



Steven Platts- Chief Executive

Groundswell

What is your role, and what does your organisation do?

I am the Chief Executive of [Groundswell](#). Since 1996 we've been supporting homeless people to be involved in delivering solutions to homelessness – including peer research, client involvement and tackling the health inequalities associated with experience of homelessness.

What is your expertise you bring to the board?

My whole career has been dedicated to improving the lives of people who are marginalised in society. I have provided one to one support to homeless men, managed teacher training programmes in refugee camps and led two homeless charities in London. In total, I have over 15 years' experience of enabling vulnerable people to overcome social injustice.

The two charities I have led in London have both grown successfully. It takes a team to build this success and I feel my strongest role has been in the area of diversifying income, developing opportunities and very sound financial management.

What do you hope we will achieve together in 2020

Groundswell is about to start a four year lottery funded programme called [#HealthNow](#). It is a UK wide campaign, working towards an inclusive health system for homeless people, the initiative is led by Groundswell and delivered in partnership with national charities Crisis and Shelter.

Everyone at Groundswell is delighted that we will be able build stronger connections with National Voices going forward as their mission to bring person centred care to everyone is closely aligned with our [#HealthNow](#) strategy.

One thing about you that isn't about your job

In my spare time I have two lovely children to keep me busy and do a lot of long distance running to keep me sane.

In terms of new skills, I often feel a bit like I am coming to a lot of this with a background in homelessness and service delivery. A stronger understanding of the NHS, if such a thing exists, would help me to be a better trustee