



# Soup Kitchen Network Newsletter

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3

AUGUST 2015

## St Petrock's - Night Shelter Proposal

In response to increasing levels of homelessness in the city, St Petrock's and partners from the Soup Kitchen Network are putting together plans to run a night shelter throughout the winter months. As part of Exeter City Council's existing Severe Weather Emergency Provision (SWEP), St Petrock's Centre, Gabriel House and other local charities currently open up overnight to provide emergency accommodation for rough sleepers when the temperature falls to zero degrees or below.

The proposed night shelter would extend this service to provide continuous bed spaces for risk-assessed rough sleepers for three months of the year. Experience has shown that cold weather accommodation can not only help save lives, but prove a vital first step in encouraging entrenched rough sleepers to make the move 'indoors'.

Under the proposal, the night shelter would be run as a collaborative venture by trained volunteers, with a central coordinator employed on a part-time basis to oversee the work. Development of the project is subject to the availability of funding and an additional overnight venue or venues to operate alongside St Petrock's Centre.

For further information, please contact Mel Hartley at St Petrock's on:

**01392 422396**

## Free Food in Exeter

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*For a list of free food in Exeter, who provides it, when and where, see over for details.*

## SHOT - Volunteer Recruitment for Christmas Crisis Cover

Exeter Community Initiatives (ECI) and the Street Homeless Outreach Team (SHOT) are launching a volunteer recruitment drive for SHOT's Christmas crisis cover.

SHOT Leader Jenny Blackie and ECI's Volunteer Coordinator Jola Pawlikowski will be running a session at ECI's Head Office in Exeter on 8 October from 1-3pm.

The session will be an opportunity to find out more about SHOT and how you can get involved in helping the homeless.

If you are interested in finding out more about volunteering for SHOT and would like to book a place for the talk, please contact Jola Pawlikowski at:

**volunteer@eci.org.uk** or on **01392 205800**.

## Abandoned Bedding - Help Exeter's Cleansing Department

There has been a number of recent reports that rough sleepers are leaving bedding at the end of the night along with cardboard in doorways of premises in the City Centre.

The Council's Cleansing Department is frequently being called to collect the articles left behind.

It has been suggested that rough sleepers be reminded that either bedding should be taken away in the morning or it should be placed beside a suitable rubbish bin if no longer needed, allowing staff easier access to their premises.

## What number to use if you know of someone in need

- 999** If someone is causing or likely to cause harm to themselves or others, or if they are in need of urgent medical attention • If someone is under 16
- 0845 351 1060** **If you think someone meets the following criteria, they may be eligible for emergency accommodation:** 16/17 year olds • Pregnant women • People with dependant children • People made vulnerable as a result of old age • People made vulnerable as a result of a physical or mental health problem • People who are homeless as a result of a fire/flood or other emergency
- 0800 151 3441** If you identify someone as new to rough sleeping
- 01392 278551** If you identify someone as new to rough sleeping and/or if there is an incident you want to report so the person can get some additional support, please ring this number and leave a message which will be picked up the next morning (if a week day)
- 01392 422396** If you identify someone as new to rough sleeping, please ring this number the next morning to highlight any individual that may attend St Petrock's the next day

## Other useful contacts

### All Tenancy Related Enquiries

**Shelter** – 0808 800 4444

### Housing Options Teams

**East Devon District Council** – 01395 517469 | Out of Hours – 01395 516854

**Exeter City Council** – 01392 265726 | Out of Hours – 0845 3511 060

**Mid Devon District Council** – 01884 255255 | Out of Hours – 01884 255255

**Teignbridge** – 01626 361101

### Domestic Violence

In all cases you should be signposting clients to the **Police** 101 / 999 – depending on urgency

**Stop Abuse For Everyone (SAFE)** – 0800 328 3070

### Outreach Team

**Exeter, Teignbridge and East Devon** - Outreach provided by Street Homeless Outreach Team BCHA (SHOT) – 01392 278551

## For a list of free food in Exeter, who provides it, when and where, go to:

[www.homelessnesscollaboration.eci.org.uk](http://www.homelessnesscollaboration.eci.org.uk) and click on 'Soup Kitchen Network', then 'Free Food in Exeter'

For more information about the Exeter Soup Kitchen Network, contact:  
 Exeter Community Initiatives  
 14 York Road  
 Exeter  
 EX4 6BA

Tel: 01392 205800  
 Fax: 01392 205802  
 E-mail: [info@eci.org.uk](mailto:info@eci.org.uk)  
[www.eci.org.uk](http://www.eci.org.uk)

The Exeter Soup Kitchen Network is supported by Exeter City Council



Helping where it matters most