

MAYOR OF LONDON

CHAIN ANNUAL REPORT

WESTMINSTER

APRIL 2015 - MARCH 2016

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

2. ROUGH SLEEPER POPULATION ANALYSIS

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

2.2 Number of times seen rough sleeping

2.3 Rough sleeping volume: Flow, stock, returner model

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

3. DEMOGRAPHICS & SUPPORT NEEDS

3.1 Nationality: Overall composition

3.2 Nationality: Flow, stock, returner model

3.3 Gender

3.4 Age

3.5 Ethnicity

3.6 Support needs

3.7 Institutional & armed forces history

4. HELPING PEOPLE OFF THE STREETS

4.1 Accommodation outcomes

4.2 NSNO attendance

4.3 Reconnection outcomes

5. TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

5.1 Arrivals

5.2 Departures: Destination on departure

5.3 Departures: Reason for leaving

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1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents information about people seen rough sleeping by outreach teams in Westminster between April 2015 and March 2016. 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, 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 2015/16.

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.

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.

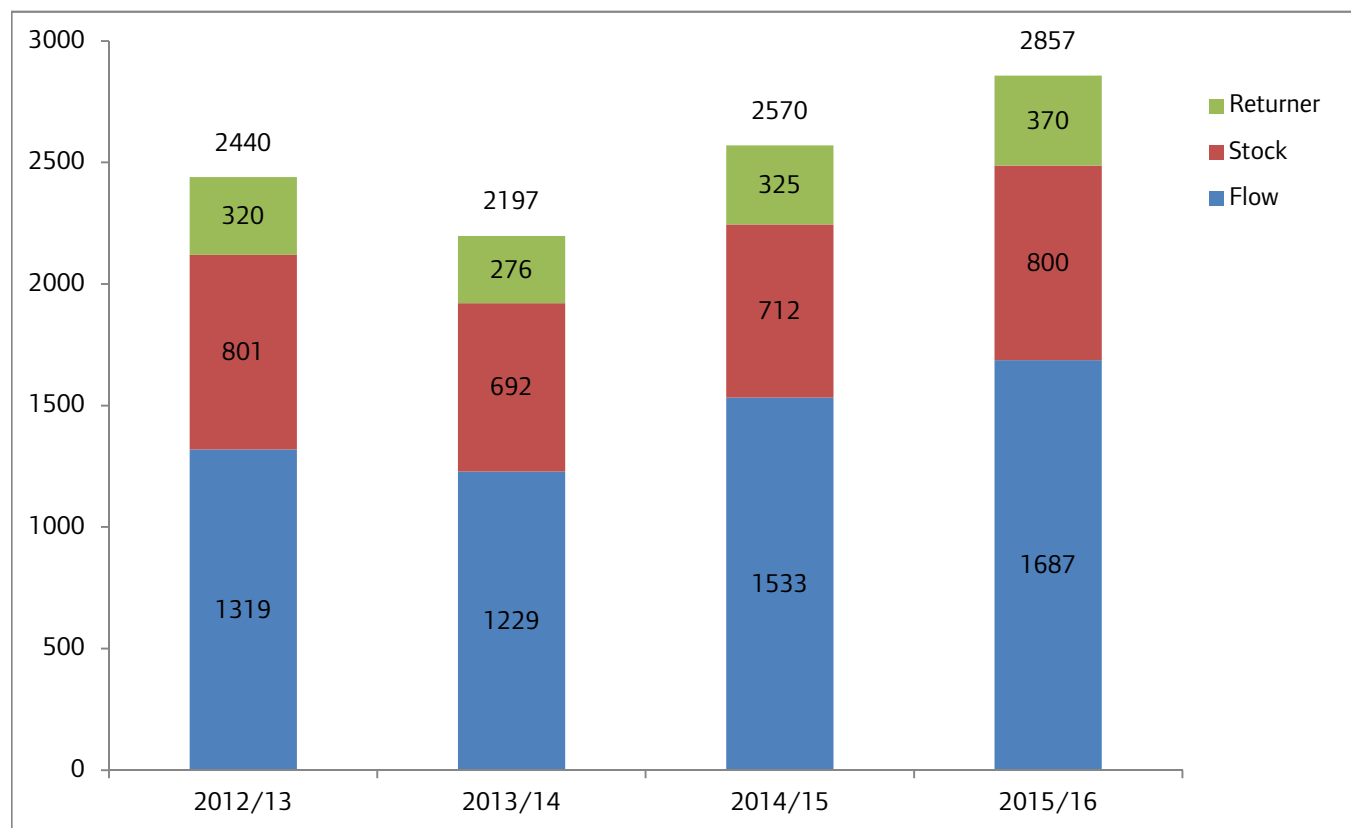
NSNO: No Second Night Out

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.



2012/13 base: 2440

2013/14 base: 2197

2014/15 base: 2570

2015/16 base: 2857

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:

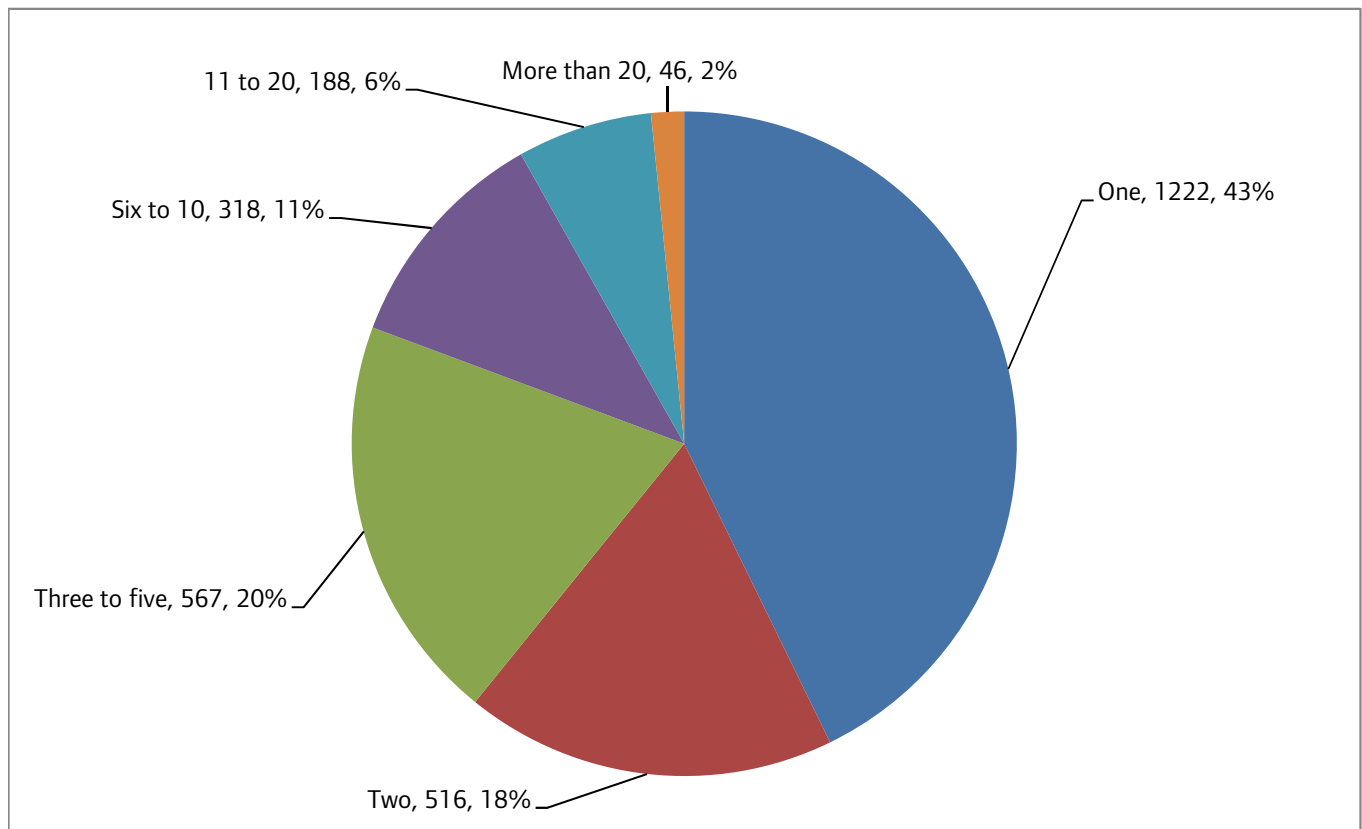
Category	Description
Flow	People who had never been seen rough sleeping prior to 2015/16 (i.e. new rough sleepers).
Stock	People who were also seen rough sleeping in 2014/15 (i.e. those seen across a minimum of two consecutive years).
Returner	People who were first seen rough sleeping prior to 2014/15, but were not seen during 2014/15 (i.e. those who have had a gap in their rough sleeping histories).

2,857 people were seen rough sleeping in the borough in 2015/16. This represents a 11% increase when compared to 2014/15.

59% 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.



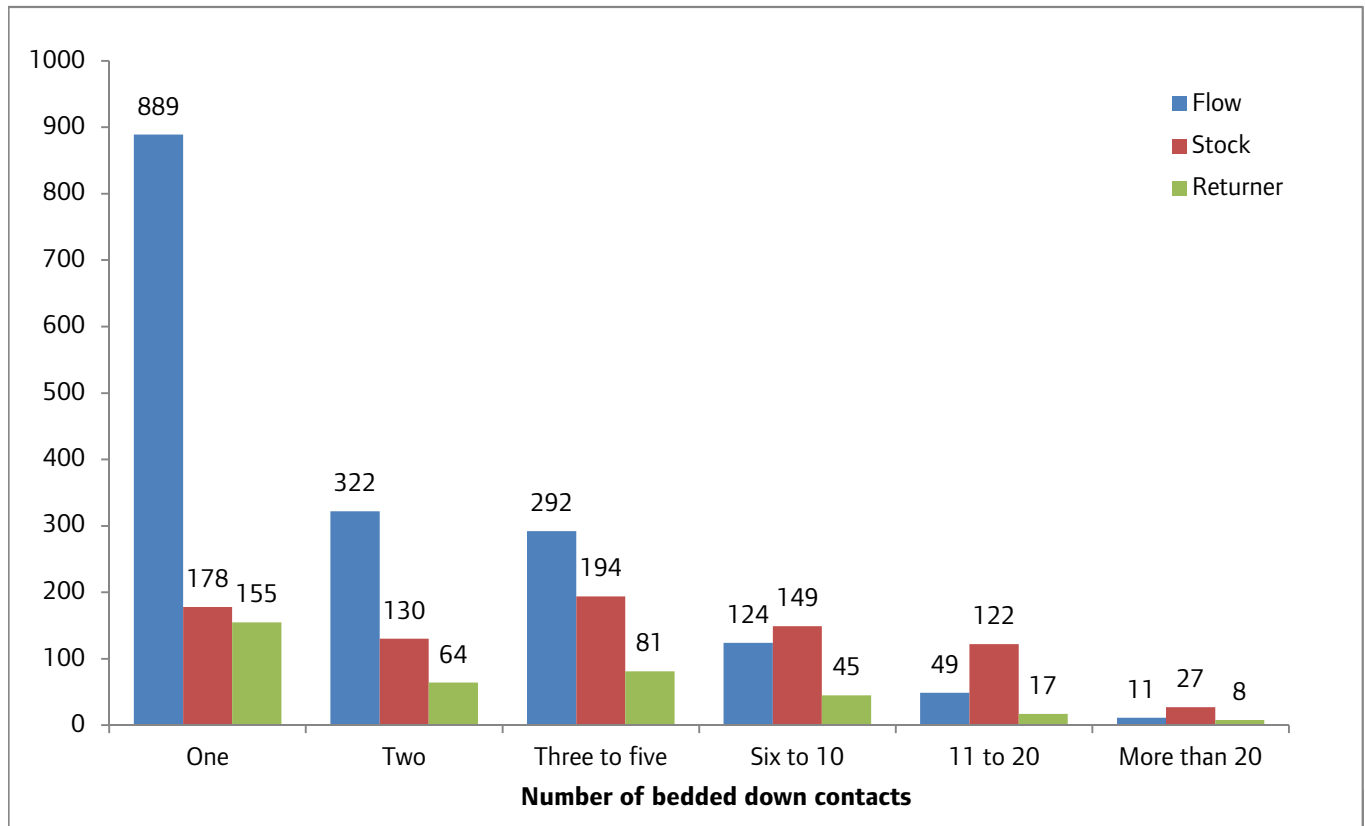
Base: 2857

1,222 (43%) people were seen rough sleeping only once in 2015/16, this compares to 1,087 (42%) seen rough sleeping only once in 2014/15.

53% of people seen rough sleeping in the borough during 2015/16 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): 1687
 Base (Stock): 800
 Base (Returner): 370

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

People seen rough sleeping for the first time ever in 2015/16, by history prior to first being seen rough sleeping.

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	222	30.4%
Owner occupied accommodation	133	18.2%
Local authority accommodation	29	4.0%
Housing association accommodation	15	2.1%
Tied accommodation	11	1.5%
<i>Long term accommodation subtotal</i>	<i>410</i>	<i>56.1%</i>
Short or medium term accommodation		
Hostel	33	4.5%
Temporary accommodation (Local authority)	8	1.1%
Temporary accommodation (non-Local authority)	4	0.5%
Asylum support accommodation	20	2.7%
<i>Short or medium term accommodation subtotal</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>8.9%</i>
Institution		
Prison	13	1.8%
Hospital	3	0.4%
<i>Institution subtotal</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>2.2%</i>
Inappropriately accommodated		
Squat	7	1.0%
Outhouse	1	0.1%
<i>Inappropriately accommodated subtotal</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>1.1%</i>
Newly arrived in UK		
Newly arrived in UK - not homeless in home country	99	13.5%
Newly arrived in UK - homeless in home country	36	4.9%
<i>Newly arrived in UK subtotal</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>18.5%</i>
Other	97	13.3%
Not recorded	956	
Total (excl. not recorded)	731	100.0%
Total	1687	

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, for those who were not newly arrived in the UK, and whose last settled base was not of an institutional or inappropriate nature.

Status at last settled base*	No.	%
Tenant	138	54%
Informal arrangement	44	17%
Parental home	25	10%
Living with partner	35	14%
Owner	13	5%
Not recorded/applicable	264	
Total (excl. not recorded/applicable)	255	100%
Total	519	

*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.

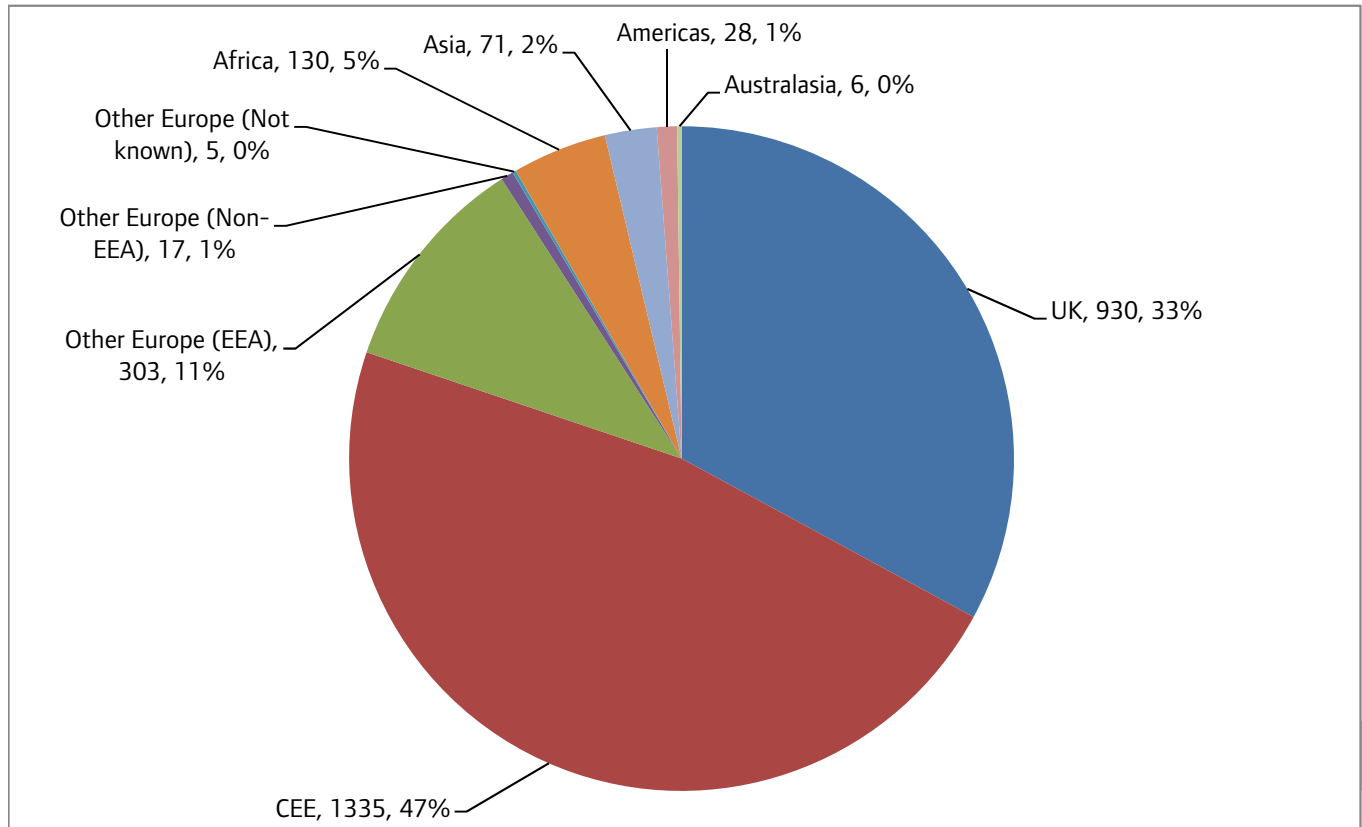
Reason for leaving last settled base	No.	%
Asked to leave or evicted		
Asked to leave	61	8.4%
Evicted - arrears	29	4.0%
Evicted - ASB	5	0.7%
Evicted - other	16	2.2%
<i>Asked to leave or evicted subtotal</i>	<i>111</i>	<i>15.3%</i>
Employment and education		
Seeking work - from outside UK	197	27.1%
Seeking work - from within UK	73	10.1%
Financial problems - loss of job	67	9.2%
Study	0	0.0%
<i>Employment and education subtotal</i>	<i>337</i>	<i>46.4%</i>
Relationships		
Relationship breakdown	54	7.4%
Death of relative/friend	5	0.7%
Move nearer family/community	1	0.1%
<i>Relationships subtotal</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>8.3%</i>
Financial		
Financial problems - debt	7	1.0%
Financial problems - housing benefit	0	0.0%
Financial problems - other	31	4.3%
<i>Financial subtotal</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>5.2%</i>
End of stay in short or medium term accommodation		
Evicted - given non priority decision	4	0.6%
End of stay - asylum accommodation	10	1.4%
End of stay - hostel	6	0.8%
End of stay - other	20	2.8%
<i>End of stay in short or medium term accommodation subtotal</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>5.5%</i>
Victim of violence, harassment or abuse		
Domestic violence - victim	5	0.7%
Tenancy hijack	0	0.0%
Harassment/abuse/violence - racial	1	0.1%
Harassment/abuse/violence - gang	1	0.1%
Harassment/abuse/violence - homophobic	1	0.1%
Harassment/abuse/violence - other	17	2.3%
<i>Victim of violence, harassment or abuse subtotal</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>3.4%</i>
End of stay in institution		
End of stay - prison	12	1.7%
End of stay - hospital	2	0.3%
<i>End of stay in institution subtotal</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>1.9%</i>
Housing conditions		
Housing conditions	7	1.0%
Perpetrator of violence, harassment or abuse		
Domestic violence - perpetrator	0	0.0%
Transient		
Transient/travelling around	12	1.7%
Other		
Other	82	11.3%
Not recorded	961	
Total (excl. not recorded)	726	100%
Total	1687	

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: 2825 people seen rough sleeping in the year whose nationality was known.

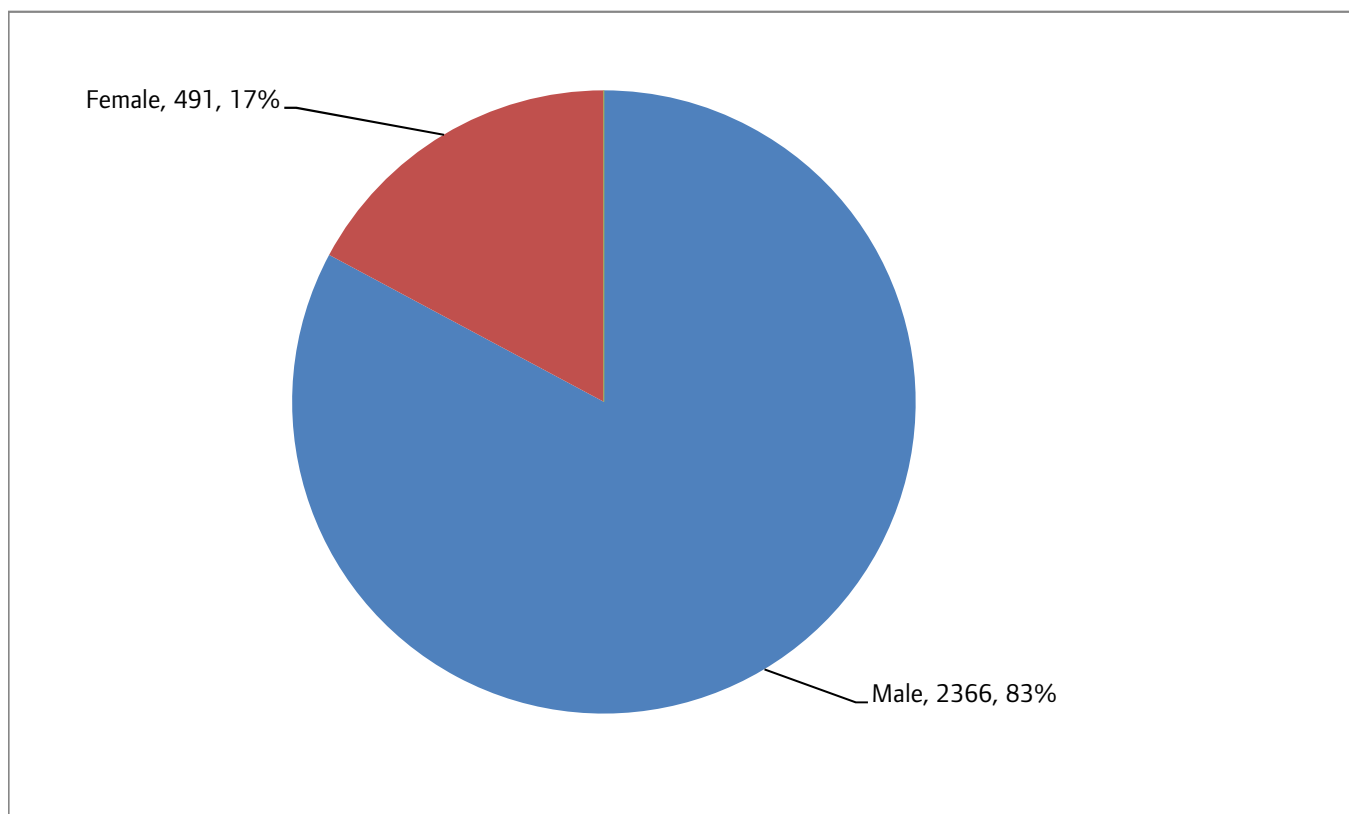
3.2 Nationality: Flow, stock, returner model

	Flow	Stock	Returner	Total	
Nationality	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
UK	408	339	183	930	32.9%
Bulgaria	36	21	6	63	2.2%
Czech Republic	17	4	11	32	1.1%
Estonia	8	1	1	10	0.4%
Hungary	30	6	8	44	1.6%
Latvia	17	4	4	25	0.9%
Lithuania	23	20	9	52	1.8%
Poland	96	37	25	158	5.6%
Romania	693	193	40	926	32.8%
Slovakia	13	7	2	22	0.8%
Slovenia	1	0	2	3	0.1%
<i>CEE subtotal</i>	<i>934</i>	<i>293</i>	<i>108</i>	<i>1335</i>	<i>47.3%</i>
Portugal	27	14	13	54	1.9%
Ireland (Republic of)	25	23	15	63	2.2%
Italy	29	15	5	49	1.7%
Spain	32	11	1	44	1.6%
France	18	7	5	30	1.1%
Other European (EEA) countries	36	17	10	63	2.2%
<i>Other Europe (EEA) subtotal</i>	<i>167</i>	<i>87</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>303</i>	<i>10.7%</i>
Other Europe (Non-EEA)	13	4	0	17	0.6%
Other Europe (Not known)	3	2	0	5	0.2%
Somalia	6	3	1	10	0.4%
Eritrea	27	6	4	37	1.3%
Other African countries	53	24	6	83	2.9%
<i>Africa subtotal</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>4.6%</i>
India	0	3	1	4	0.1%
Iran	5	11	1	17	0.6%
Sri Lanka	1	1	0	2	0.1%
Other Asian countries	28	16	4	48	1.7%
<i>Asia subtotal</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>2.5%</i>
Americas	17	7	4	28	1.0%
Australasia	6	0	0	6	0.2%
Not known	19	4	9	32	1.1%
Total (excl. Not known)	1668	796	361	2825	100.0%
Total (incl. Not known)	1687	800	370	2857	

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

3.3 Gender

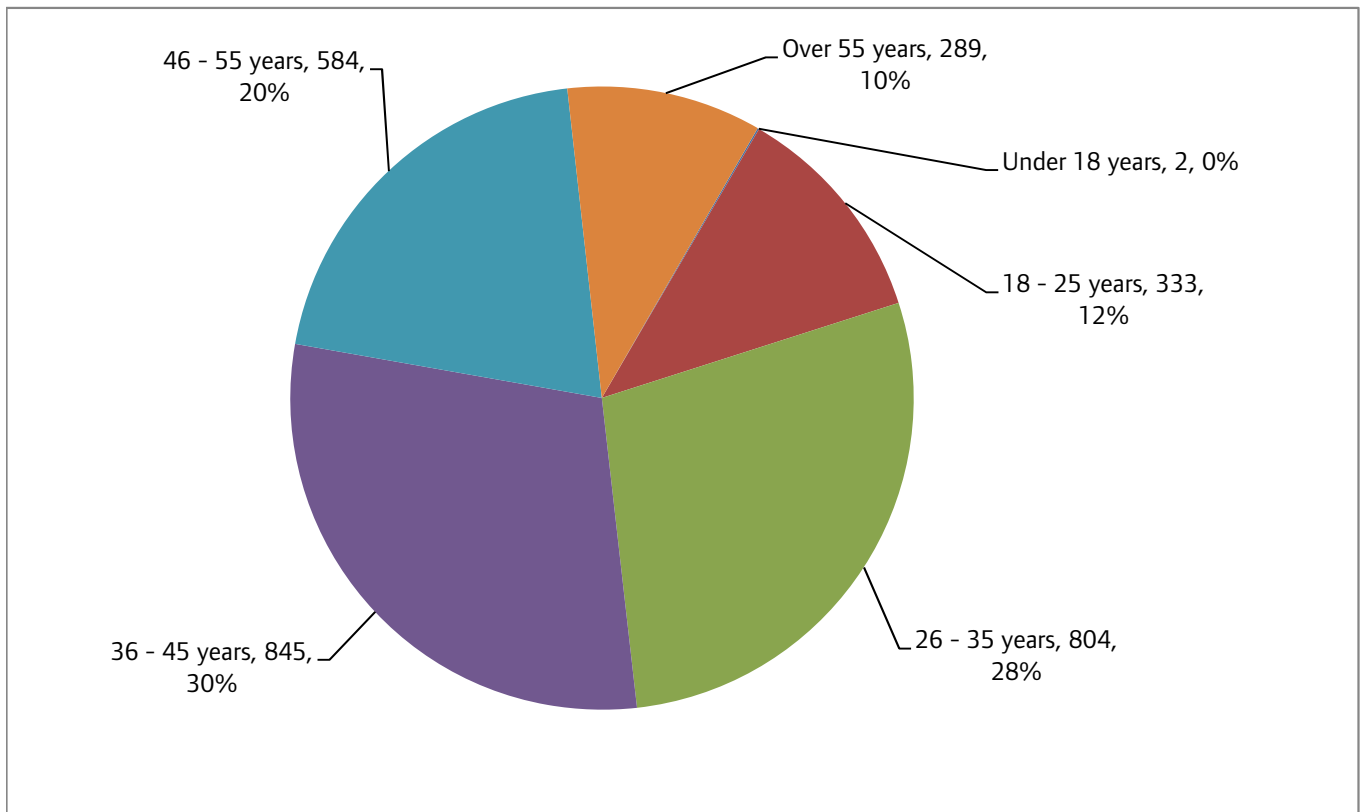
People seen rough sleeping in the year, by gender.



Base: 2857

3.4 Age

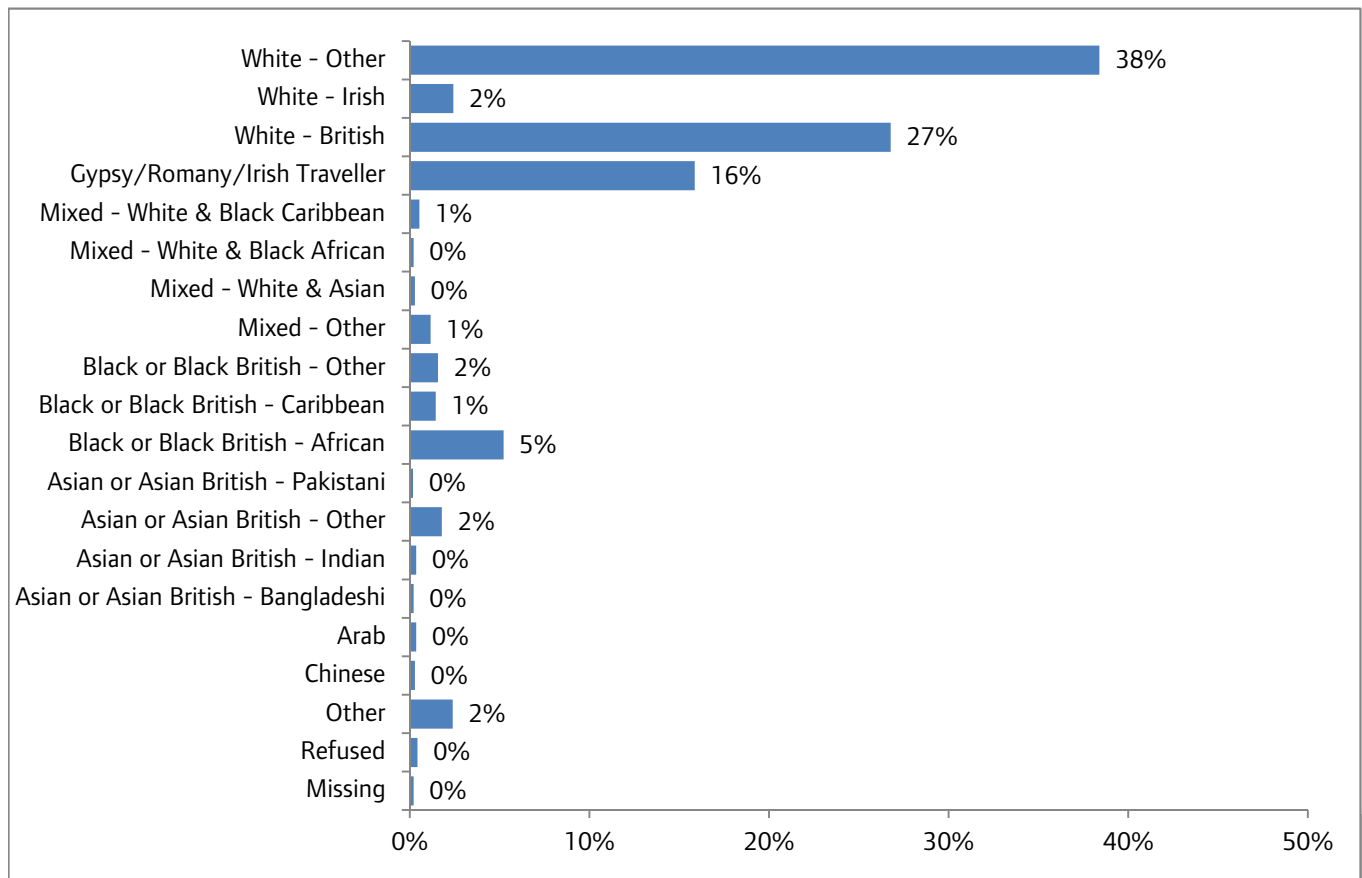
People seen rough sleeping in the year, by age.



Base: 2857

3.5 Ethnicity

People seen rough sleeping in the year, by ethnicity.

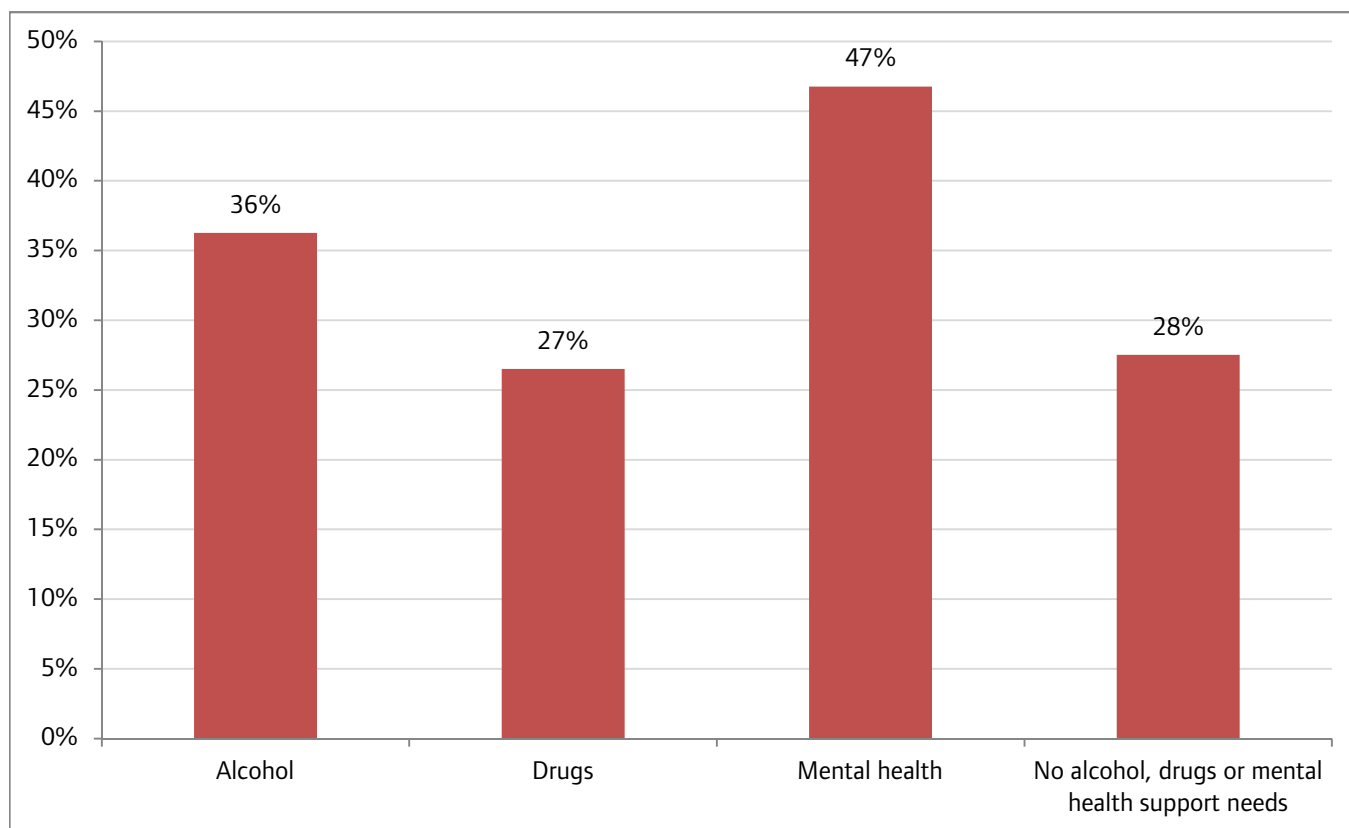


Base: 2857

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 38% of rough sleepers in the borough in 2015/16 did not have a support needs assessment recorded.

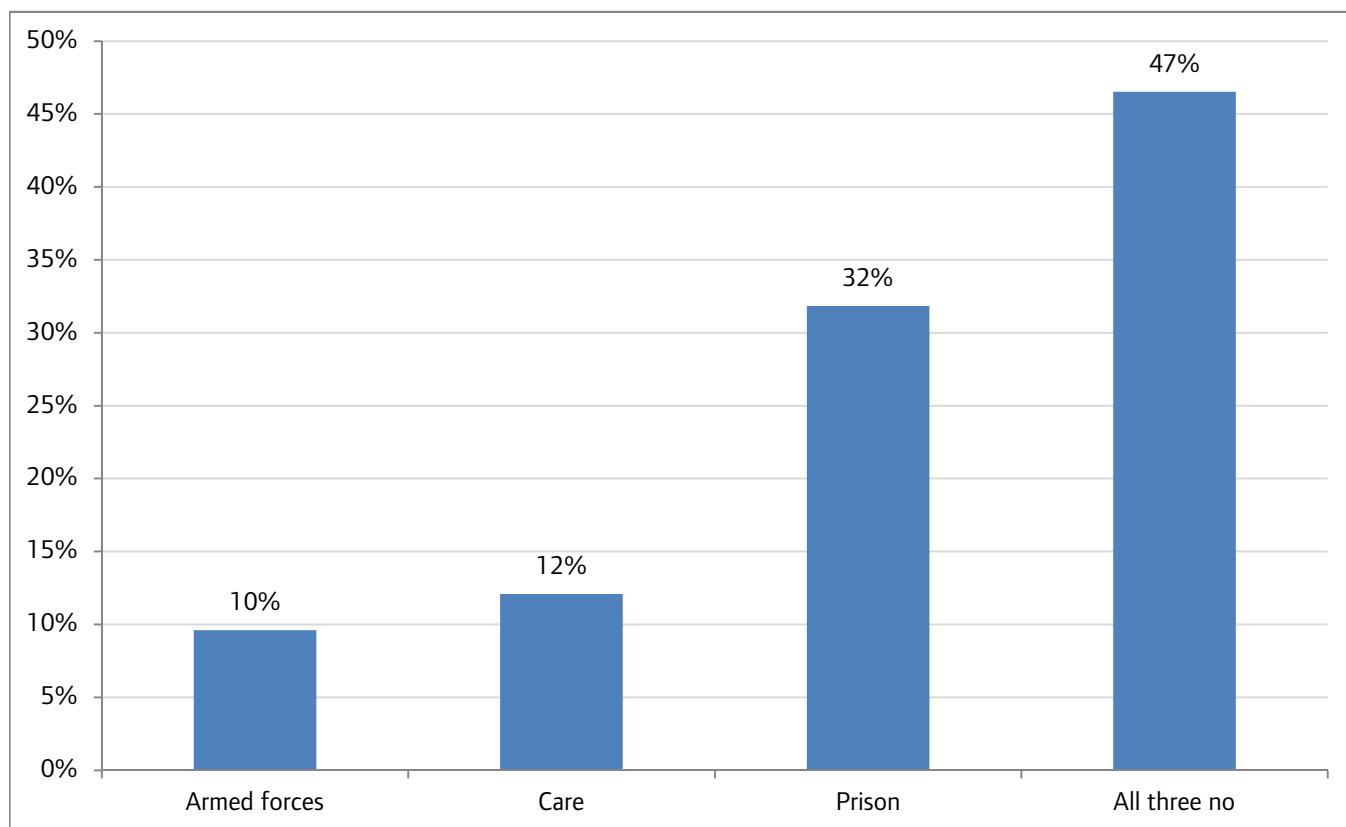


Base: 1762. Note that the base figure for this chart excludes clients where none of the three support needs were known or assessed (1095).

Support Needs	No. people	% of people seen rough sleeping
Alcohol only	191	7%
Drugs only	63	2%
Mental health only	344	12%
Alcohol and drugs	85	3%
Alcohol and mental health	161	6%
Drugs and mental health	117	4%
Alcohol, drugs and mental health	202	7%
All three no	485	17%
All three not known or not assessed	1095	38%
All three no, not known or not assessed	114	4%
Total	2857	100%

3.7 Institutional & armed forces history

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



Base: 1771. Note that the base figure for this chart excludes clients where none of the three institutional histories were recorded (1086).

Nationality of rough sleepers with experience of armed forces:

Nationality	No.	%
UK	60	3%
Non-UK	110	6%
Total with armed forces experience	170	10%
Base (total assessed)	1771	

170 people seen rough sleeping in the borough in 2015/16 had experience of serving in the armed forces, of whom 60 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 2015/16, 270 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	2014/15		2015/16	
	No. events	%	No. events	%
Temporary accommodation				
Assessment centre	1	0.3%	0	0.0%
Bed & breakfast	14	4.3%	11	3.2%
Clinic/Detox/Rehab	5	1.5%	5	1.5%
Friends & family	0	0.0%	6	1.7%
Hostel	238	73.0%	222	64.7%
Local authority temporary accommodation	7	2.1%	16	4.7%
Nightstop	3	0.9%	0	0.0%
Second-stage accommodation	4	1.2%	3	0.9%
Other temporary accommodation	10	3.1%	20	5.8%
<i>Temporary accommodation subtotal</i>	<i>282</i>	<i>86.5%</i>	<i>283</i>	<i>82.5%</i>
Long term accommodation				
Care home	3	0.9%	0	0.0%
Clearing House/RSI	2	0.6%	4	1.2%
Local authority tenancy (general needs)	0	0.0%	2	0.6%
Private rented sector - independent	25	7.7%	28	8.2%
Private rented sector - with some floating support	9	2.8%	6	1.7%
RSL tenancy (general needs)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Sheltered housing	0	0.0%	1	0.3%
St Mungo's complex needs	0	0.0%	4	1.2%
St Mungo's semi-independent	1	0.3%	5	1.5%
Supported housing	2	0.6%	5	1.5%
Tied accommodation	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other long-term accommodation	2	0.6%	5	1.5%
<i>Long term accommodation subtotal</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>13.5%</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>17.5%</i>
Total	326	100.0%	343	100.0%

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

4.2 NSNO attendance

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

	2014/15*	2015/16
NSNO	396	499
NLOS	3	

*From October 2014 onwards NLOS ceased operating as a separate service and was integrated into NSNO. Some people may have attended both NSNO and NLOS during 2014/15.

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	2014/15		2015/16	
	No.	%	No.	%
Return to home area	137	73%	149	75%
Seeking work	22	12%	15	8%
Move to area for friends/family	86	46%	87	44%
Move to area with appropriate services	90	48%	105	53%
Reconnections total*	187		200	

Reconnection destination	No.	%	No.	%
UK - London	32	17%	46	23%
UK - outside London	93	51%	96	48%
Central and Eastern Europe	33	18%	34	17%
Other Europe	23	13%	21	11%
Rest of the world	2	1%	3	2%
<i>Not known</i>	4		0	
Reconnections total (excl. destination not known)	183	100%	200	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.

175 people seen rough sleeping in 2015/16 also had a confirmed reconnection recorded by services in the borough during the period.

29% of reconnections this year were to destinations outside the UK. 17% of reconnections were to Central and Eastern European countries.

5. TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

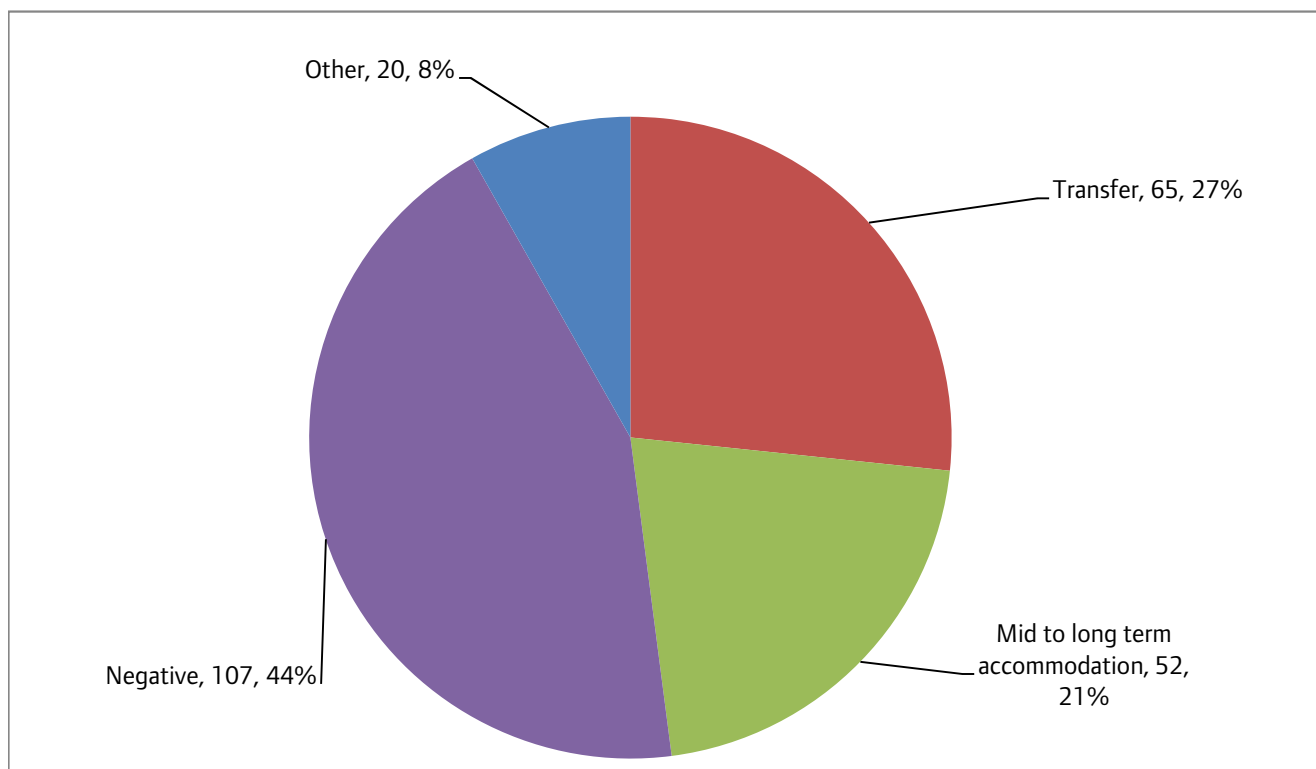
Arrivals and departures at hostels, assessment centres and second-stage accommodation based in the borough. All people counted in this section had previously been seen rough sleeping, but not necessarily during 2015/16.

5.1 Arrivals

A total of 235 individuals arrived at temporary accommodation during the period.

5.2 Departures: Destination on departure

A total of 210 individuals departed from temporary accommodation during the period.



Base: 244

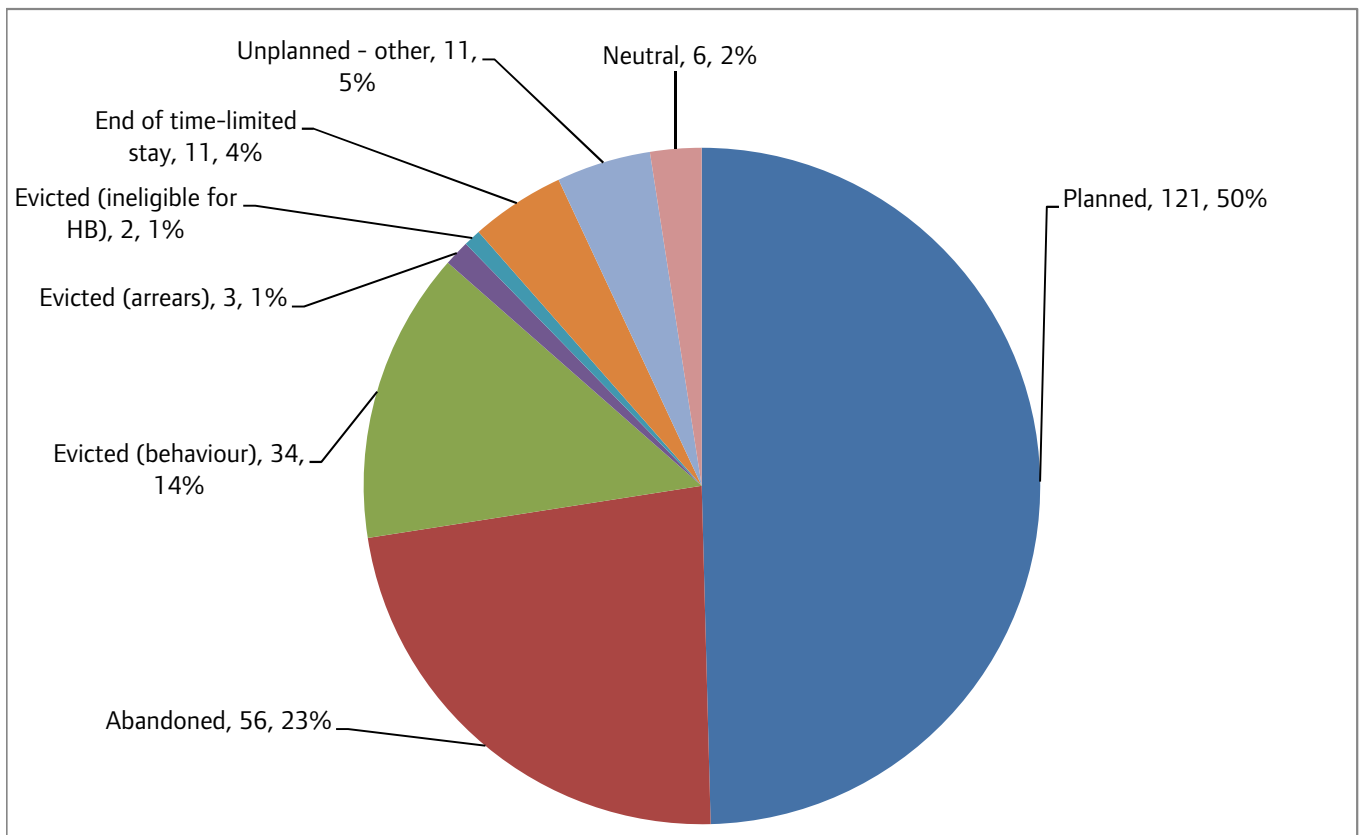
Destination on departure	Destination category	Chart colour
Assessment centre, Bed & breakfast, Detox clinic, Hospital - not long term/acute care, Hostel - another organisation, Hostel - within the organisation, NASS accommodation, Night shelter, NSNO assessment hub, NSNO staging post, Psychiatric hospital, 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 with work	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	1	0%
Detox clinic	13	5%
Hospital - not long term/acute care	3	1%
Hostel - another organisation	32	13%
Hostel - within the organisation	6	2%
NASS accommodation	0	0%
Night shelter	3	1%
NSNO assessment hub	0	0%
NSNO staging post	0	0%
Psychiatric hospital	3	1%
Rehab clinic	2	1%
Temporary accommodation (LA)	2	1%
<i>Transfer subtotal</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>27%</i>
Mid to long term accommodation		
Accommodation where client is owner	0	0%
Care home	4	2%
Clearing House/RSI	12	5%
Hospital - long term	3	1%
LA tenancy (general needs)	3	1%
Long stay hospice	0	0%
Private rented sector - independent	2	1%
Private rented sector - with some floating support	5	2%
Returned to home country (EEA)	1	0%
Returned to home country (non EEA)	1	0%
RSL tenancy (general needs)	6	2%
Sheltered housing	2	1%
Supported housing	13	5%
Tied accommodation with work	0	0%
<i>Mid to long term accommodation subtotal</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>21%</i>
Negative		
Committed suicide	0	0%
Not known	41	17%
Sleeping rough/Returned to streets	53	22%
Taken into custody	13	5%
<i>Negative subtotal</i>	<i>107</i>	<i>44%</i>
Other		
Died	6	2%
Previous home	0	0%
Staying with family	5	2%
Staying with friends	9	4%
<i>Other subtotal</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>8%</i>
Total	244	100%

5.3 Departures: Reason for leaving

Temporary accommodation departures by reason for leaving.



Base: 244

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.

