



# The Big Sleepout 2017

## Who are Off The Fence?

**Off The Fence is a Brighton-based Christian charity that works with vulnerable individuals and rough sleepers in the city.**

The mission of Off the Fence is to eradicate social and spiritual poverty in Brighton & Hove, engaging with individuals to create a new level of hope in the City. Off the Fence provides short and long-term solutions by delivering a range of support networks to empower people and prevent poverty in all its forms. The charity offers people hope, a way forward and the opportunity to live a transformed life.

## What is the Big Sleepout?

**The Big Sleepout is an annual fundraising challenge organised by Off The Fence.**

The event is a practical experience designed to help people get a taste of what life might be like if they were homeless or sleeping rough. For one night people sleep rough in an outdoor, secure location in order to reflect on concern for the marginalised and to start thinking about how they can respond.

## Why The Big Sleepout?

**A recent report estimated that there were 3569 people sleeping rough at any given night across the UK in 2015.**

Even though homelessness charities like Off The Fence exist, many of the everyday things that we take for granted – food, homes, warm and clean clothes – are hard to come by and, especially when temperatures drop below freezing, the lack of such basic necessities can be life threatening. Because of such conditions crime, disease and feelings of hopelessness and isolation are daily realities for many.

This event will provide a glimpse of what life is like for rough sleepers and will raise the much needed money for Off The Fence to help rebuild their lives.



## When and Where?

**Date:** 7pm Saturday 11th November 2017  
until  
8am Sunday 12th November 2017

**Venue:** Aldrington C of E Primary School  
Eridge Road  
Hove  
BN3 7QD

### Additional Info:

- Ample parking is available on site
- Free breakfast and cardboard boxes will be provided
- **Under no circumstances are alcohol or cigarettes to be brought onto or consumed on the premises. This is a policy which the school has put in place in order for us to use the grounds safely**

## What to Expect?

- Toilet facilities
- Hot drinks available throughout the night
- Biscuits
- Breakfast
- A first aider on site

## What to Bring?

- Sleeping bag & pillow
- Cardboard box/sleeping mat - we will be providing cardboard box but you may want more for added comfort
- Plastic sheeting (if rain/snow is forecast)
- Warm clothing
- Hat/gloves/scarf
- A mug
- Any sponsorship money you may have collected (unless you are using an online fundraising page)



## Raising Money through The Big Sleepout

All money raised through the The Big Sleepout will support the work of the registered charity Off The Fence Trust (charity number 1108777). Further information about our work is available on our website: [www.offthefence.org.uk](http://www.offthefence.org.uk) or by contacting us at Off The Fence Trust, 37 Portland Road, Hove, East Sussex BN3 5DQ.

### Virgin Money Giving Page

Creating a Virgin Money Giving page is a very quick and easy way to fundraise for the Big Sleepout.

To setup an online fundraising page through Virgin Money Giving head to [www.virginmoneygiving.com](http://www.virginmoneygiving.com) and search 'Off The Fence Trust'. The website will then take you through a step by step process of setting up your fundraising page. Once you're all set-up, it's just a matter of encouraging everyone (friends, family and colleagues) to donate via your page!

If you have any questions or would like any support in setting up a Virgin Money Giving page, please email us at [fundraising@offthefence.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@offthefence.org.uk) or call us on [01273 933885](tel:01273933885).

Remember to promote your fundraising through social media. Sharing your Virgin Giving Money page over Facebook, Twitter and other social media channels are great ways to boost your fundraising total!

### Sponsorship Form

You can also raise funds using one of our sponsorship forms.

To go about doing this all you need to do is print out this form (pages 4-5) and look for willing friends, family and colleagues who could donate to the cause. Once they have filled out their name, address and pledged a donation amount on the form you can bring this form and your sponsorship money to the event or drop them off to our offices at 37 Portland Road, Hove, East Sussex BN3 5DQ.

Again if you have any queries please do email us at [fundraising@offthefence.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@offthefence.org.uk) or call us on [01273 933885](tel:01273933885).