

From: wendy goldsmith

Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 12:57 PM

To: Council Agenda <councilagenda@london.ca>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: homelessness hub plan

Hello ,

I am writing in full support of the homelessness hub plan, including all the proposed sites. I am a lifetime resident of London and have been a social worker in various roles and positions in London for 35 years. My work always involves working with the most marginalized and oppressed in our communities who reside in every corner of our city. Over the past 10 years I have seen a stark increase in homelessness in London and the opioid crisis is only one reason for this increase in poverty and homelessness.

I feel that it is beyond time for London to address this complex issue with the coordinated service delivery approach that the plan supports. It is important that the hubs serve all areas of our communities including the Northwest.

Homeless is a city problem, not just a problem relegated to certain neighborhoods and frankly the NIMBY arguments and comments I have heard are entitled and egregious. Aren't we all here to support one another? It is an irrational belief that community hubs are not needed across the city. Homeless hubs won't bring drug problems to communities because they are already there. To think otherwise is naiive. Homelessness hubs will bring solutions, not problems.

I strongly support the plan in its entirety and hope that the final decision reflects the fact that homelessness and human rights are everyone's business.

Sincerely ,
Wendy Goldsmith