



ON CAMERA
Comedian Dave Spikey with star of the film Derek Nicholl

Calling for Action! on homeless

COMEDIAN Dave Spikey starred alongside an inspiring cast of homeless actors in a comedy film shot in Manchester.

The charity project invited busloads of people from rehabilitation units and homeless centres to get involved.

Recovering heroin addict, Derek Nicholl, took on a main role in the film, entitled *The Invitation*. Derek, originally from Dundee, was sleeping rough on

the streets of Manchester in December but is starting to turn his life around and is now living in supported housing.

He was asked to take part in the *Acting on Impulse* project after visiting a soup kitchen.

Writer and producer Lauren Tomlinson said the three-day shoot had been a real success.

"It went really well although it was a challenge," she said.

"On the Saturday, we had 30

homeless extras on set but they all really enjoyed it. A lot said it had really helped them and they want to get involved again. Derek was committed, he learned his lines and turned up every single day. He came here to try to change his luck and to be acting alongside Dave Spikey was great for him."

The film will be screened at the Comedy Store on June 27 at 7pm and tickets cost £4.