

# Concerned about a rough sleeper?



If you are concerned about someone you've seen sleeping rough in the District, you can get help for them by emailing Open Door at [opendoorstalbans@hightownha.org.uk](mailto:opendoorstalbans@hightownha.org.uk). Please include a description of the person, the time and the location they have been seen.



**St Albans**  
City & District Council

## **What is being done to help rough sleepers in the District?**

St Albans City and District Council works with Hightown Housing Association, the Open Door Charity, Centre 33, and Emmaus, to provide practical help for individuals, including overnight accommodation. We work with these, and other bodies, including St Albans Cathedral and St Albans Community Mental Health Team, to make sure our responses to individual cases are properly joined up. The Council and the Open Door Charity fund Outreach Workers to work closely with rough sleepers and help them get the support they need.

## **It's getting colder. What is being doing to help people this winter?**

Every night from November 1 through to March 31, 5 additional beds will be provided at Open Door. There will be also beds provided by the Open Door Charity working with city centre churches (the Winter Beds Project).

## **Why, if help is being provided, do I see people sleeping rough?**

Why people don't take the help on offer can be complex. Some people prefer to do their own thing. Others will not take the help available because of alcohol and drug use (the Open Door Night Shelter does not allow alcohol or drugs on the premises). There are also social reasons why people may choose to hang around drinking in the City Centre, even those who have homes to go to.

## **How can I help?**

You can refer people for help by contacting the Open Door Night Shelter at [opendoorstalbans@hightownha.org.uk](mailto:opendoorstalbans@hightownha.org.uk). If you want to help further, please support your local charities. They are working to provide support for people in the short term, and help them to turn their lives around for the longer term.

## **Further information on rough sleeping can be found on [www.streetlink.org.uk](http://www.streetlink.org.uk)**

[www.stalbans.gov.uk](http://www.stalbans.gov.uk)

[www.opendoorstalbans.org](http://www.opendoorstalbans.org)

[www.centre33.org](http://www.centre33.org)

[www.emmaus.org.uk](http://www.emmaus.org.uk)

[www.hightownha.org.uk](http://www.hightownha.org.uk)