
CHAIN ANNUAL REPORT

WESTMINSTER

APRIL 2014 - MARCH 2015

MAYOR OF LONDON

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1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents information about people seen rough sleeping by outreach teams in Westminster between April 2014 and March 2015. Information in the report is derived from the Combined Homelessness and Information Network (CHAIN), a multi-agency database recording information about rough sleepers and the wider street population in London. CHAIN, which is commissioned and funded by the Greater London Authority (GLA) and managed by St Mungo's Broadway, represents the UK's most detailed and comprehensive source of information about rough sleeping.

The final section of the report presents information about people arriving at or departing from temporary accommodation for rough sleepers in Westminster. People included in this section will have been seen rough sleeping at some point in their history, but not necessarily during 2014/15.

Percentage figures in this report

Please note that, in some cases, percentage figures given in this report are rounded up or down to the nearest whole number. This may mean that individual figures in tables and charts do not add up to a combined total of 100%.

Glossary of acronyms used in this report

ASB: Anti-Social Behaviour

Defined in the Crime and Disorder Act (1998) as acting 'in a manner that caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household as the perpetrator.'

CEE: Central and Eastern European

Used to denote the ten A8 and A2 European Union accession countries (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia).

CHAIN: Combined Homelessness and Information Network

A multi-agency database recording information about rough sleepers and the wider street population in London, commissioned and funded by the GLA and managed by St Mungo's Broadway.

EEA: European Economic Area

The 28 countries of the European Union (EU), plus a further three countries that are part of the EU's single market (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway). Common usage generally also includes Switzerland, whose citizens have the same rights to live and work in the UK as other EEA nationals.

GLA: Greater London Authority

The top-tier administrative body for Greater London, consisting of a directly elected executive Mayor of London, and an elected 25-member London Assembly.

NLOS: No Living on the Streets

A GLA commissioned assessment and reconnection project for rough sleepers who were living on the streets and not eligible for No Second Night Out. From October 2014 onwards the project was integrated into the GLA's No Second Night Out service.

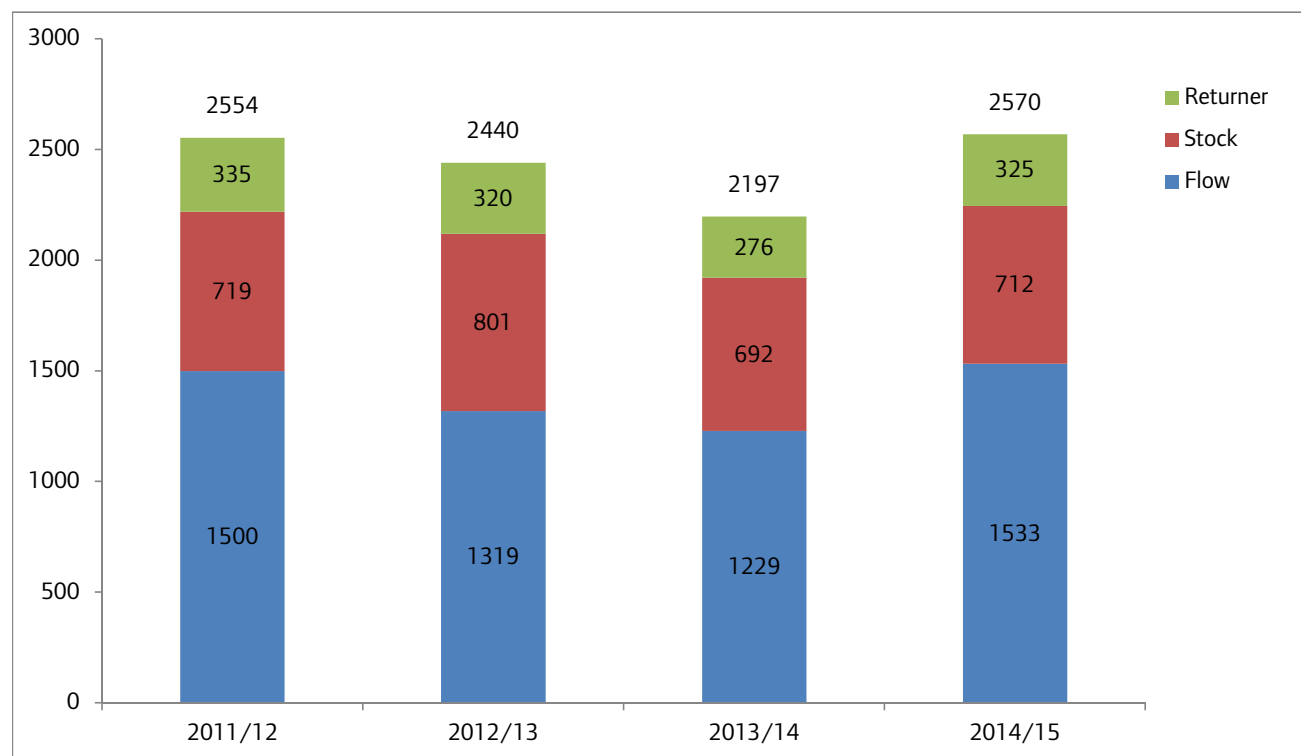
NSNO: No Second Night Out

A GLA commissioned assessment and reconnection project for rough sleepers. The service originally specifically targeted new rough sleepers, but from October 2014 onwards it has also worked with rough sleepers who are living on the streets. The term is also used in other contexts to refer to a wider strategy to end rough sleeping, both in London and nationwide.

2. ROUGH SLEEPER POPULATION ANALYSIS

2.1 Number of people seen rough sleeping: Flow, stock, returner model

People seen rough sleeping in the year, by the flow, stock and returner model.



2011/12 base: 2554
 2012/13 base: 2440
 2013/14 base: 2197
 2014/15 base: 2570

The flow, stock and returner model categorises people seen rough sleeping in the year according to whether they have also been seen rough sleeping in previous periods:

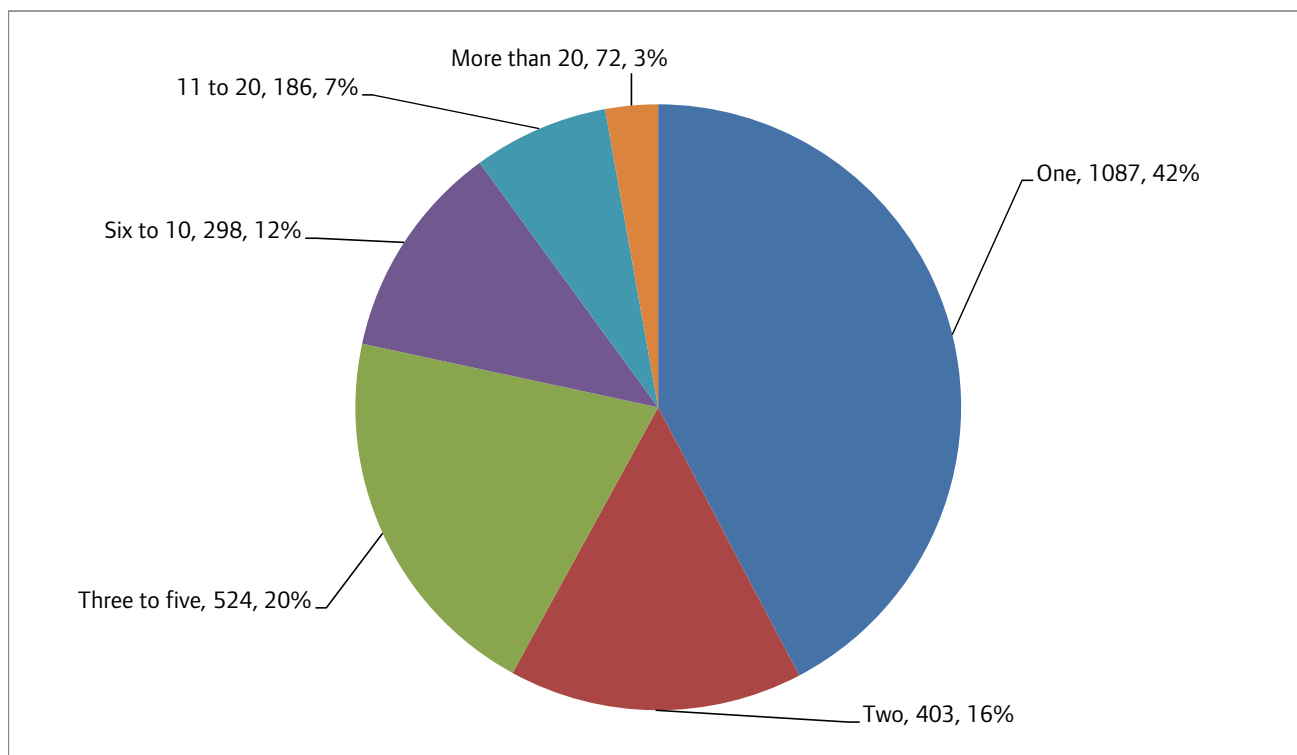
Category	Description
Flow	People who had never been seen rough sleeping prior to 2014/15 (i.e. new rough sleepers).
Stock	People who were also seen rough sleeping in 2013/14 (i.e. those seen across a minimum of two consecutive years).
Returner	People who were first seen rough sleeping prior to 2013/14 , but were not seen during 2013/14 (i.e. those who have had a gap in their rough sleeping histories).

2,570 people were seen rough sleeping in the borough in 2014/15. This represents a 17% increase when compared to 2013/14.

60% of people seen rough sleeping in the borough during the year were new rough sleepers (flow), while 28% fell into the stock category, and 13% were returners.

2.2 Number of times seen rough sleeping

People seen rough sleeping in the year, by number of times seen rough sleeping.



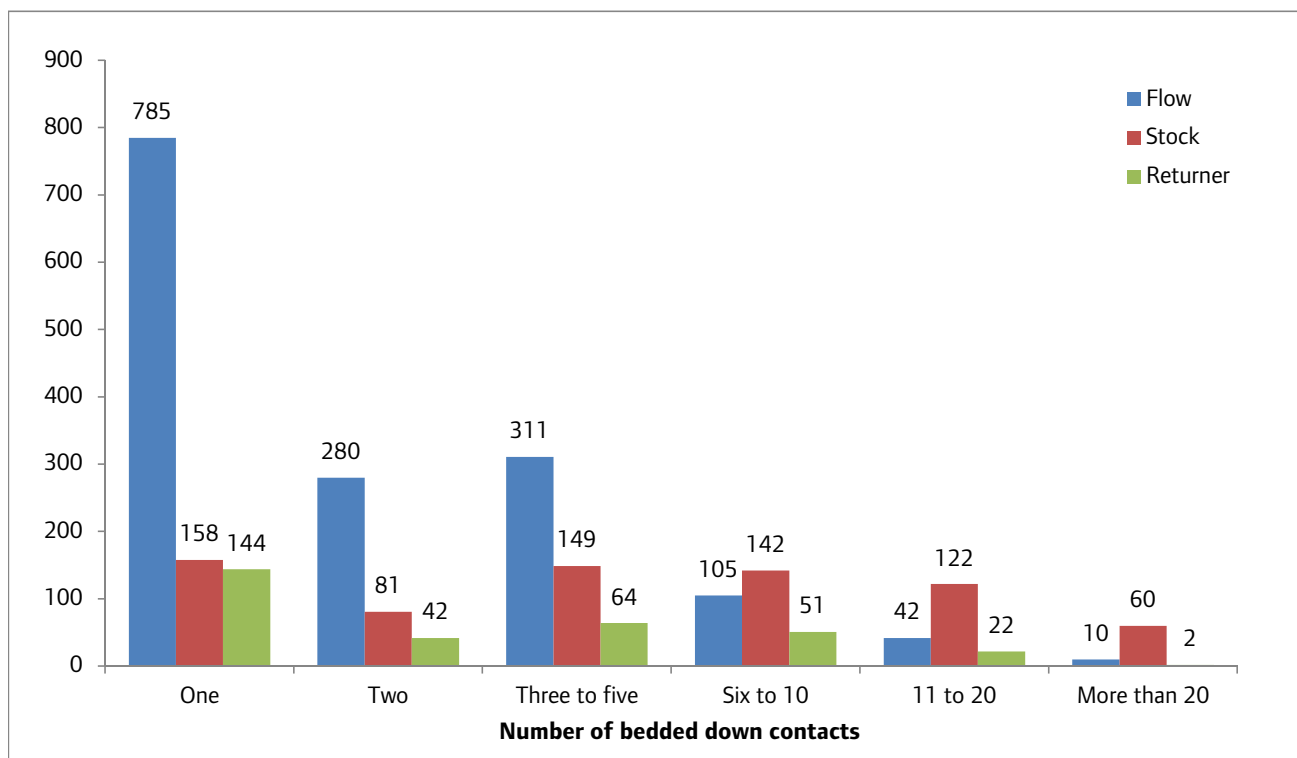
Base: 2570

1,087 (42%) people were seen rough sleeping only once in 2014/15, this compares to 875 (40%) seen rough sleeping only once in 2013/14.

51% of people seen rough sleeping in the borough during 2014/15 who were new to the streets did not spend a second night on the streets during the year.

2.3 Rough sleeping volume: Flow, stock, returner model

People seen rough sleeping in the year, by flow, stock, returner model, and number of times seen rough sleeping.



Base (Flow): 1533
 Base (Stock): 712
 Base (Returner): 325

2.4 New rough sleepers (flow): History prior to rough sleeping

People seen rough sleeping for the first time ever in 2014/15, by history prior to first being seen rough

The table below details what kind of accommodation new rough sleepers reported they were living in as their last longer term or settled base prior to first being seen rough sleeping.

Last settled base	No.	%
Long term accommodation		
Private rented accommodation	217	32%
Local authority accommodation	33	5%
Owner occupied	175	26%
Housing association accommodation	13	2%
Tied accommodation	12	2%
<i>Long term accommodation subtotal</i>	<i>450</i>	<i>67%</i>
Short or medium term accommodation		
Hostel	28	4%
Temporary accommodation (Local authority)	4	1%
Temporary accommodation (non-Local authority)	2	0%
Asylum support accommodation	3	0%
<i>Short or medium term accommodation subtotal</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>5%</i>
Institution		
Prison	9	1%
Hospital	3	0%
<i>Institution subtotal</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>2%</i>
Inappropriately accommodated		
Squat	5	1%
Outhouse	2	0%
<i>Inappropriately accommodated subtotal</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>1%</i>
Other	168	25%
Not recorded	859	
Total (excl. not recorded)	674	100%
Total	1533	

Note: Total excluding not recorded is used as the base for percentages.

The table below details new rough sleepers' status at their last settled base, where the last settled base was not of an institutional or inappropriate nature.

Status at last settled base*	No.	%
Tenant	126	30%
Informal arrangement	54	13%
Parental home	85	21%
Living with partner	53	13%
Owner	96	23%
Not recorded/applicable	204	
Total (excl. not recorded/applicable)	414	100%
Total	618	

*Applies to people whose last settled base was local authority accommodation, temporary accommodation, owner occupied accommodation, private rented accommodation, tied accommodation, and in some cases where "other" has been specified.

Note: Total excluding not recorded/applicable is used as the base for percentages.

New rough sleepers' reasons for leaving their last settled base prior to first being seen rough sleeping.

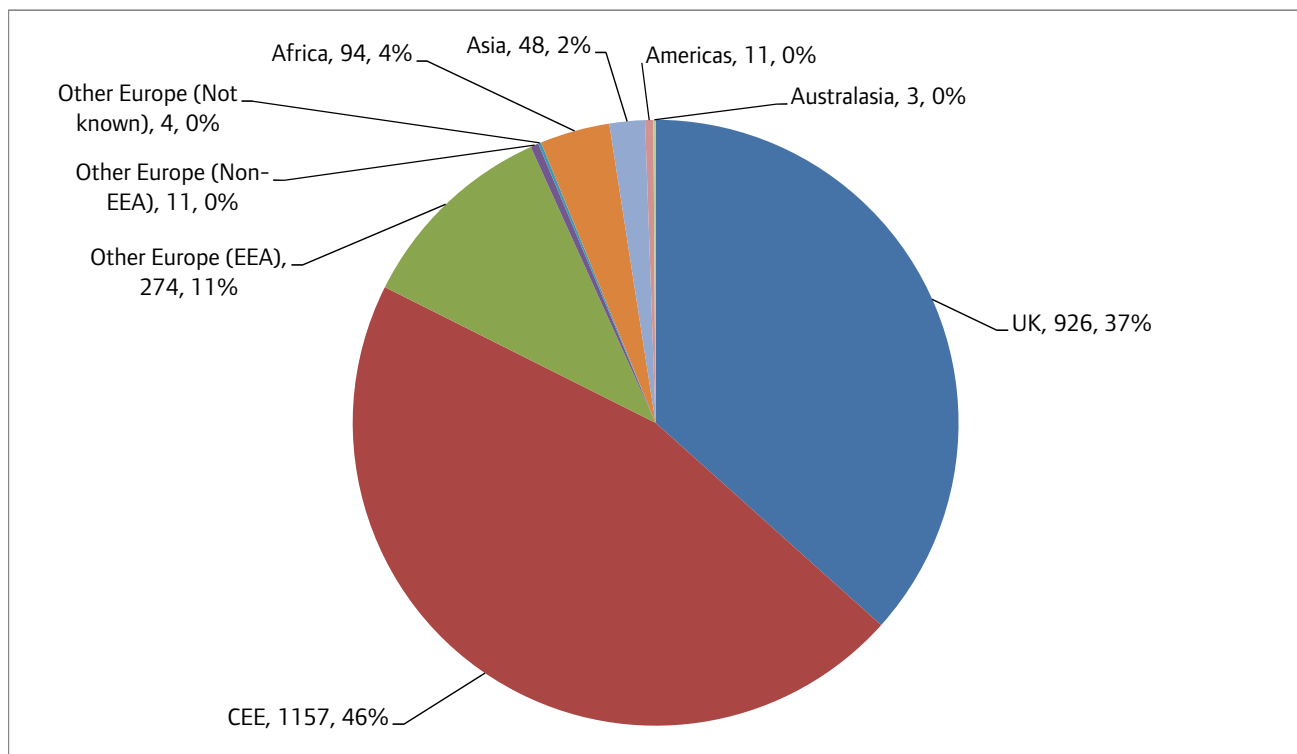
Reason for leaving last settled base	No.	%
Asked to leave or evicted		
Asked to leave	32	4.9%
Evicted - arrears	26	4.0%
Evicted - ASB	3	0.5%
Evicted - other	14	2.1%
<i>Asked to leave or evicted subtotal</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>11.5%</i>
Employment and education		
Seeking work - from within UK	171	26.1%
Seeking work - from outside UK	94	14.4%
Financial problems - loss of job	44	6.7%
Seeking work - origin not recorded	4	0.6%
Study	1	0.2%
<i>Employment and education subtotal</i>	<i>314</i>	<i>48.0%</i>
Relationships		
Relationship breakdown	47	7.2%
Bereavement	4	0.6%
Move nearer family/community	4	0.6%
<i>Relationships subtotal</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>8.4%</i>
Financial		
Financial problems - housing benefit	2	0.3%
Financial problems - debt	1	0.2%
Financial problems - other	30	4.6%
<i>Financial subtotal</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>5.0%</i>
End of stay in short or medium term accommodation		
Evicted - given non priority decision	1	0.2%
End of stay - hostel	2	0.3%
End of stay - asylum accommodation	3	0.5%
End of stay - other	8	1.2%
<i>End of stay in short or medium term accommodation subtotal</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>2.1%</i>
Victim of violence, harassment or abuse		
Domestic violence - victim	7	1.1%
Harassment/abuse/violence - gang	4	0.6%
Harassment/abuse/violence - racial	3	0.5%
Tenancy hijack	1	0.2%
Harassment/abuse/violence - homophobic	1	0.2%
Harassment/abuse/violence - other	10	1.5%
<i>Victim of violence, harassment or abuse subtotal</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>4.0%</i>
End of stay in institution		
End of stay - prison	8	1.2%
End of stay - hospital	1	0.2%
<i>End of stay in institution subtotal</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>1.4%</i>
Housing conditions		
Housing conditions	4	0.6%
Perpetrator of violence, harassment or abuse		
Domestic violence - perpetrator	1	0.2%
Transient		
Transient/travelling around	9	1.4%
Other		
Other	114	17.4%
Not recorded	879	
Total (excl. not recorded)	654	100%
Total	1533	

Note: Total excluding not recorded is used as the base for percentages.

3. DEMOGRAPHICS & SUPPORT NEEDS

3.1 Nationality: Overall composition

People seen rough sleeping in the year, by nationality.



Base: 2528 people seen rough sleeping in the year whose nationality was known.

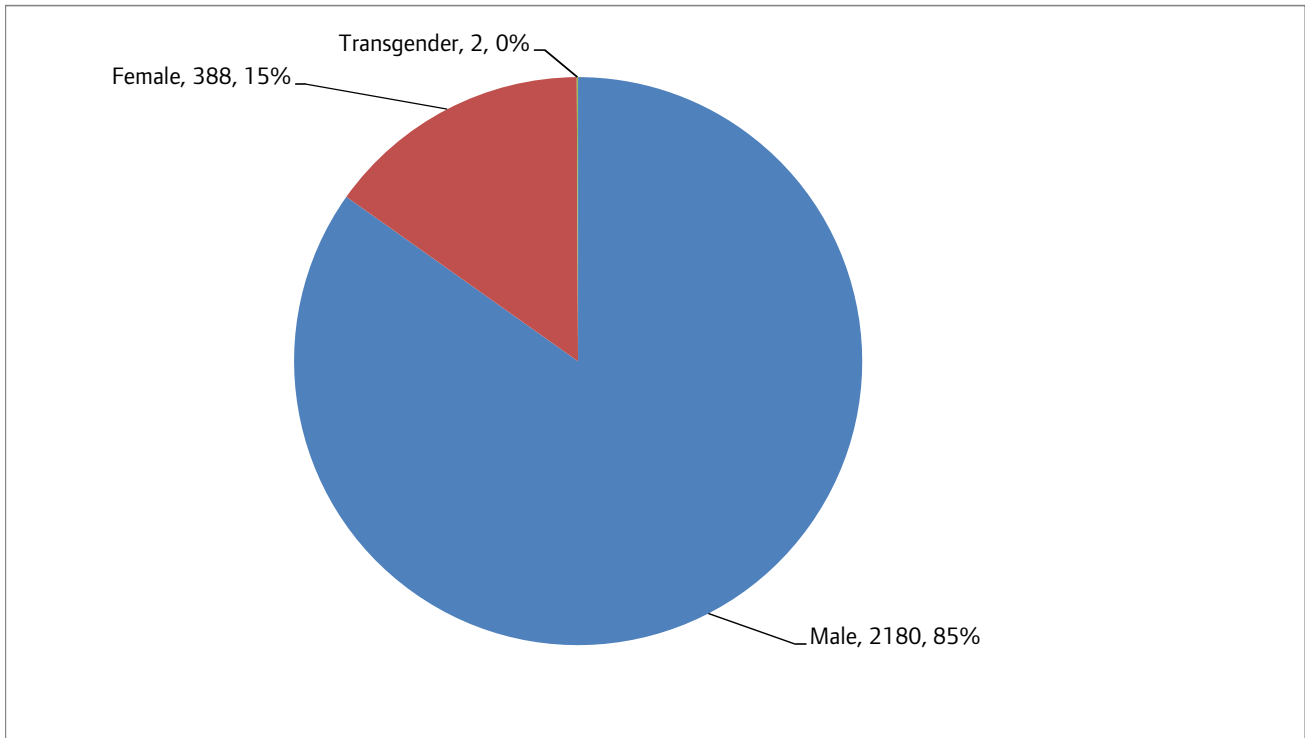
3.2 Nationality: Flow, stock, returner model

	Flow	Stock	Returner	Total	
Nationality	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
UK	355	382	189	926	36.6%
Bulgaria	50	10	5	65	2.6%
Czech Republic	16	11	1	28	1.1%
Estonia	0	1	1	2	0.1%
Hungary	29	8	1	38	1.5%
Latvia	23	8	4	35	1.4%
Lithuania	33	11	6	50	2.0%
Poland	89	35	12	136	5.4%
Romania	645	100	34	779	30.8%
Slovakia	12	7	4	23	0.9%
Slovenia	1	0	0	1	0.0%
<i>CEE subtotal</i>	<i>898</i>	<i>191</i>	<i>68</i>	<i>1157</i>	<i>45.8%</i>
Italy	29	16	7	52	2.1%
Ireland (Republic of)	25	25	9	59	2.3%
Portugal	12	17	8	37	1.5%
Spain	24	9	2	35	1.4%
France	20	9	5	34	1.3%
Other European (EEA) countries	36	15	6	57	2.3%
<i>Other Europe (EEA) subtotal</i>	<i>146</i>	<i>91</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>274</i>	<i>10.8%</i>
Other Europe (Non-EEA)	6	1	4	11	0.4%
Other Europe (Not known)	3	1	0	4	0.2%
Somalia	4	5	1	10	0.4%
Eritrea	15	2	4	21	0.8%
Other African countries	40	14	9	63	2.5%
<i>Africa subtotal</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>94</i>	<i>3.7%</i>
India	4	2	0	6	0.2%
Iran	2	8	1	11	0.4%
Other Asian countries	17	9	5	31	1.2%
<i>Asia subtotal</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>1.9%</i>
Americas	9	1	1	11	0.4%
Australasia	3	0	0	3	0.1%
Not known	31	5	6	42	
Total (excl. Not known)	1502	707	319	2528	100.0%
Total (incl. Not known)	1533	712	325	2570	

Note: Total excluding not known is used as base for percentages.

3.3 Gender

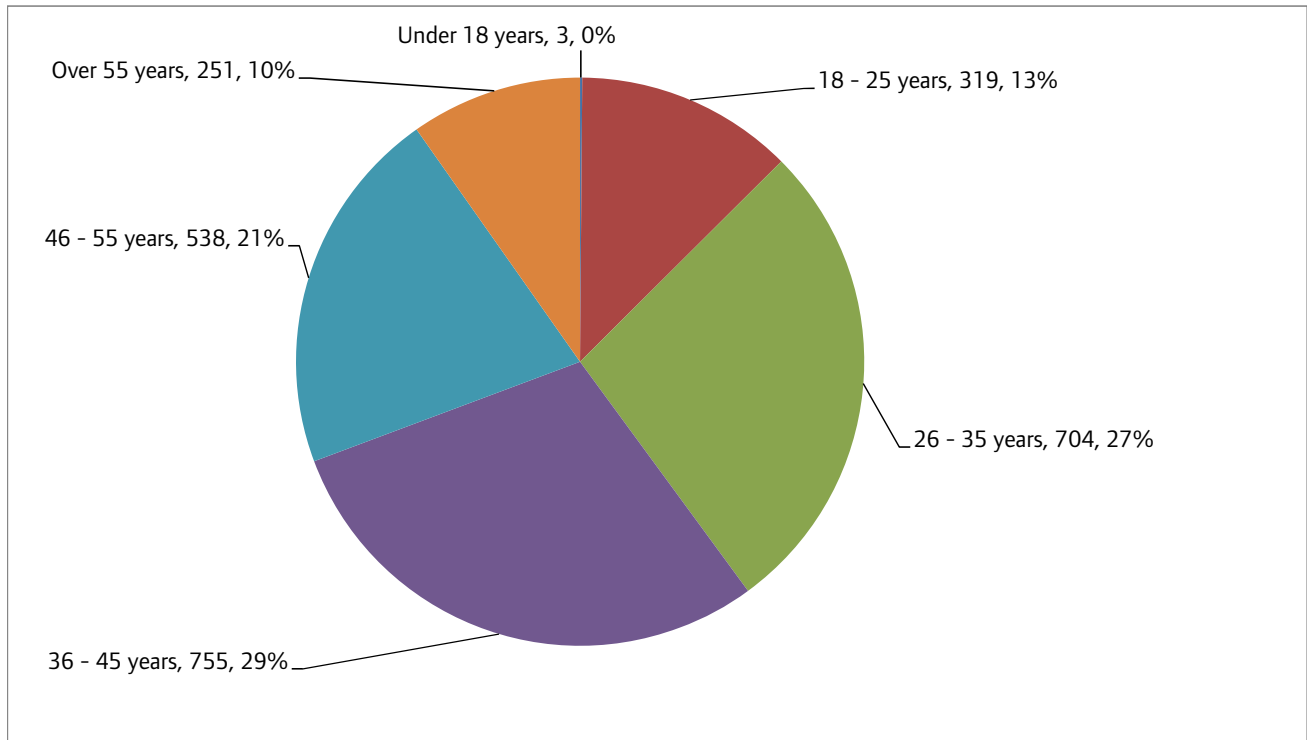
People seen rough sleeping in the year, by gender.



Base: 2570

3.4 Age

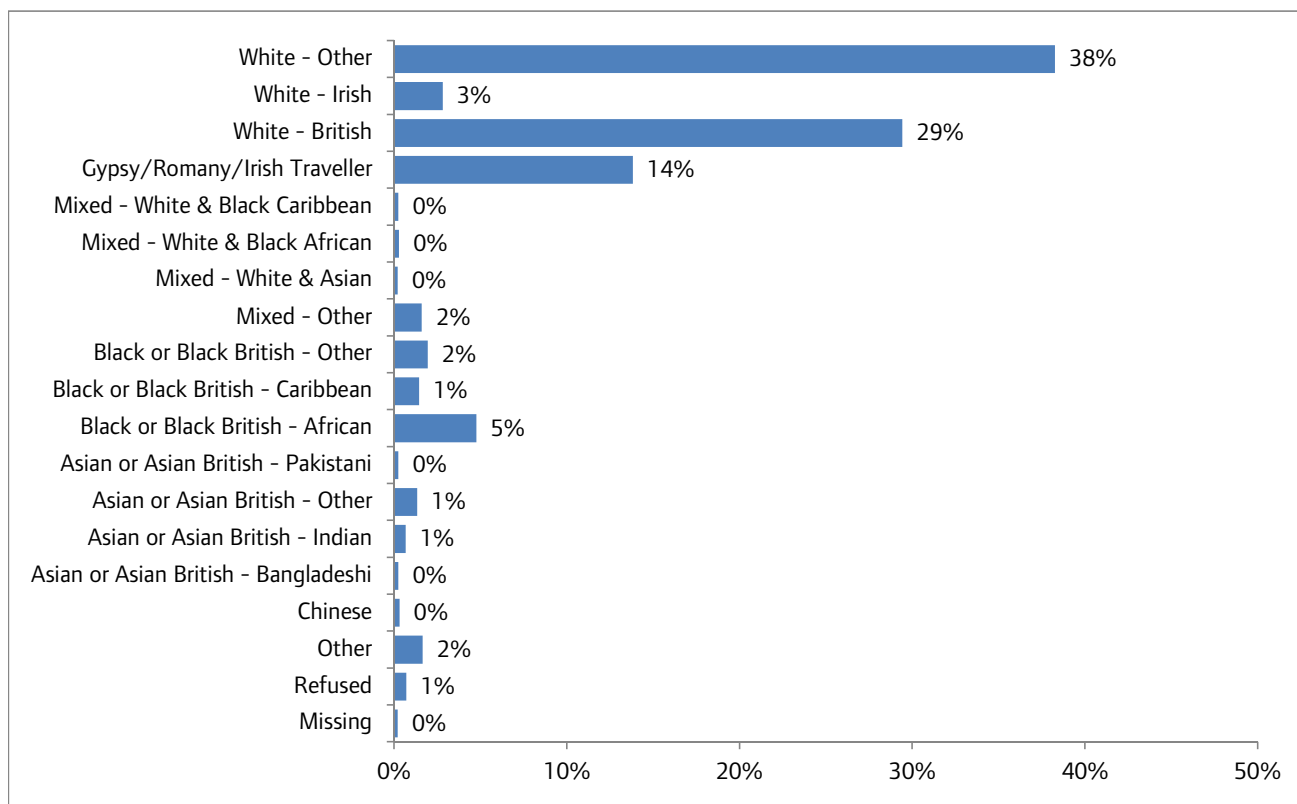
People seen rough sleeping in the year, by age.



Base: 2570

3.5 Ethnicity

People seen rough sleeping in the year, by ethnicity.

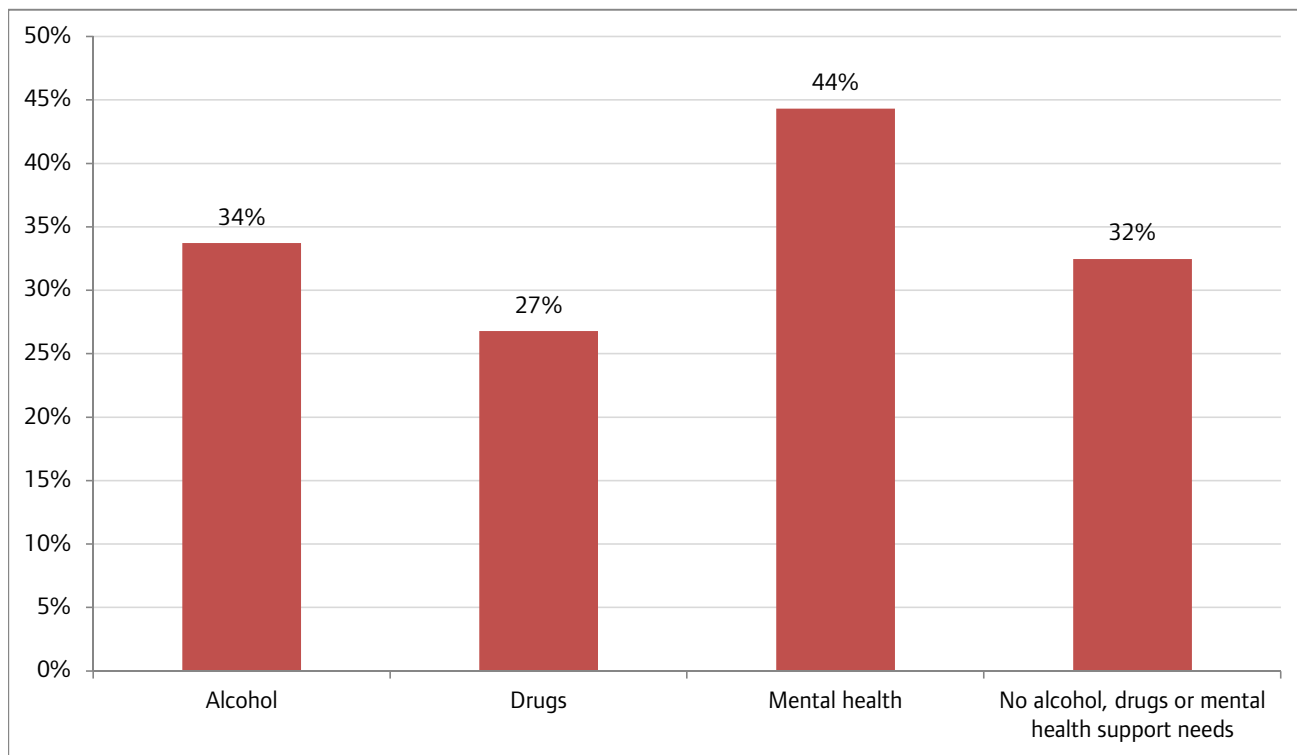


Base: 2570

3.6 Support needs

People seen rough sleeping in the year, by support needs.

Support needs data in CHAIN is derived from assessments made by those working with rough sleepers in the homelessness sector. It is important to note that 34% of rough sleepers in the borough in 2014/15 did not have a support needs assessment recorded.

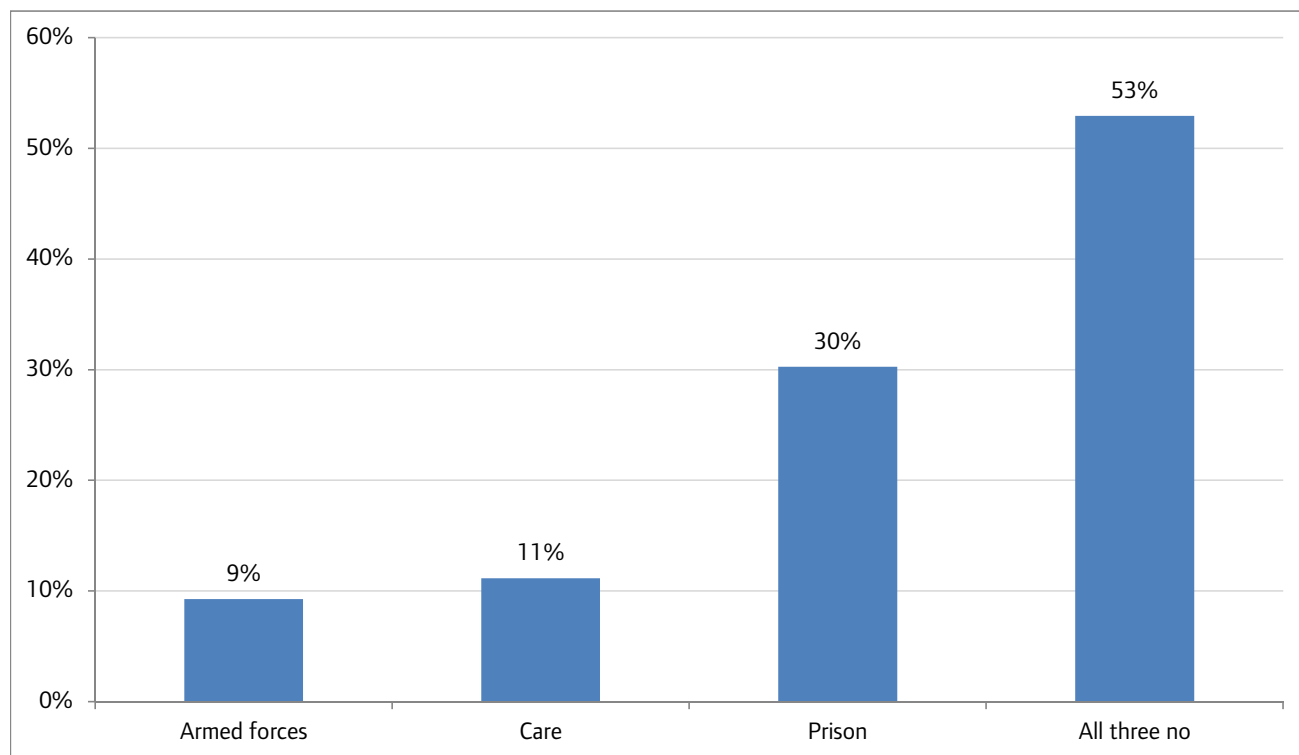


Base: 1687. Note that the base figure for this chart excludes clients where none of the three support needs were known or assessed (883).

Support Needs	No. people	% of people seen rough sleeping
Alcohol only	159	6%
Drugs only	69	3%
Mental health only	316	12%
Alcohol and drugs	91	4%
Alcohol and mental health	140	5%
Drugs and mental health	113	4%
Alcohol, drugs and mental health	179	7%
All three no	548	21%
All three not known or not assessed	883	34%
All three no, not known or not assessed	72	3%
Total	2570	100%

3.7 Institutional & armed forces history

People seen rough sleeping in the year, by experience of armed forces, care or prison.



Base: 1668. Note that the base figure for this chart excludes clients where none of the three institutional histories were recorded (902).

Nationality of rough sleepers with experience of armed forces:

Nationality	No.	%
UK	54	3%
Non-UK	101	6%
Total with armed forces experience	155	9%
Base (total assessed)	1668	

155 people seen rough sleeping in the borough in 2014/15 had experience of serving in the armed forces, of whom 54 were UK nationals. Time spent in the forces could have been at any point in the person's life, and it is not necessarily the case that the person has recently been discharged.

4. HELPING PEOPLE OFF THE STREETS

4.1 Accommodation outcomes

Outreach teams and other services work to help rough sleepers into a range of accommodation types, most commonly hostels but also the private rented sector and residential treatment centres.

In 2014/15, 247 people who had been seen rough sleeping during the year were booked into accommodation by services in the borough.

The table below details the accommodation outcomes achieved with people seen rough sleeping in the year, compared to outcomes for rough sleepers in the previous year.

Accommodation type	2013/14		2014/15	
	No. events	%	No. events	%
Temporary accommodation				
Assessment centre	1	0.2%	1	0.3%
Bed & breakfast	7	1.7%	14	4.3%
Clinic/Detox/Rehab	10	2.5%	5	1.5%
Friends & family	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Hostel	302	74.6%	238	73.0%
Local authority temporary accommodation	11	2.7%	7	2.1%
Nightstop	3	0.7%	3	0.9%
Second-stage accommodation	2	0.5%	4	1.2%
Other temporary accommodation	14	3.5%	10	3.1%
<i>Temporary accommodation subtotal</i>	<i>350</i>	<i>86.4%</i>	<i>282</i>	<i>86.5%</i>
Long term accommodation				
Care home	0	0.0%	3	0.9%
Clearing House/RSI	1	0.2%	2	0.6%
Local authority tenancy (general needs)	1	0.2%	0	0.0%
Private rented sector - independent	37	9.1%	25	7.7%
Private rented sector - with some floating support	5	1.2%	9	2.8%
RSL tenancy (general needs)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Sheltered housing	2	0.5%	0	0.0%
St Mungo's Broadway complex needs	1	0.2%	0	0.0%
St Mungo's Broadway semi-independent	2	0.5%	1	0.3%
Supported housing	3	0.7%	2	0.6%
Tied accommodation	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other long-term accommodation	3	0.7%	2	0.6%
<i>Long term accommodation subtotal</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>13.6%</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>13.5%</i>
Total	405	100.0%	326	100.0%

Note: An individual may have been booked into accommodation more than once during the period.

4.2 NSNO & NLOS attendance

People seen rough sleeping during the year who were referred from the borough to NSNO or NLOS.

	2013/14	2014/15*
NSNO	386	396
NLOS	38	3

*From October 2014 onwards NLOS ceased operating as a separate service and was integrated into NSNO.

Note: Some people may have attended both NSNO and NLOS during the period.

4.3 Reconnection outcomes

Confirmed reconnections achieved with people seen rough sleeping in the year.

Outreach and other services help people to reconnect to their home area or country, where they are more likely to find a solution to their homelessness, for example through appropriate support networks, entitlement to accommodation or access to an alcohol treatment centre. Reconnection destinations could be another borough within London, an area elsewhere in the UK, or another country. Some people may have had more than one reconnection recorded during the year.

Reconnection reason	2013/14		2014/15	
	No.	%	No.	%
Return to home area	121	72%	137	73%
Seeking work	13	8%	22	12%
Move to area for friends/family	60	36%	86	46%
Move to area with appropriate services	82	49%	90	48%
Reconnections total*	168		187	

Reconnection destination	No.	%	No.	%
UK - London	42	25%	32	17%
UK - outside London	92	55%	93	51%
Central and Eastern Europe	12	7%	33	18%
Other Europe	19	11%	23	13%
Rest of the world	1	1%	2	1%
<i>Not known</i>	2		4	
Reconnections total (excl. destination not known)	166	100%	183	100%

*Reconnections can be recorded with multiple reasons, so the overall total will be lower than the combined sum of the separate reconnection reasons. Percentages are based on the total number of reconnections.

167 people seen rough sleeping in 2014/15 also had a confirmed reconnection recorded by services in the borough during the period.

32% of reconnections this year were to destinations outside the UK. 18% were to Central and Eastern European countries.

5. TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

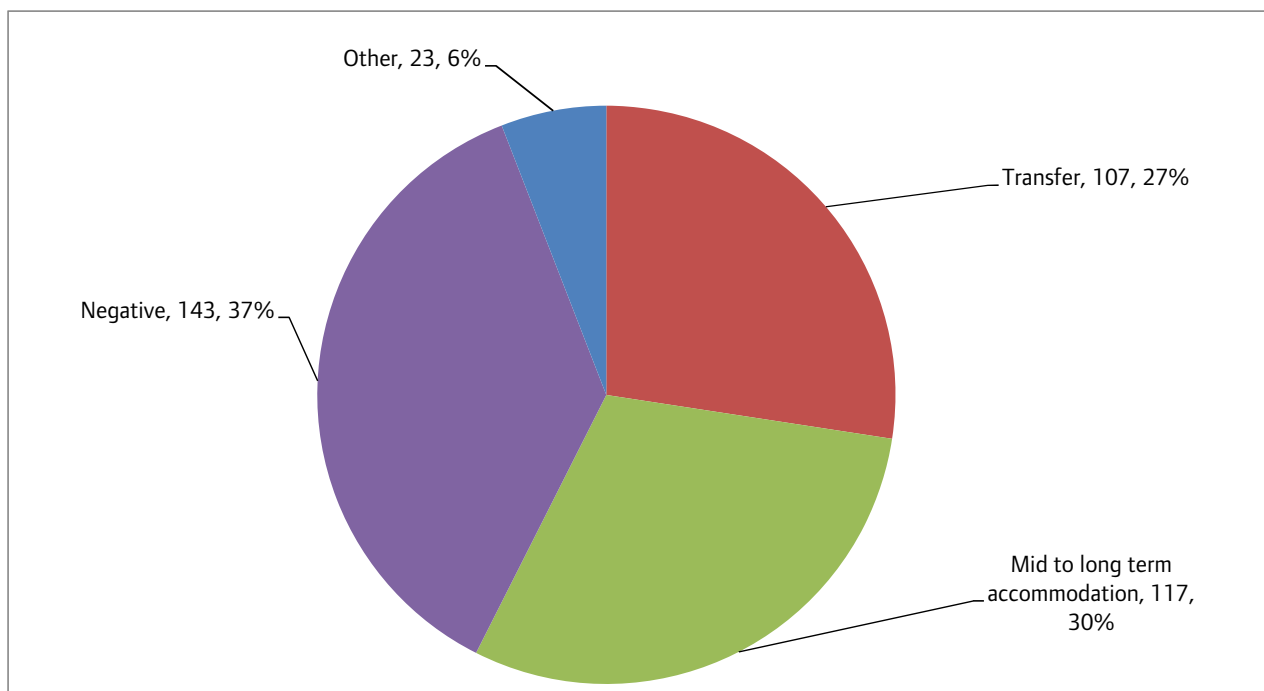
Arrivals and departures at hostels, assessment centres and second-stage accommodation based in the borough. All people counted in this section had previously been seen rough sleeping, but not necessarily during 2014/15.

5.1 Arrivals

A total of 268 individuals arrived at temporary accommodation during the period.

5.2 Departures: Destination on departure

A total of 306 individuals departed from temporary accommodation during the period.



Base: 390

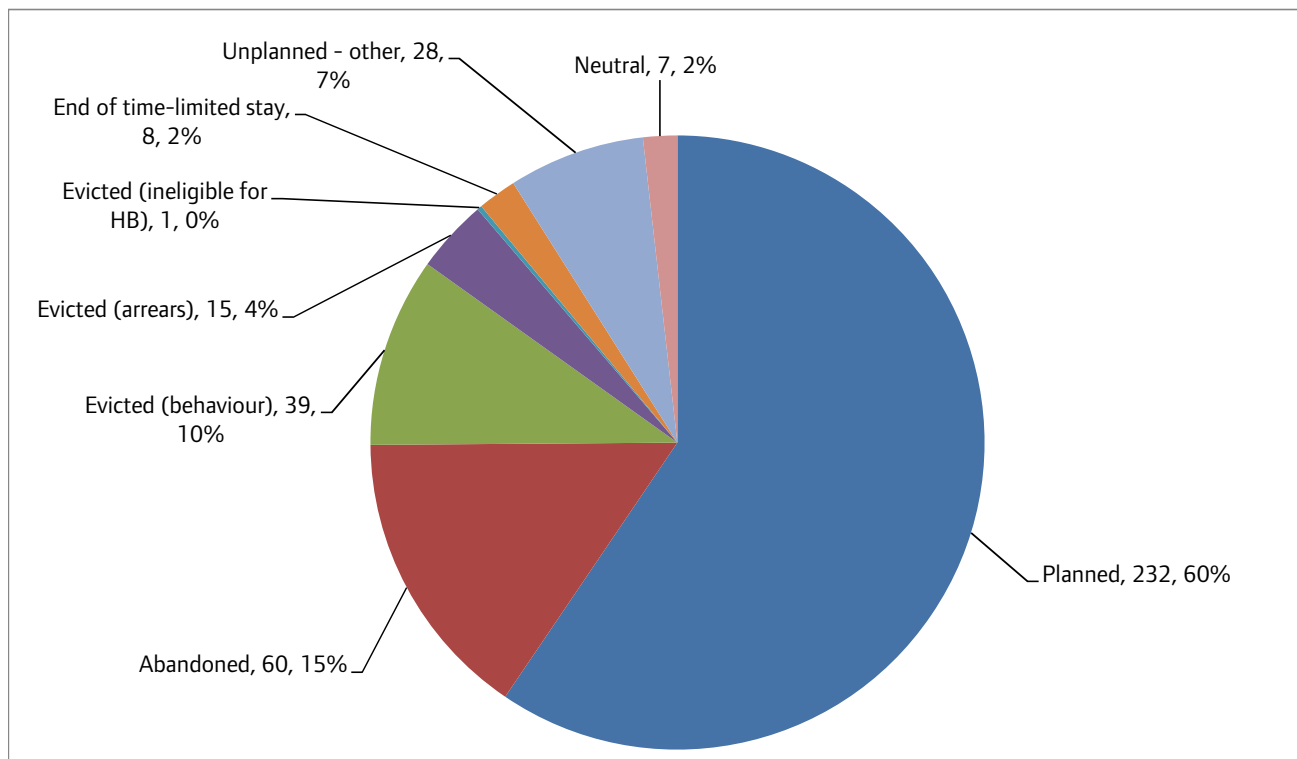
Destination on departure	Destination category	Chart colour
Assessment centre, Bed & breakfast, Detox clinic, Hospital - not long term/acute care, Hostel - another organisation, Hostel - within the organisation, NASS accommodation, Night shelter, NLOS assessment hub, NSNO assessment hub, NSNO staging post, Psychiatric hospital, Rehab clinic, Temporary accommodation (LA)	Transfer	
Accommodation where client is owner, Care home, Clearing House/RSI, Hospital - long term, LA tenancy (general needs), Long stay hospice, Private rented sector - independent, Private rented sector - with some floating support, Returned to home country (EEA), Returned to home country (non EEA), RSL tenancy (general needs), Sheltered housing, Supported housing, Tied accommodation	Mid to long term accommodation	
Committed suicide, Not known, Sleeping rough/Returned to streets, Taken into custody	Negative	
Died, Previous home, Staying with family, Staying with friends	Other	

Note: An individual may have had more than one accommodation departure during the period.

Destination on departure	No. departures	%
Transfer		
Assessment centre	0	0%
Bed & breakfast	0	0%
Detox clinic	29	7%
Hospital - not long term/acute care	3	1%
Hostel - another organisation	57	15%
Hostel - within the organisation	7	2%
NASS accommodation	0	0%
Night shelter	2	1%
NLOS assessment hub	0	0%
NSNO assessment hub	0	0%
NSNO staging post	0	0%
Psychiatric hospital	1	0%
Rehab clinic	7	2%
Temporary accommodation (LA)	1	0%
<i>Transfer subtotal</i>	<i>107</i>	<i>27%</i>
Mid to long term accommodation		
Accommodation where client is owner	2	1%
Care home	0	0%
Clearing House/RSI	36	9%
Hospital - long term	1	0%
LA tenancy (general needs)	4	1%
Long stay hospice	0	0%
Private rented sector - independent	16	4%
Private rented sector - with some floating support	5	1%
Returned to home country (EEA)	5	1%
Returned to home country (non EEA)	1	0%
RSL tenancy (general needs)	4	1%
Sheltered housing	2	1%
Supported housing	41	11%
Tied accommodation with work	0	0%
<i>Mid to long term accommodation subtotal</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>30%</i>
Negative		
Committed suicide	0	0%
Not known	61	16%
Sleeping rough/Returned to streets	52	13%
Taken into custody	30	8%
<i>Negative subtotal</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>37%</i>
Other		
Died	7	2%
Previous home	2	1%
Staying with family	5	1%
Staying with friends	9	2%
<i>Other subtotal</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>6%</i>
Total	390	100%

5.3 Departures: Reason for leaving

Temporary accommodation departures by reason for leaving.



Base: 390

Note: An individual may have had more than one accommodation departure during the period. In most cases where a person's reason for leaving has been recorded as 'Neutral', their tenancy has ended due to them dying.

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