



## EUROCITIES Social Affairs Forum

Peer review: call for peer cities

### Introduction

EUROCITIES is looking for three cities to become 'peers' for the peer review in Newcastle: 'Everyone belongs' - Active Inclusion Newcastle: preventing homelessness in times of crisis' on the 23-24 of June 2014.

The 'peer cities' will have an opportunity to present their homelessness strategies during the event. They will also be asked to comment on the host city's discussion paper and prepare questions for discussion.

The travel and accommodation costs for the 'peer city' representatives will be covered.

### The role of the peer city

The peer city is expected to:

1. Prepare a response to the host city's discussion paper (which will be provided ahead of the peer review) - this can be done in a formal way (short paper) or less formal way e.g. PowerPoint presentations or notes will bullet points.

The peer cities are also asked to prepare questions and discussion points, ahead of the meeting.

2. Prepare a presentation on Active Inclusion of people who are homeless in their own city. Each peer city will have 10 minutes to present during the event, and 5 minutes will be dedicated to answering the question.

The basis for this should be a PowerPoint presentation. Other materials can also be handed out to the participants. It is also possible to show video clips, infographics etc.

The presentation should address the three pillars of Active Inclusion Strategy and how they are integrated at the city level. The three pillars are:

- (1) access to quality services;
- (2) adequate minimum income;
- (3) inclusive labour market.

The presentation should address the following key questions regarding the policy:

- Background information/setting the context: governance structure, situation in the city etc.
- The issue that the policy or project is designed to tackle,
- The city approaches to the issue: details on the policy measures and projects,
- Results: assessment of the effectiveness of the approaches - what worked well,
- Difficulties and constraints - what did not work so well and challenges ahead,
- Success factors and transferability of the practice of the approach.



3. After the peer review, a researcher, who will be writing up a report, may contact the representatives of the peer cities for additional information regarding their presentation. This needs to be duly provided.

### Terms of Reference for the peer city

This set of information should help the peer city estimate the workload associated with being a peer city. It also explains the benefits of being a peer city and support that will be offered by EURO CITIES.

#### Benefits to your city from being a peer city:

- It gives more visibility to your city:
  - your practice will be part of a peer review report,
  - the report will be disseminated on many occasions,
  - we will write about the report on EURO CITIES' website, in our newsletters etc.
- Other cities will become aware of your work and will be able to transfer your project (if applicable).
- You may receive valuable feedback and new perspectives from the participating cities. This may help improve your policy and projects in the future.
- EURO CITIES will cover travel and accommodation costs of one representative from each of the three selected peer cities.

#### Obligations of a peer city:

- To provide a short response to the host city's background paper - sent to EURO CITIES secretariat **minimum 10 days before** the peer review.
- To provide a presentation on peer city's practice - sent to EURO CITIES secretariat **minimum 7 days before** the peer review. Any potential issues need to be resolved in a timely manner before the event.
- Active participation in the entire peer review.
- Providing the peer review researcher with information or clarifications (if necessary).
- The reimbursement of travel and accommodation costs is conditional on fulfilling all of the above mentioned obligations, as well as on sending to EURO CITIES office a duly filled in reimbursement claim form and all invoices, receipts, tickets, boarding passes (originals) within 3 months after the event.

### How to become a peer city?

If you are interested in becoming a peer city, please fill in the form below and send it to Paulina Banas, EURO CITIES policy coordinator: [paulina.banas@eurocities.eu](mailto:paulina.banas@eurocities.eu) by 23rd of May 2014.



**Application to become a peer city:**

City:	
Name of representing officer:	
Briefly describe the strategy, policy or project for active inclusion of people who are homeless that you would like to present at the peer review:	
What is your main motivation to become a peer city?	