM has provided invaluable support, insight and drive for our work.”

To date, MEAM Approach areas have secured £1.3m of local funding to support their work.

MEAM Approach areas that conducted evaluation report an average 23% reduction in wider service use costs and a 44% improvement in wellbeing.

- ▶ We supported Fulfilling Lives and MEAM Approach areas with their work on systems change, holding 18 strategic workshops with Fulfilling Lives partnerships over the year.

“The session was really useful ... [it] galvanised us as a group, and got everyone focused on one of the key outcomes for the project.”

Local areas have pooled funding, created new referral mechanisms and challenged cultures and working practices across the system.

- ▶ We held regular meetings of the MEAM Approach network, to help areas to learn and share experiences.

“Very useful to be part of a bigger network ... learning about solutions to shared problems – so don’t have to reinvent the wheel.”

Activities and impact

Our policy work aims to help government and officials understand the challenges faced by individuals with multiple needs, and ensure local and national policy helps people get the right support.

This year we completed the second year of our Voices from the Frontline project, bringing the views of people with multiple needs and those who support them into a wide range of policy work being undertaken by Clinks, Homeless Link, Mind and Collective Voice. Thanks to the continuing support of Lankelly Chase, our policy influencing work over the next two years will continue to draw on voices of experience and the learning from our work in local areas.



WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

- ▶ We worked with over 100 people to bring their voices into the heart of the policy debate on issues such as devolution and employment support. With their help, we submitted evidence to Select Committees, government reviews and consultations.

“[MEAM’s submission] covered issues thoroughly and concisely, with points well referenced and robust sources cited – this is a blessing!”

Our Walking the Frontline exhibition brought people’s experiences and insights to a public audience over three months in Birmingham.

- ▶ We invited people with lived experience of multiple needs and those who support them to visit Parliament and talk to MPs about the issues that matter to them.

“Policymakers should come and talk to people [...] they often have a perception of people ... but this doesn’t necessarily match with reality.”

- ▶ We supported local areas across England to develop their capacity to influence policymakers, and produced a policy influencing guide for engaging with local decision makers.

“[MEAM’s work] has been very useful in helping us get involved in local agendas.”

- ▶ We brought together civil servants from across government to discuss a national focus on individuals with multiple needs and provided evidence to the Autumn Statement.

Our evidence raised the issue across government and paved the way for local action on multiple needs in new devolution deals.

Staffing and finances

Our work is delivered by a small core team and two 'embedded teams' across the MEAM organisations. Governance is provided by the MEAM Programme Board. The three MEAM partners are pleased to welcome Collective Voice, which represents providers in the substance misuse sector, as an associate member of MEAM.

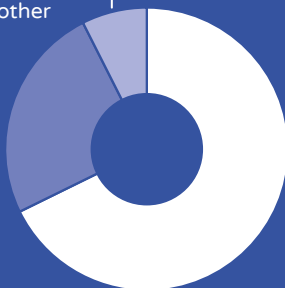
FINANCES 2015–2016

INCOME £415,524

MEAM Approach—
support and other
consultancy
£30,941

Fulfilling
Lives
support
contract
£103,132

Trusts and
Foundations
£281,451



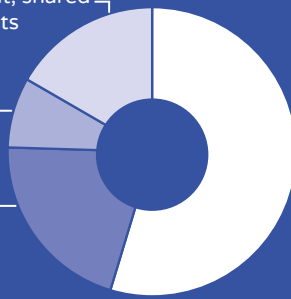
EXPENDITURE £352,263

Management, shared
and rent costs
£58,676

Direct costs
£27,699

Payments
to partners
for staffing
£73,306

Salaries at
Homeless Link
£192,582



Photography: Kate Lowe, www.katelowephotography.com

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With thanks to our funders: