



Ipswich Housing Action Group Ltd (IHAG)



Ipswich Housing Action Group Ltd (IHAG) was established in 1976 and is a local charity whose objectives are to help homeless people in the Ipswich area, primarily those who are non-statutory homeless. We provide housing, support, money/debt and other advice for vulnerable adults and we provide a range of services to about 2,500 people a year across Suffolk.

Single people do not have a right to be housed by any statutory agency unless they are deemed vulnerable under housing legislation, meaning that the vast majority of single homeless people cannot easily access housing.

At IHAG, we provide a range of professional support services to marginalised homeless people in Ipswich and the surrounding area, including:

Housing – We provide temporary housing for 55 single homeless people at a time, as well as a range of support services that encourage successful independent living for vulnerable adults. We also operate a ‘Safe House’ for people who are recovering from drug misuse. Tenants typically stay in our accommodation for nine to 18 months. Once they have moved out, we continue to support them with ‘Move On’ support to ensure they are adapting to change and are able to sustain their own accommodation.

Money Advice - Ipswich Money Advice Service (iMAS) is an in-house project developed in response to requests from tenants who wanted support to help them deal with rent arrears, debt management, welfare applications and appeals and general budgeting advice. iMAS works with about 1,000 individuals and families per year.

Day Advice Services - You don’t have to be sleeping rough to access our services, you may be living in bed and breakfasts, sleeping on friend’s floors or living somewhere that you don’t feel is safe or secure. Our day services are run from the Chapman Centre and it provides a safe place for people to receive confidential advice, support and guidance in a relaxed, non-judgemental way for over 1,000 people a year.

Campaigning – IHAG aims to improve the lot of all single homeless people not just its own clients and we therefore make it our business to bring agencies and organisations together to work more collaboratively. IHAG offers support and constructive challenge to individuals and statutory agencies to ensure that the right services are delivered in the right way to maximise the benefit to our client group.

If IHAG were to win the vote the money would be used directly towards helping homeless and vulnerable individuals get off the streets and into accommodation.

To find out more information about our services, visit our website - <http://www.ihag.co.uk/>