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## Charity to sell unwanted gifts to help homeless households

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A charity has called on the public to send them their unwanted Christmas gifts to help raise money for homeless households.

Anchor House - a homeless charity operating in East London - will be collecting people's unwanted Christmas presents which it will then sell online. All the money from the proceeds will go towards sponsoring a room for a homeless person.

The charity explains that this year 35,680 households in the UK were deemed homeless "without food, shelter and support".

Alternatively, Anchor House has asked the public to sell their own items directly and give the proceeds to the charity.

Anchor House provides accommodation for up to 180 single homeless people each year in Canning Town, the "most deprived ward in the third most deprived borough in the country".

It also provides a wide range of accredited vocational training courses in construction, electrical, plumbing and distance learning for both residents and the local community.

The scheme represents a win-win situation for the charity. "The less ugly Christmas presents out there, the more chances our homeless residents have at turning their lives around," it said.

Recent figures have showed that homelessness is on the rise in the UK, with 12,510 people accepted as owed a main homelessness duty in the third quarter of the year - a **rise of 6 per cent** since the same period a year ago.

[Link to Anchor House](#)



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