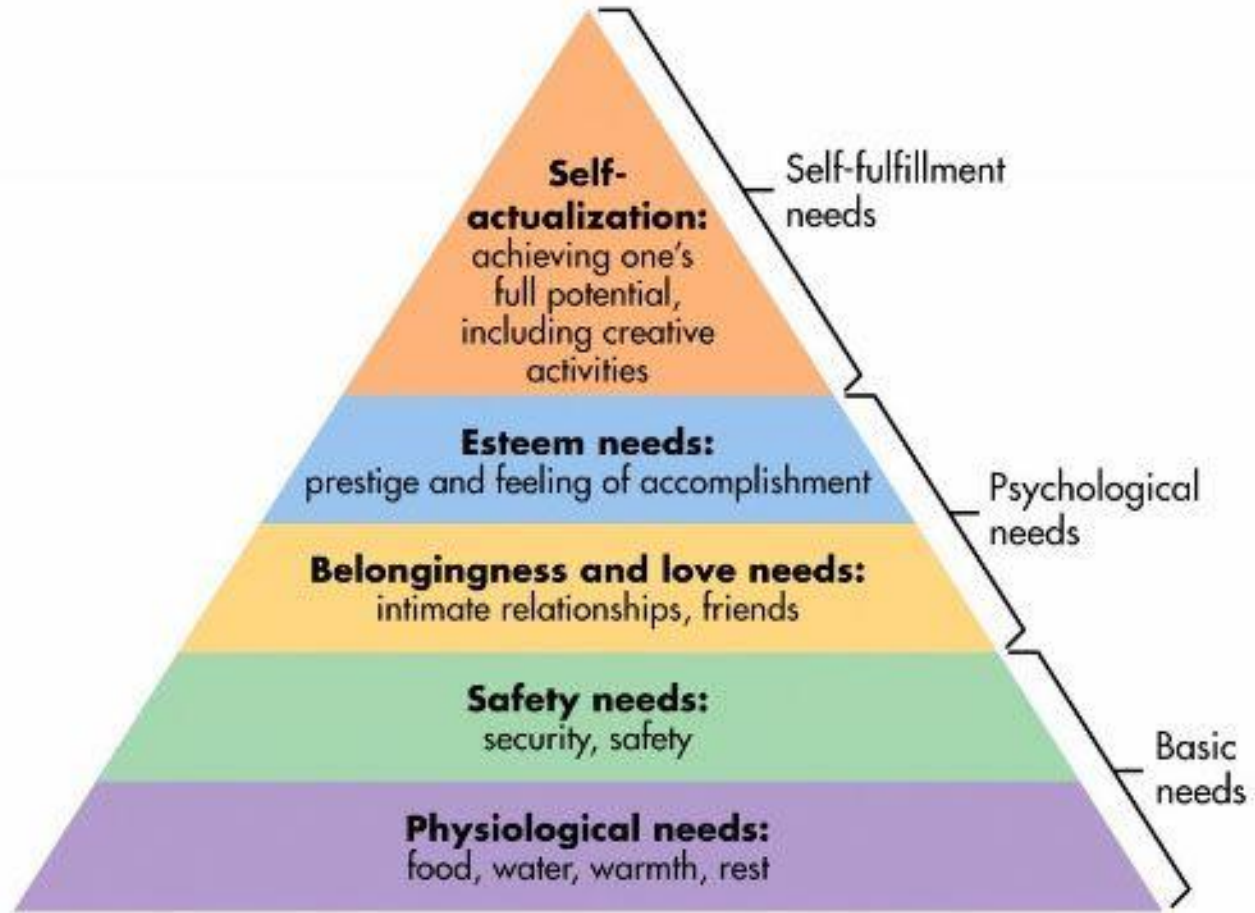




The importance of accommodation; a fundamental human need.

Jessica Lomas, Professor Belinda Winder, Dr Nicholas Blagden,
Rebecca Lievesley & Lynn Saunders

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs



In the media...

BBC

 Sign in



News

Sport

Weather

iPlayer

TV

Radio

NEWS

Home

UK

World

Business

Politics

Tech

Science

Health

Education

Entertainment

Education

School Report

Global Education

Housing problems causing mental illness, says charity

Homelessness issues

- Cannot give exact figures
 - Different types of homelessness
 - Rough sleepers: 4,134 on a single night
 - Temporary accommodation: 75,740 households on a single night
 - Statutory homelessness: 57,740 households in last year
 - Hidden homelessness not accounted for in statistics

 - Reach an average age of 47
 - Increased likelihood of experiencing violence
 - Increased suicide rates
- (Crisis, 2017)
- Considering the bigger picture

Offender populations

- Added difficulties for offender populations
- Employment issues (job restrictions, disclosure, stigma)
- Social isolation (friendships, relationships, the wider community)
- Accommodation
- Landlords are less inclined to rent to those with previous convictions, compared to a matched non-offending control group (Evans & Porter, 2014)
- People entering custody are more likely to be homeless than the general population (Williams, Poyser, & Hopkins, 2012)

Accommodation and recidivism

- Every one move in accommodation = 70% increased chance of re-arrest (Makarios, Steiner, & Travis, 2007)
 - Accommodation and employment combined are both important (May, Sharma, & Stewart, 2008)
 - Different types of accommodation can have different effects:
 - Transitional facilities and short term shelters ☹️
 - Private tenancies and work shelters 😊
- (Clark, 2015)

Sex offence convictions

- Additional barriers for those with previous convictions for a sexual offence
- License restrictions (prohibits certain locations, internet access etc.)
- Difficult to foster both public and political support (Stojkovic & Farkas, 2014)
- Counter-intuitive risk management procedures?
 - Exemplified problem within the US (Levenson, 2016)
 - Similar considerations within the UK (McAlinden, 2009)
- Sub-populations within this subpopulation
 - People with autism & dementia (Vinter, personal communication, 25th April, 2017)
 - People with mental health issues and physical impairments (Kitson-Boyce, personal communication, 25th April 2017)

Approved Premises

- Probation run or private
- Accommodate people on license
- Manage those deemed to be high risk

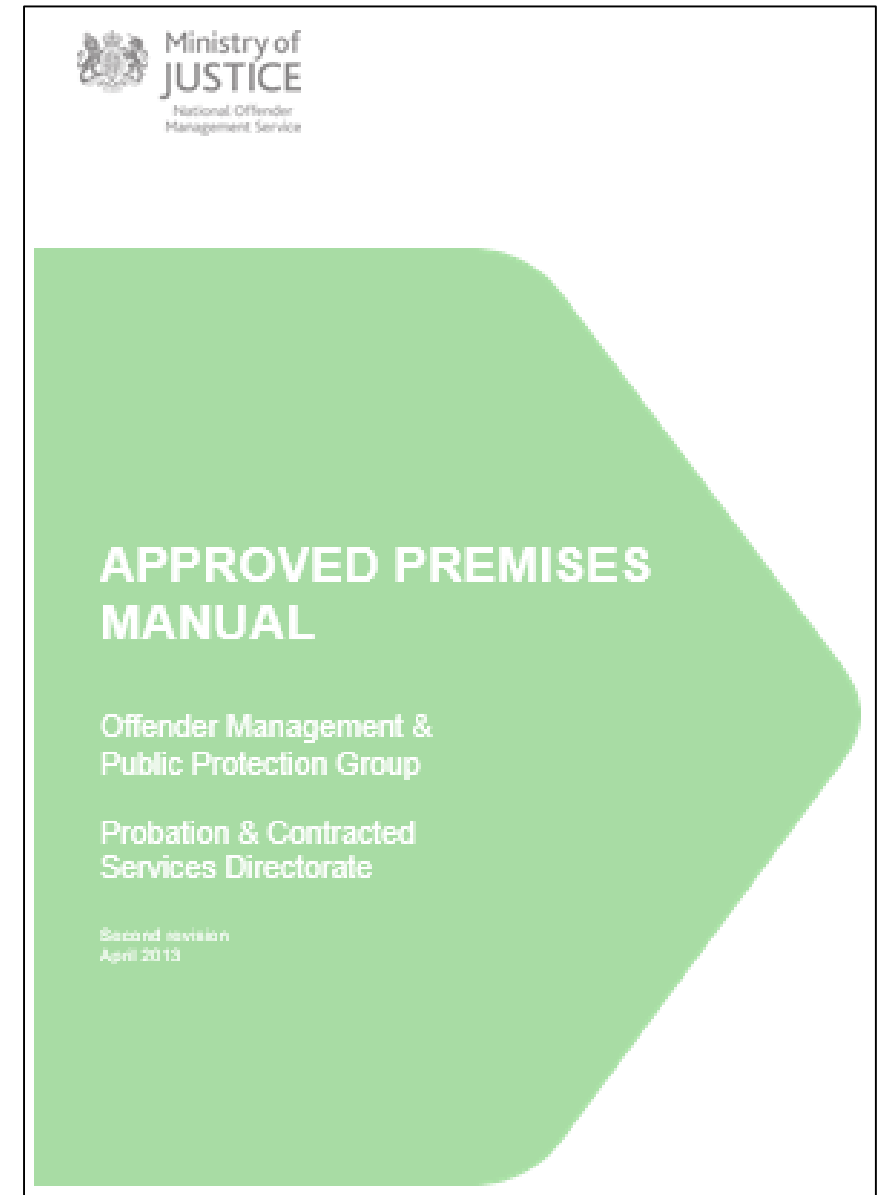
- Should not be viewed as an accommodation provider
- Part of an agreed resettlement plan
- No fixed tenancy
- Main function: manage offenders for public protection purposes
(MoJ, 2013; Feather, personal communication, 2nd May 2017)

- 48 hours notice given by AP

Approved Premises: Functions

- Protect public
- Assess offenders using approved tools
- Deliver risk management plans
- 'Enhanced supervision'
- Deliver interventions
- Reduce risk of further offending
- Safe and secure environment
- Enforce court orders and licences
- Deliver effective treatment
- Coordinate delivery of a range of services (e.g. health, education...)

(MoJ, 2013)



Third Sector Organisations

- Free from government control
 - Charities, independent businesses

 - Prisons usually have links with TSOs
 - Might sometimes be unknown to prisoners
 - Viewed positively by staff and prisoners
 - Face barriers
- (Mills, Gojkovic, Meek & Mullins, 2013)
- Clinks reports

Current research

- Approved premises (Reeves, 2013)
 - Experiences of those living within an AP who had previous convictions for a sexual offence
 - Interviewed staff and residents
 - Residents perceived being grouped under the “sex offender” label
 - A them versus us mentality

- Bridge House report (Mills & Grimshaw, 2012)
 - Charitable initiative specifically for those with sex offence convictions
 - Viewed favourably by residents
 - Partner agencies expressed concerns

SLF Accommodation Project

- The SLF want to develop their own accommodation project suitable for individuals with previous convictions for a sexual offence
- For people released from APs – where after?
- Hopefully aims to effectively balance risk and rehabilitation

Future steps:

- More information about what is already out there
- More information on methods of best practice
- Developing links, partnerships and multi-agency working
- Poster outlines research projects that aim to help inform this

References

- BBC (2017). *Housing problems causing mental illness, says charity*. Available at: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-39631083> (retrieved, 25th April 2017)
- Clark, V. A. (2015). The Effect of Community Context and Post-Release Housing Placements on Recidivism: Evidence from Minnesota. *St Paul: Minnesota Department of Corrections*.
- Crisis (2017). *Types of homelessness*. Available at: <https://www.crisis.org.uk/ending-homelessness/homelessness-knowledge-hub/types-of-homelessness/> (retrieved 25th April 2017)
- Evans, D. N., & Porter, J. R. (2015). Criminal history and landlord rental decisions: A New York quasi-experimental study. *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, 11(1), 21-42.
- Levenson, J. S. (2016). Hidden challenges: Sex offenders legislated into homelessness. *Journal of Social Work*, 0(0), 1-16.?
- Makarios, M., Steiner, B., & Travis III, L. F. (2010). Examining the predictors of recidivism among men and women released from prison in Ohio. *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 37(12), 1377-1391.
- Maslow, A. H. (1943). A theory of human motivation. *Psychological review*, 50(4), 370.

References

- May, C., Sharma, N., & Stewart, D. (2008). Factors linked to reoffending: a one-year follow-up of prisoners who took part in the Resettlement Surveys 2001, 2003 and 2004. *Research Summary, 5*.
- McAlinden, A. M. (2009). *Employment opportunities and community re-integration of sex offenders in Northern Ireland*. Belfast: Northern Ireland Office.
- Mills, A., Gojkovic, D., Meek, R., & Mullins, D. (2013). Housing ex-prisoners: the role of the third sector. *Safer Communities, 12*(1), 38-49.
- Mills, H., & Grimshaw, R. (2012). A life sentence really? the resettlement of ex-prisoners with convictions for sexual offences. *Criminal Justice Matters, 87*(1), 50-51.
- Reeves, C. (2013). 'The others': Sex offenders' social identities in probation approved premises. *The Howard Journal of Criminal Justice, 52*(4), 383-398.
- Stojkovic, S., & Farkas, M. A. (2014). So you want to find a transitional house for sexually violent persons: An account of political failure. *Criminal Justice Policy Review, 25*(6), 659-682.
- Williams, K., Poyser, J., & Hopkins, K. (2012). Accommodation, homelessness and reoffending of prisoners: Results from the Surveying Prisoner Crime Reduction (SPCR) survey. *Ministry of Justice Research Summary, 3*, 12.