

Big Southall Sleep Out raises over £7,500 for local homeless charity

More than 20 people have braved the wet and windy weather for the inaugural Big Southall Sleep Out, raising over £7,500 for local charity [Hope for Southall Street Homeless](#) (HSSH).

The event was held at the [West London Construction Academy](#), which is located at Berkeley's [Southall Waterside](#) development. It involved members of the Southall community and people who work for Berkeley spending the night outside to raise money for HSSH. Virendra Sharma MP and Lord Young of Norwood Green came to support the Sleep Out with local faith leaders and some of Berkeley's trade partners and suppliers who are involved in building Southall Waterside.

On the night, participants were given an insight into the realities of sleeping rough with a talk from Navraj Singh from HSSH, who took part in the event alongside other representatives of the charity.

HSSH was established in December 2015 and runs a night shelter in Southall, which provides accommodation, cleaning facilities and hot meals to local homeless people.

Navraj Singh from Hope for Southall Street Homeless said: *"Homelessness is as visible on the streets of Southall and across London now as it has ever been. A key focus for us is educating the public on the issues that cause people to sleep rough and the difficulties they face on a daily basis."*

"I'd like to thank everyone who took part in the event and those who have donated – the money raised will help us to support people come off the streets and take steps towards a healthier and more sustainable future."

Lord Young commented: *"It was great to see everyone getting involved in the Sleep Out. Although it was only for one night, sleeping rough and hearing from Navraj was truly eye-opening. It underlined the importance of the work HSSH is doing in our community to help those who are homeless and tackle the issues that may cause people to be on the streets in the first place."*

The Big Southall Sleep Out was organised as part of the ongoing partnership between HSSH and Berkeley West Thames. So far over £90,000 has been raised for the charity from the partnership – along with helping to fund its night shelter this money has enabled HSSH to recruit a full-time complex needs case worker. Their focus is to support individuals reconnecting with family and provide access to health and employment services.

You can support HSSH and sponsor the Big Southall Sleep Out by visiting the **fundraising page:** <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/southallsleepout>

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Notes to editors

Southall Waterside

Southall Waterside, Berkeley's exciting new development in West London is one of the capital's most ambitious regeneration projects. The 3,750-home scheme will bring a redundant gasworks site back into use for the whole community to benefit from. Southall Waterside is about more than just homes. It will be a thriving new neighbourhood on the Grand Union Canal – with a buzzing commercial district, two new parks and landscaped green spaces, and open up access to the adjacent 90-acre Minet Country Park for all to enjoy.

The first 304 homes to be delivered at Southall Waterside are all affordable and are being offered to existing Ealing residents under either affordable rent or shared ownership.

Every home at Southall Waterside will be within a five-minute cycle of a station, and the arrival of Crossrail will provide a direct service to Bond Street in 17 minutes and Canary Wharf in 30 minutes. A network of safe cycle paths and walkways will improve connections to the surrounding area and open up access to a 1km waterside trail along the Grand Union Canal.

About Berkeley Group

[Berkeley Group](#) builds homes and neighbourhoods in London, Birmingham and across the South of England. We create beautiful, successful places where communities thrive and where people of all ages and backgrounds enjoy a great quality of life.

We are a FTSE 100 company. In the last five years we built more than 19,500 homes of all types and tenures and made a £12bn contribution to the UK economy.

We take a holistic approach to placemaking that goes beyond the conventional role of a developer and puts the strength and wellbeing of the wider community at the heart of every plan. Every place that we create has a bespoke, locally inspired masterplan and every home we build is individually designed.

Our business strategy is called [Our Vision](#). It provides a framework by which we strive to become a world-class business. It pushes us to create better places, to strengthen local communities and to achieve the highest standards of environmental sustainability.

Through the [Berkeley Foundation](#) we fund impactful charitable programmes and partnerships, which make a profound difference to thousands of disadvantaged people every year.

Find out more at www.berkeleygroup.co.uk