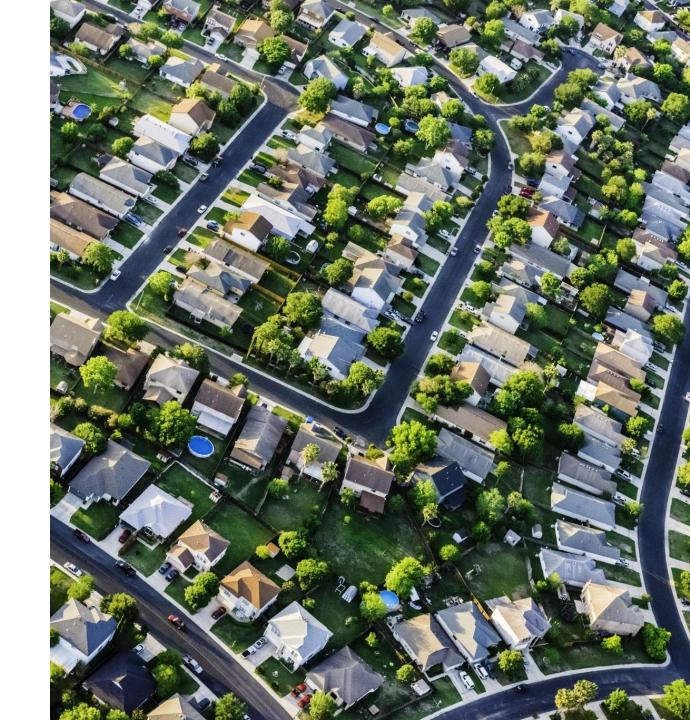


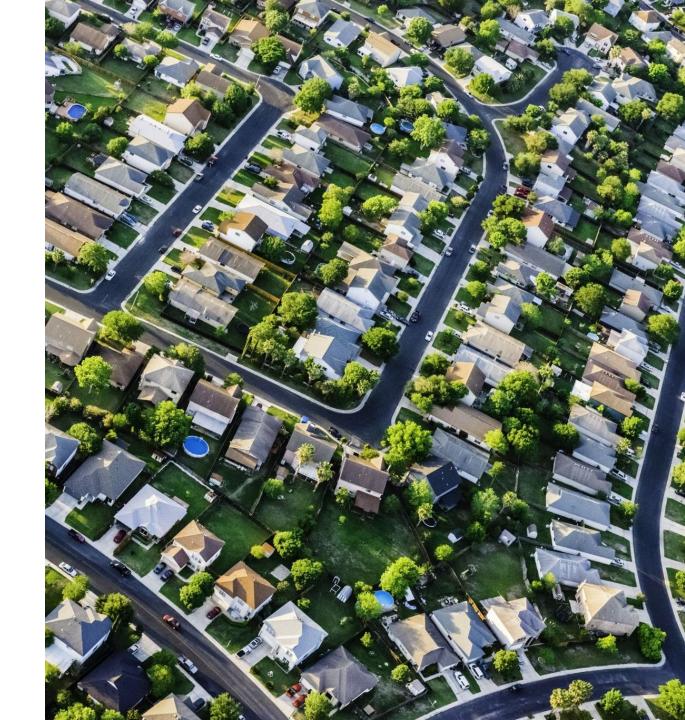
Ending or managing homelessness?

- The focus in Finnish national programmes has for a long time been ending homelessness, especially since 2008
- What does ending homelessness require?
- Understanding of the needs of people in homelessness
- A concrete strategy and an implementation plan
- A plan how much housing is needed and from which channels housing can be obtained
- Support system is secondary as the actual need can be assessed only after getting a home
- There's more flexibility in arranging support



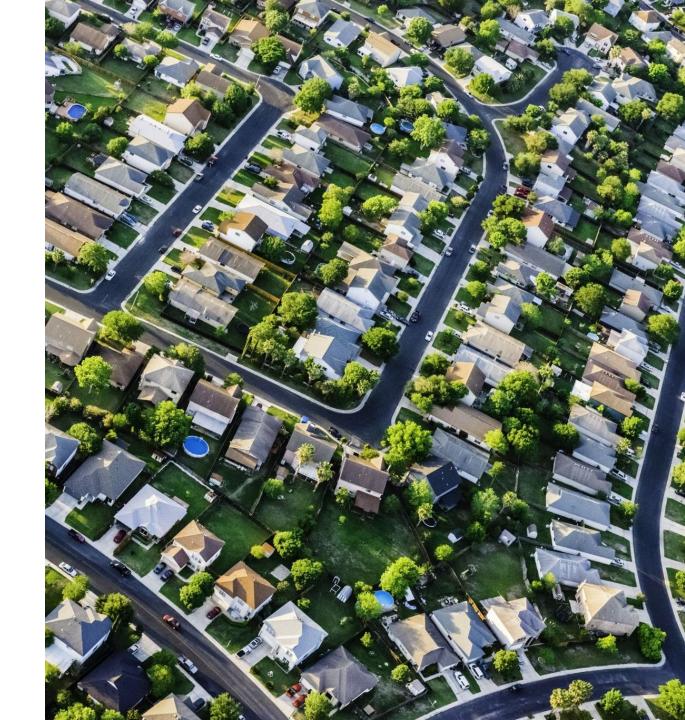
Ending or managing homelessness?

- A systemic change from a staircase model with temporary housing in shelters and hostels as the main option into a system based on permanent housing with different housing options and support has been accomplished
- The critical element in this systemic change was the renovation of shelters and hostels into supported housing units
- The Finnish Housing First as a basic philosophy
- Providing a new role for shelter organisations in the new system
- Providing housing for all groups of homeless people, not a limited category
- Social rent housing is the main structural element of prevention
- Ending homelessness is first of all a part of the housing policy, secondarily part of the social policy



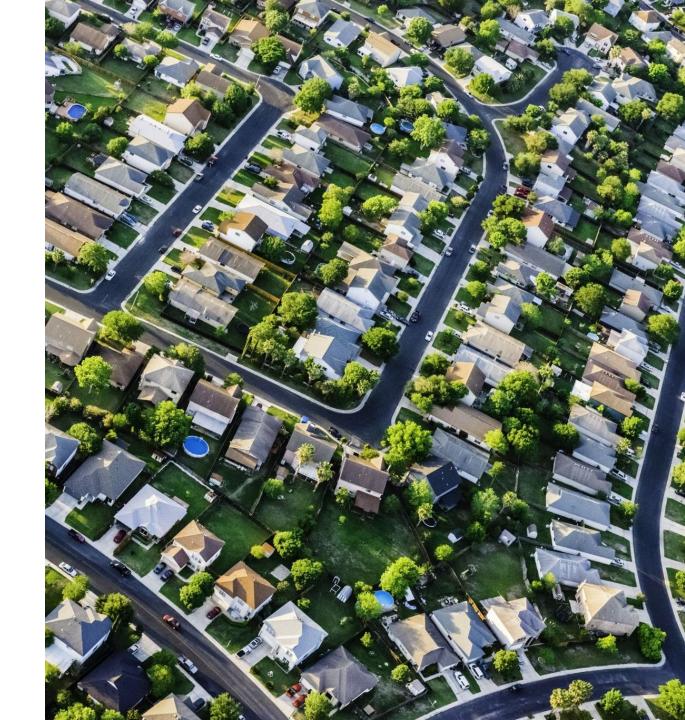
Managing homelessness means...

- Housing and the new service model HFP is provided only for a limited group of homeless people
- Temporary housing is still the main option
- Upscaling HFP is difficult and slow because of lack of housing and relying only on scattered housing
- · There is no national plan of acquiring the housing
- A high quality service is provided for a limited group of homeless people
- Introducing HFP has not changed the life of most of the homeless people



How many apartments are needed to house a single person experiencing homelessness? (according to statistics)

- 2006: 25 apartments/person
- Explanation: Housing authorities had a different definition of homelessness than social authorities
- Flow of new homeless persons
- 2008-2019:
- 5663 homes were provided for long-term homeless persons
- Homelessness decreased by 3360
- 1.7 apartments/person
- Better common understanding of the definition of homelessness
- Better targeting of housing for homeless persons



The importance of youth homelessness prevention

- A part of the national programmes to end homelessness since 2008 has been building new affordable social housing for young people (18-29 years old) as a prevention measure
- 2012-2019: 1413 new homes for youth were built in programme cities
- Youth homelessness (under 25 y) dropped from 2049 to 850
- At what age do Europeans leave parental home?
- Finland 21 years
- Euro average 25 years
- Ireland 28 years
- Serbia Croatia 32 years



What's needed?

- We have every reason to be happy of small successes, but if/when we want to end homelessness we need hundreds and thousands of apartments
- What is more important fidelity or ending homelessness?
- A little bit more of flexibility and lookin at familiar things with fresh eyes would help
- As well as a curious mind to invent maybe something completely new!

