



Key Players in the Field of Cooperation

Gregory Headley

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Making Every
Adult Matter

Our Vision



Our vision is that everyone experiencing multiple disadvantage can reach their potential and contribute fully to their communities.



Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM)

- Formed in England in 2009 in response to the siloed commissioning, working and policy development within the public and charity sector for people experiencing multiple disadvantage
- We work with place-based partnerships to help them *focus on systems* for people experiencing multiple disadvantage. We use our shared knowledge and experience to influence policy nationally and locally
- We strongly value coproduction with people with lived experience of multiple disadvantage and we are increasingly focussed on naming and addressing structural inequalities in our local work with areas.



CollectiveVoice

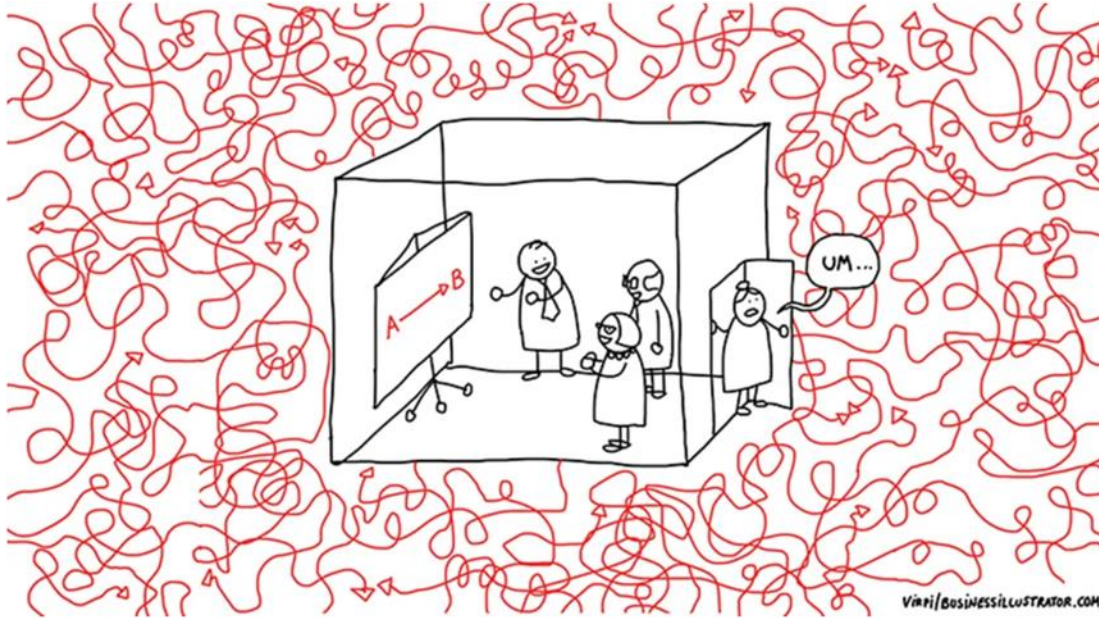


Supporting the **voluntary sector**
working in the **criminal justice system**

Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM)

People facing multiple disadvantage experience a combination of problems. For many, their current circumstances are shaped by long-term experiences of poverty, deprivation, trauma, abuse and neglect. Many also face racism, sexism and homophobia. These structural inequalities intersect in different ways, manifesting in a combination of experiences including homelessness, substance misuse, domestic violence, contact with the criminal justice system and mental ill health.

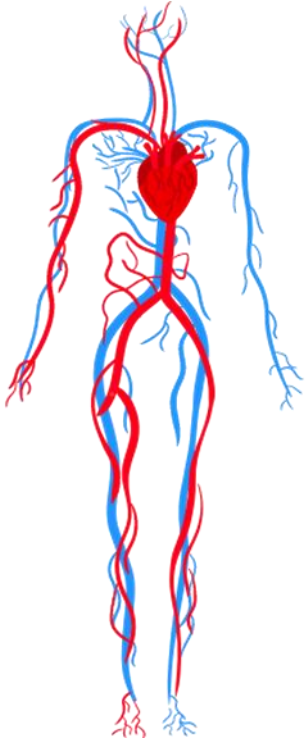
From Complexity to Clarity



- Multiple Disadvantage is complex
- Systemic problems need systemic solutions
- Systems Thinking helps to make sense of complexity by looking at in terms of wholes and relationships and embracing multiple perspectives.

Ignoring complexity makes it worse. Embracing complexity leads to clarity.

Trying to Define ‘System’



- **Stuff** – measurable and identifiable components
- **Connections** – ways in which stuff relates to or influences other stuff
- **Purpose** – the reason we have grouped this stuff and these connections together and named it as ‘system X’

‘A set of things working together as parts of a mechanism or an interconnecting network; a complex whole.’

What does the data tell us?



Longitudinal
evaluation data
from 924 people
in 27 areas



An 89% reduction in
rough sleeping
From 46% at the start of
support to 5% after two years.



Improvements to
individuals' wellbeing
and circumstances
as evidenced by the
Homelessness Outcomes
Star and New Directions
Team assessment.



2,687 people
supported

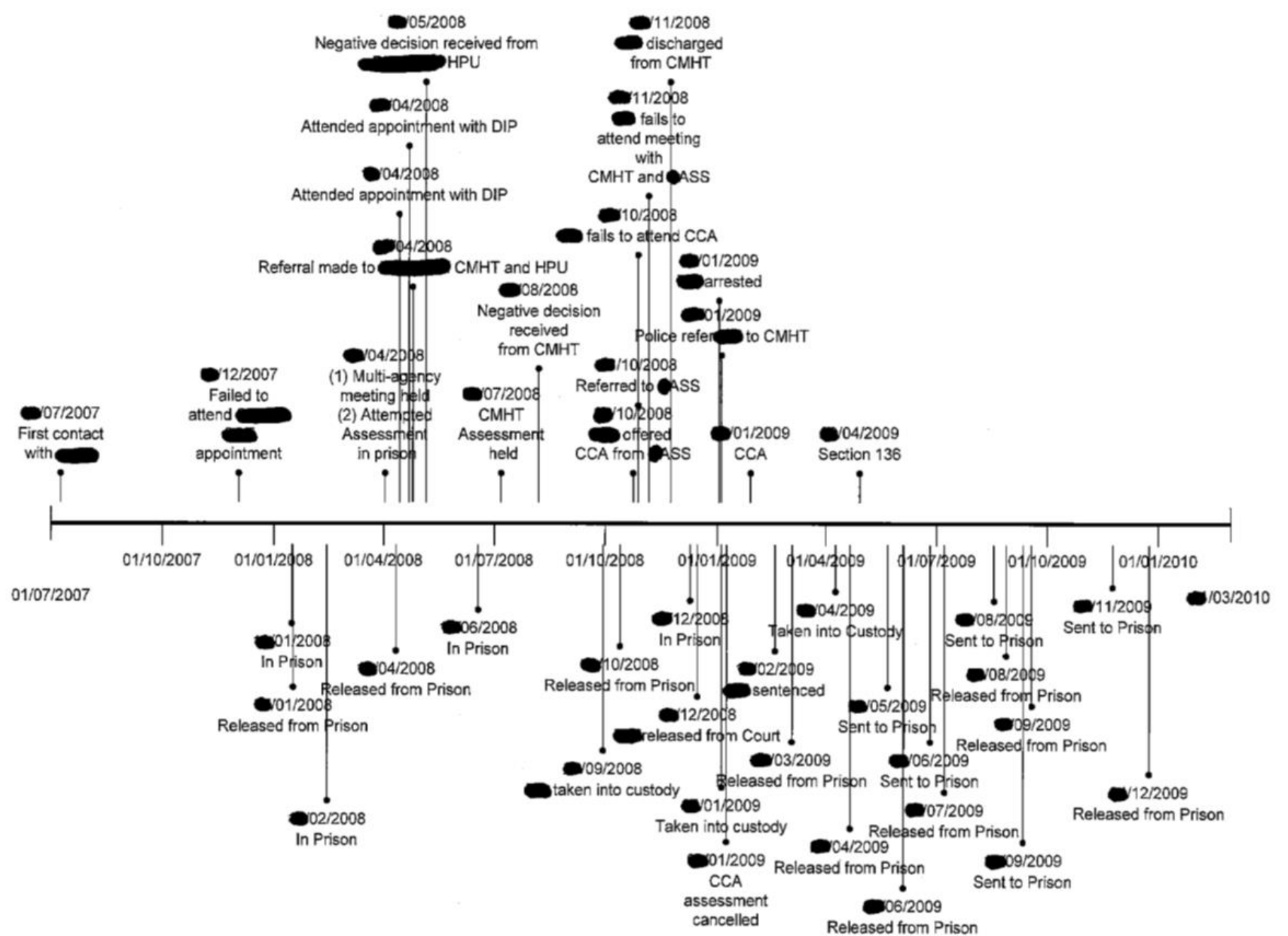


Statistically significant
reductions in A&E
attendance (37%), non-
elective acute hospital
admissions (50%),
arrests (32%) and nights
in prison (37%).
All figures over two years,
except for hospital
admissions over one year.



Evidence of work
to change local
systems across
6 key themes

People



What's happening in the UK

- Government's Ministry for Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)
- National Multiple Disadvantage and Systems Change Work:
 - Fulfilling Lives
 - Changing Futures
- People rough sleeping on a single night in 2024 was **4,667**
- **164% higher** than in 2010 which was 1,768
- 131,140 households in temporary accommodation in England.

Area Focus...



Hertfordshire MEAM Approach

- Formed in 2022 (previous partnership)
- Focus on people who are homeless or rough sleeping for whom the system is not working
- Secondary group focused on young people leaving care
- Dedicated MEAM staff have identified system gaps and barriers supported by the research team
- Extensive interviews and case studies produced. These have been used to guide commission and support systems change
- Adoption of the Team Around Me approach and a significant reduction in evictions from the supported accommodation pathway.



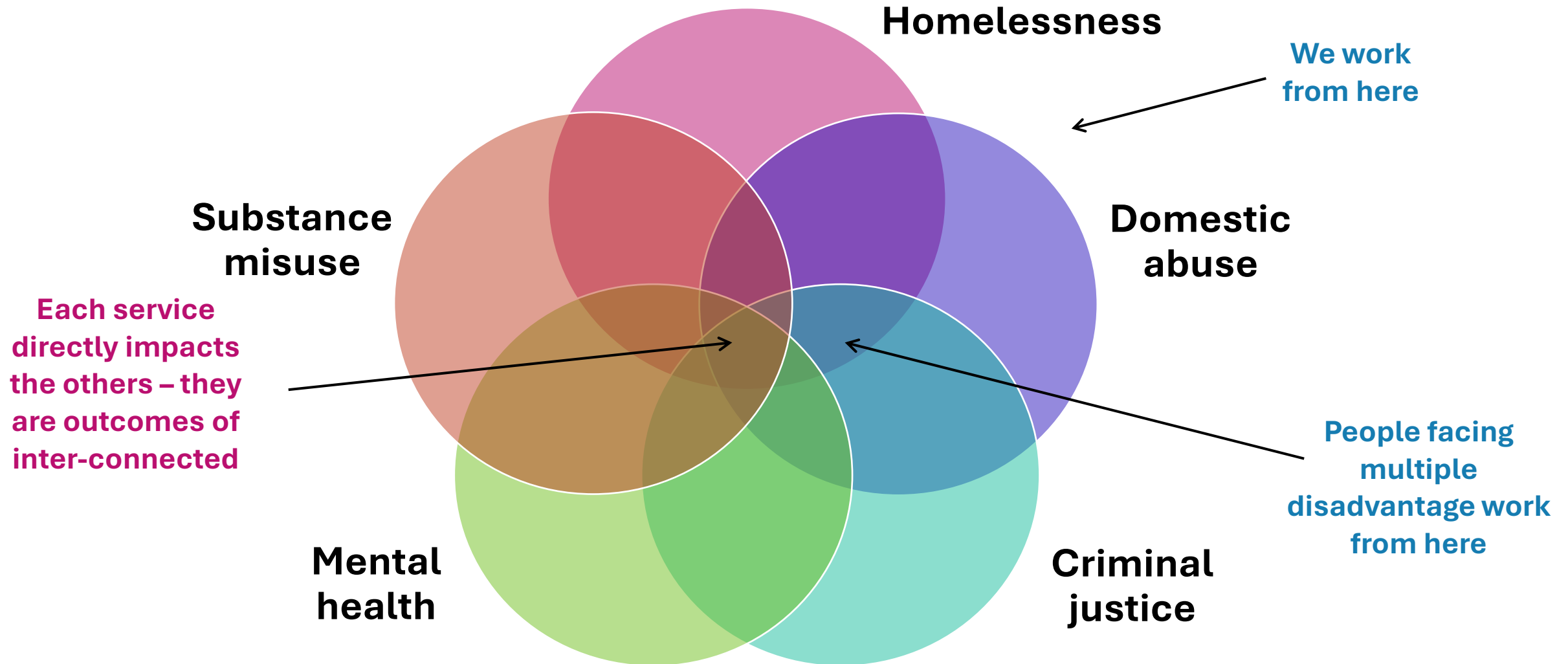
Leeds MEAM Ambition

“We want people with experience of complex trauma to have access to culturally competent services, somewhere safe to live, something to do and someone to love.”

“We want to create a more compassionate, coordinated, and inclusive Leeds by working together across sectors to support adults facing multiple disadvantages—ensuring that every person has the opportunity to thrive, regardless of their circumstances. This includes ensuring all voices are heard, listened to, and where we can take action to challenge and change attitudes and behaviours within the city centre.”



From common mess.... to common purpose!



Děkuji



meam.org.uk
info@meam.org.uk
gregory.headley@meam.org.uk