

STREET TO HOME KEY FINDINGS REPORT FOR LONDON 2005/06



The Street to Home annual report for London for 2005/06 reports on verified rough sleepers contacted, temporary accommodation and permanent RSI accommodation. The two sources of data for this report are CHAIN and the Clearing House database.

The outreach section in this report is based on all verified rough sleepers with at least one action recorded on CHAIN in the year – 3,675 people. It also provides data about the 2,807 of these people who slept rough in the year. The difference in these two figures shows that outreach and BBS (Building Based Service) teams work with verified rough sleepers even when they are not currently sleeping on the streets. For instance they may contact them in day centres and hostels as well as on the streets. The temporary accommodation section reports on all arrivals and departures to accommodation that reports to CHAIN. The permanent accommodation section reports on people who have started or ended an RSI tenancy in the year.

The full and summary versions of the Street to Home Annual Report for London 2005/06 can be found in the Voice section of Broadway's website:
www.broadwaylondon.org/broadwayvoice/

HEADLINE FACTS

Verified rough sleepers

More verified rough sleepers are being contacted

3,675 verified rough sleepers were contacted by outreach or BBS services in London in 2005/06. This is an increase of 10% (340) in two years from 2003/04. This could be due to better recording on CHAIN; CHAIN being able to record a greater range of work; outreach and BBS teams reaching more people; or more people sleeping rough.

More people are sleeping rough

2,807 people slept rough in London in 2005/06. This is an increase of 9% (227) in a year.

Over 1,500 new rough sleepers were contacted

1,608 people were verified as a rough sleeper in 2005/06. After a decrease last year, this is back to the same level as 2003/04.

Fewer people are being assisted to move off the streets by outreach teams

A lower proportion of verified rough sleepers contacted each year are being booked into accommodation or diverted by outreach or BBS teams (41% in 2005/06; 51% in 2003/04).

Nearly a quarter of people that outreach teams assist to move off the streets return to rough sleeping by the end of the year

Approximately 350 people (nearly a quarter) booked

into accommodation or diverted by outreach or BBS teams each year have subsequently slept rough by the end of the year (358 in 2005/06; 347 in 2003/04).

Temporary accommodation

Fewer verified rough sleepers are accessing temporary accommodation

The proportion of people arriving at temporary accommodation that reports to CHAIN has decreased by 14% (258) in two years.

Planned moves from temporary accommodation are increasing

The proportion of positive departures (planned moves) from temporary accommodation that reports to CHAIN continues to gradually increase – now accounting for nearly a half of all departures (47%).

Permanent RSI accommodation

Less people are starting an RSI tenancy

382 people had a tenancy start in RSI accommodation in 2005/06. This is a decrease of 28% from 534 in 2003/04.

Most people starting an RSI tenancy have no current alcohol, drugs or mental health support needs

62% of people starting an RSI tenancy in 2005/06 had no recorded current alcohol, drugs or mental health support needs. These 62% may have had past support needs in these areas, or have current and/or past support needs in other areas.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Demographics of the 3854 verified rough sleepers contacted by outreach and BBS teams and/or arriving at temporary accommodation that reports to CHAIN:

1. Gender

89% are male which is consistent with the previous two years.

2. Age

67% are aged 26-45 years.

8% are aged 25 years or under, 3 of which are aged under 18 years.

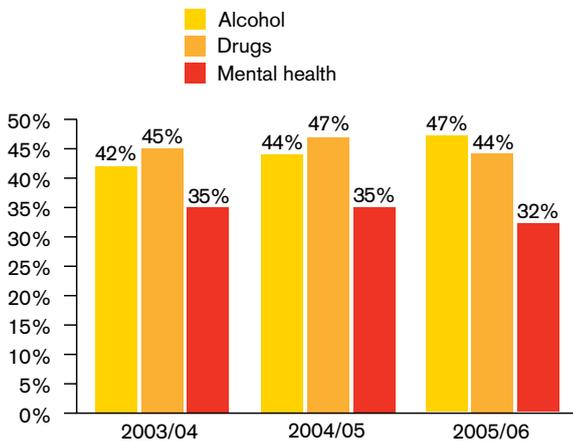
This is consistent with the previous two years.

3. Ethnicity

79% are white which is consistent with the previous two years.

4) Support Needs

Verified rough sleepers contacted by outreach or BBS teams and/or arriving in temporary accommodation (that reports to CHAIN) in the year by support needs.



2003/04 base: 3034
2004/05 base: 2822
2005/06 base: 2829

Note that the base figures for this graph exclude clients where all 3 support needs are not known.

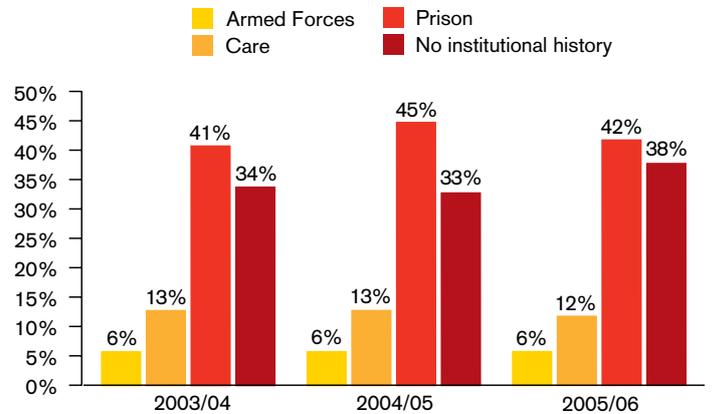
The proportion of verified rough sleepers with an alcohol support need increased by 5% from 2003/04 to 2005/06.

Those with a drugs or mental health support need are consistent with the previous two years.

In 2005/06, 14% of verified rough sleepers had no current alcohol, drugs or mental health support needs.

5) Institutional history

Verified rough sleepers contacted by outreach or BBS teams and/or arriving in temporary accommodation (that reports to CHAIN) in the year by experience of the armed forces, care or prison.



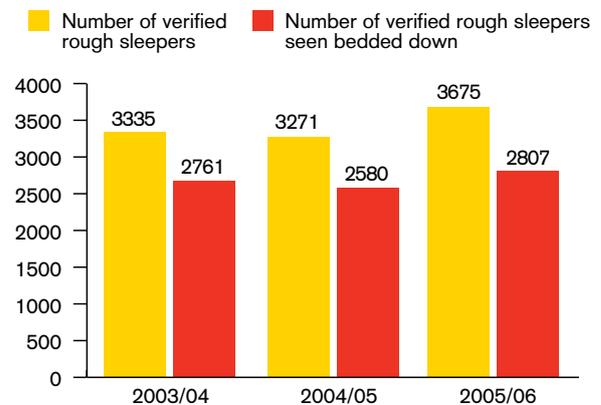
2003/04 base: 2248
2004/05 base: 2239
2005/06 base: 2374

Note that the base figures for this graph exclude clients where all 3 institutional histories are not known.

The proportions of verified rough sleepers in 2005/06 with history of being in the armed forces, care or prison, are consistent with the previous two years.

6) Verified rough sleepers and people seen bedded down

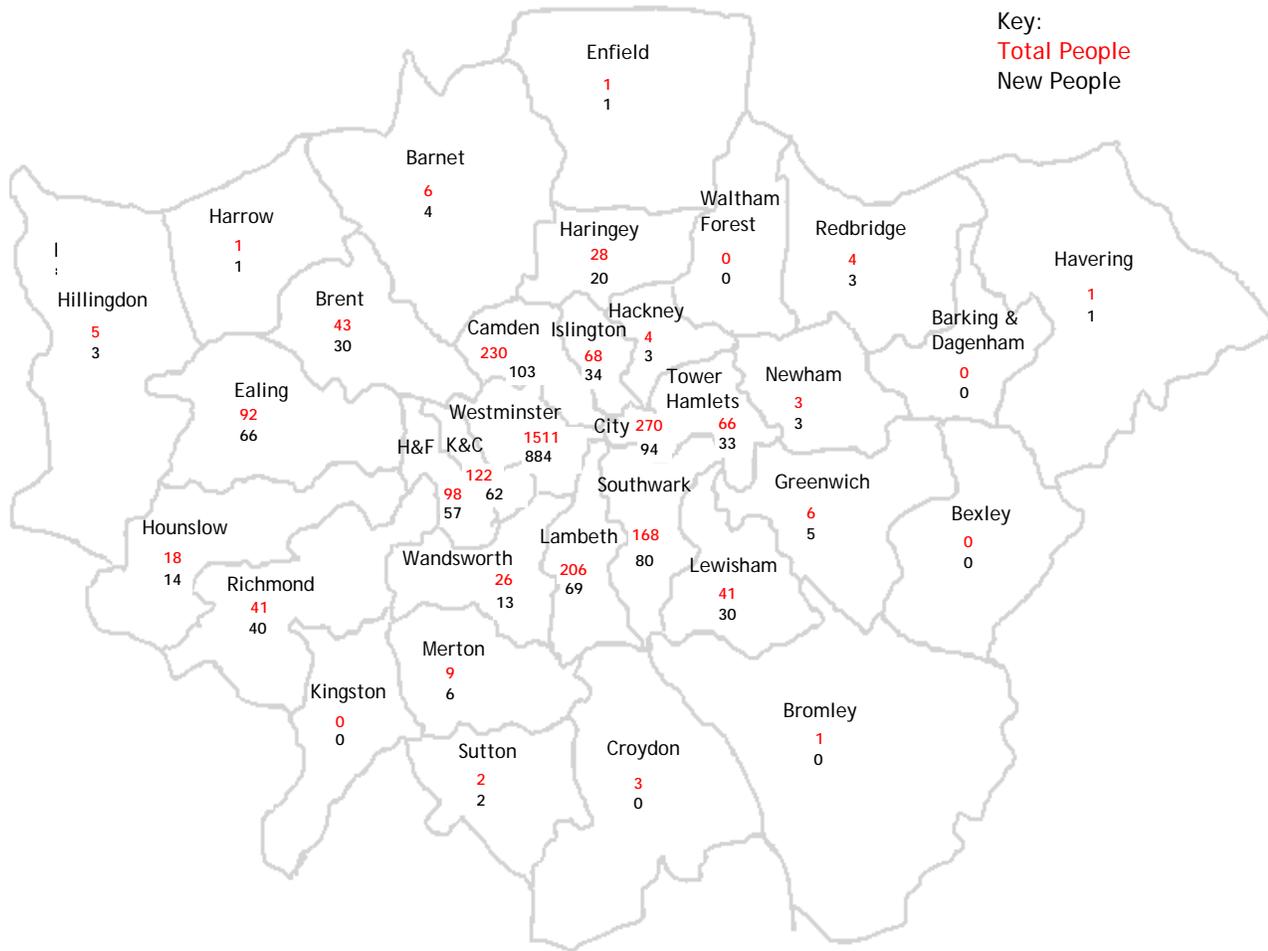
Verified rough sleepers contacted by outreach or BBS teams in the year and people seen bedded down (i.e. people with a bedded down street contact and/or street count action).



Of the 3675 verified rough sleepers contacted in 2005/06, 2807 have slept rough in the year.

The proportion of rough sleepers each year that have previously accessed temporary or permanent accommodation remains at nearly a third (30% in 2005/06; 27% in 2003/04).

7. Borough distribution of rough sleepers



Compared with 2004/05, this year there has been an increase in the number of people recorded on CHAIN as sleeping rough in the following boroughs that have a designated outreach/BBS team:

Camden (+33)

The number of rough sleepers in Camden has increased by 33 from 197 in 2004/05, and is similar to the 234 seen bedded down in 2003/04.

City (+23)

There has been an increase of 23 in the number of rough sleepers seen in the City in 2004/05 (247). However, the number is lower than the 288 seen in 2003/04.

Ealing (+11)

Although there has been a slight increase in Ealing in the last year, the number of rough sleepers contacted in 2005/06 is still lower than that of 95 in 2003/04.

Hammersmith & Fulham (+23)

The number of rough sleepers contacted in Hammersmith & Fulham is higher than the last two years (89 in 2003/04).

Haringey (+10)

Although there has been a slight increase in Haringey in the last year, the number of rough sleepers contacted in 2005/06 is still lower than that of 38 in 2003/04.

Kensington & Chelsea (+40)

The number of rough sleepers contacted in Kensington & Chelsea has increased in both of the last two years. This borough has had an increase in rough sleeping of 63% since 2003/04 when 75 people slept rough.

Richmond (+4)

Having been static for two years, the number of rough sleepers in Richmond increased very slightly by 4 in the last year.

Tower Hamlets (+11)

The number of rough sleepers in Tower Hamlets has increased from 52 in 2003/04 to 66 in 2005/06.

Westminster (+223)

By far the most significant increase in rough sleepers has been in Westminster. This borough has had an increase of 22% since 2003/04 when 1242 people slept rough.

Compared to 2004/05, this year there has been a decrease in the number of people recorded on CHAIN as sleeping rough in the following boroughs that have a designated outreach/BBS team:

Lambeth (-82)

The number of rough sleepers contacted in Lambeth has decreased from 288 in 2004/05. The number was 234 in 2003/04.

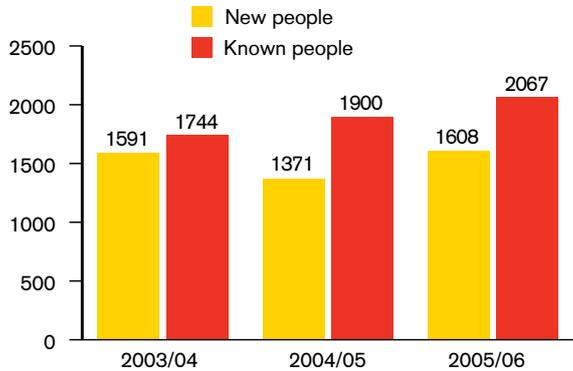
Southwark (-39)

Southwark has remained static in terms of the number of rough sleepers contacted between 2003 and 2005. This past year the number has decreased from 207 in 2004/05.

OUTREACH WORK

8. New and known

Verified rough sleepers contacted by outreach or BBS teams in the year.



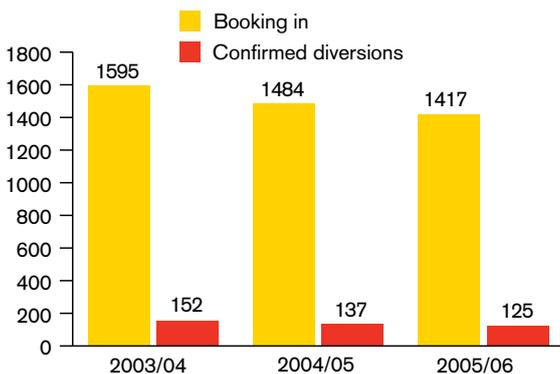
2003/04 base: 3335
2004/05 base: 3271
2005/06 base: 3675

In 2004/05 a decrease in the number of new people contacted was reported. In 2005/06 the number of new people contacted (1608) has returned to the same level as in 2003/04 (1591). This increase can be partly attributed to the expansion of CHAIN to include the recording of street count results for some boroughs. This has resulted in CHAIN capturing more new rough sleepers contacted in the year. 176 new people were verified during a street count in 2005/06 that was recorded on CHAIN.

Just under half of verified rough sleepers contacted each year continue to be new people (those verified in the year who have never previously been worked with by outreach or BBS teams in London).

9. Booking into accommodation and confirmed diversions

Verified rough sleepers booked into accommodation and/or diverted by outreach and BBS teams.



2003/04 base: 3335
2004/05 base: 3271
2005/06 base: 3675

A lower proportion of verified rough sleepers contacted each year are being booked into accommodation or diverted by outreach or BBS teams (1500, 41% in 2005/06; 1695, 51% in 2003/04).

A lower proportion of people who have slept rough each year are being booked into accommodation or diverted by outreach or BBS teams (1156, 41% in 2005/06; 1349, 51% in 2003/04).

Approximately 350 people (nearly a quarter) booked into accommodation or diverted by outreach or BBS teams each year have subsequently slept rough by the end of the year (358 in 2005/06; 347 in 2003/04).

The number of people assisted to move off the streets this year is lower than the number newly contacted (1500 vs. 1608 in 2005/06). The reverse was true in the previous two years (1560 vs. 1371 in 2004/05, 1695 vs. 1591 in 2003/04). This reversal can be accounted for by the expansion of CHAIN to capture more new people due to the recording of street count results for some boroughs - as noted above.

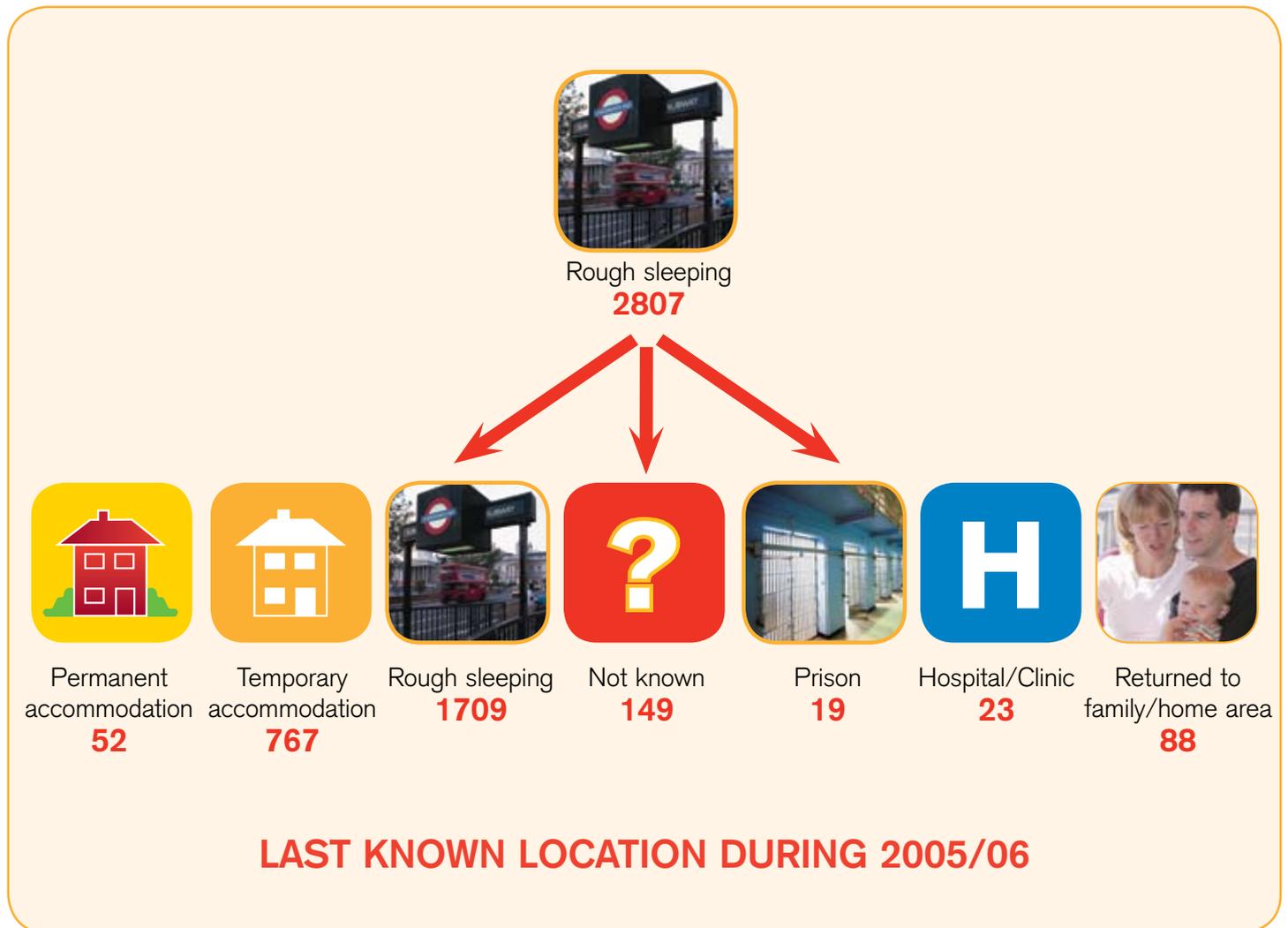
The proportion of verified rough sleepers contacted in a year who have never had a booking in action recorded on CHAIN is increasing (39% in 2005/06; 30% in 2003/04).

The subset of rough sleepers in a year who have never had a booking in action recorded on CHAIN is also increasing (46% in 2005/06; 34% in 2003/04). Again, this increase can be partly explained by the already noted increase in new rough sleepers recorded on CHAIN. New rough sleepers are less likely to have had a booking in action than known people.



10. Last known location of rough sleepers

Last recorded location in 2005/06 of rough sleepers contacted in this year.



This chart shows the last known location in 2005/06 of the 2807 rough sleepers that were contacted by outreach or BBS teams in this year. (CHAIN can only report on the location of people at the last point at which they engaged with services involved in CHAIN. If someone stops engaging with services involved in CHAIN it is not possible for CHAIN to provide up-to-date information on their whereabouts.)

It shows that the majority (61%) were last known to still be rough sleeping.

27% were last known to be in temporary accommodation that reports to CHAIN.

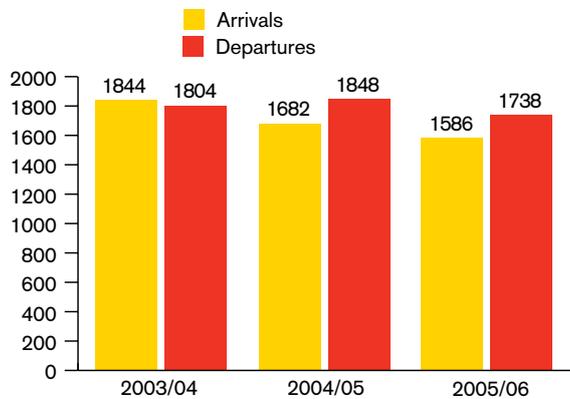
2% were last known to be in permanent accommodation (following a booking in by an outreach or BBS team, or a planned move from temporary accommodation).

These 29% that were last known to be in accommodation compares to 39% of the rough sleepers contacted in the year that were booked into accommodation by outreach or BBS teams in 2005/06. Indicating that just over a quarter of the bookings in did not result in sustained stays in accommodation.

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

11. Temporary accommodation arrivals and departures

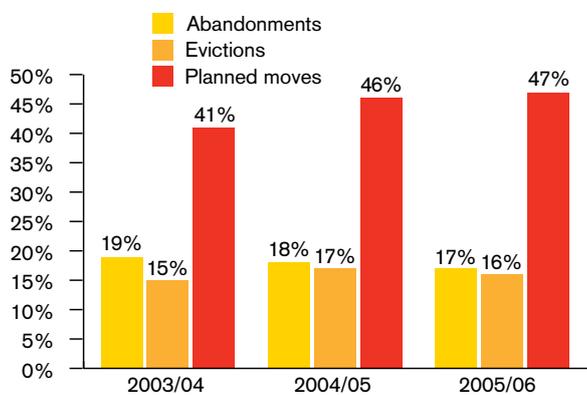
Verified rough sleepers arriving at and departing from temporary accommodation that reports to CHAIN.



The number of people arriving at temporary accommodation that reports to CHAIN has decreased by 14% in the last two years.

12. Reason for leaving

Temporary accommodation departure actions by reason for leaving



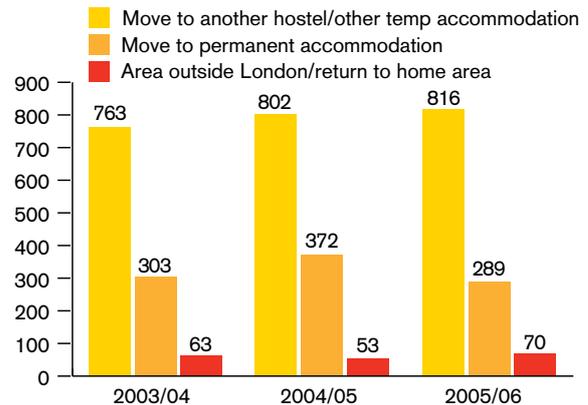
2003/04 base: 2594
2004/05 base: 2493
2005/06 base: 2369

The proportion of positive departures from temporary accommodation that reports to CHAIN that are due to a planned move continues to gradually increase - now accounting for nearly a half of all departures.

The proportion of negative departures from temporary accommodation that reports to CHAIN that are due to eviction or abandonment remains stable at a third of all departures.

13. Destination on departure

Temporary accommodation departure actions by destination.



2003/04 base: 2586
2004/05 base: 2493
2005/06 base: 2369

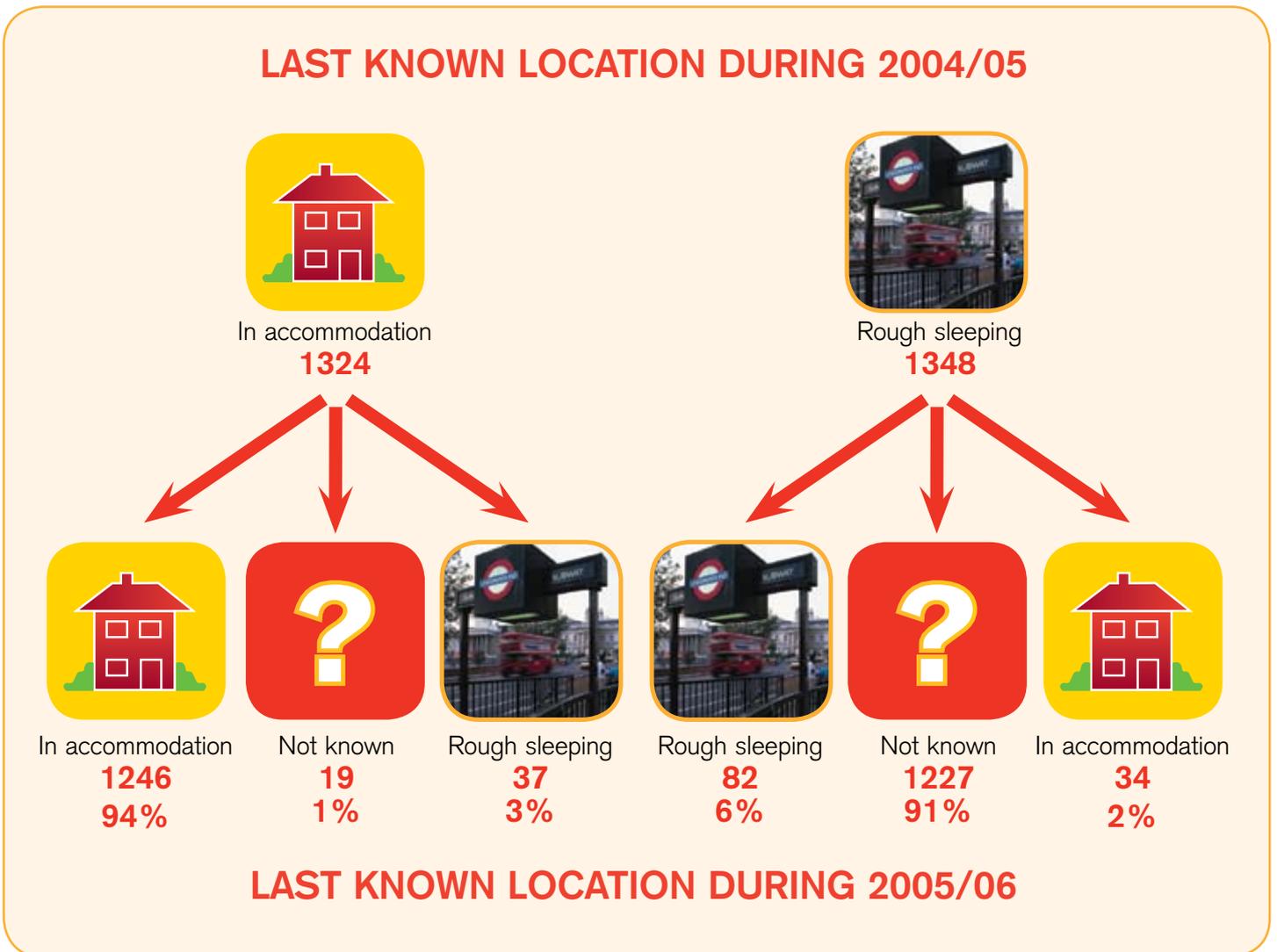
12% (289) of people left temporary accommodation to move to permanent accommodation. This is consistent with the previous two years.

The proportion of people rough sleeping in a year after leaving temporary accommodation in that year remains notable (16% in 2005/06; 15% in 2003/04).



14. Update on location of people contacted in 2004/05

Last known location in 2005/06 of verified rough sleepers last known to be in accommodation or rough sleeping in 2004/05.



This chart provides follow up information on verified rough sleepers contacted in 2004/05. It reports where these people were last known to be based on their last action recorded on CHAIN before 1st April 2006. (CHAIN can only report on the location of people at the last point at which they engaged with services involved in CHAIN. If someone stops engaging with services involved in CHAIN it is not possible for CHAIN to provide up-to-date information on their whereabouts.)

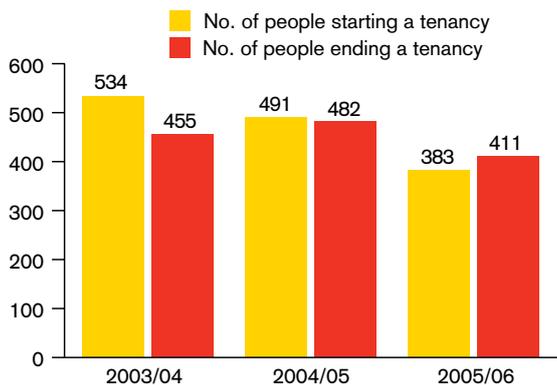
In 2004/05, 1324 (38%) of the 3480 people contacted by outreach teams and/or arriving at temporary accommodation, were last known to be in accommodation. The most recent data for these people as of 2005/06 indicates that most are still in accommodation. The remaining 22 of the 1324 not featured in the chart were most recently known to:

- be in hospital (3)
- be in a clinic (6)
- be in prison (8)
- have been diverted (4)
- have died (1).

In 2004/05, 1348 (39%) of the 3,480 people contacted, were last known to be rough sleeping. The most recent data for these people as of 2005/06 shows that the location of most is now unknown. This is because they have either had no contact in the year, or have had an outreach or BBS contact that does not define their location (e.g. non bedded down street contact; contact in day centre). The remaining 5 of the 1348 not featured in the chart were most recently known to have been diverted (4) or died (1).

15. RSI starts and ends

People who were housed and whose tenancies ended in the year.



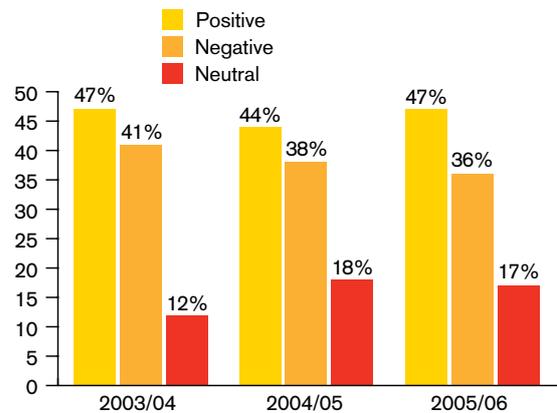
383 people started a tenancy in RSI accommodation in 2005/06. This is a decrease of 28% from 534 in 2003/04.

62% of people starting an RSI tenancy had no alcohol, drugs or mental health support needs reported by the referral agency. This compares with 68% in 2003/04.

Whilst these 62% had no alcohol, drugs or mental health support needs at the point of their tenancy start, they may have had past support needs in these areas, and have current and/or past support needs in other areas.

16. Departures from RSI permanent accommodation

Outcomes for people who departed from RSI permanent accommodation in the year.



2003/04 base: 455
2004/05 base: 482
2005/06 base: 411

411 people ended an RSI accommodation tenancy in 2005/06. This is a decrease from 482 in 2004/05 and 455 in 2003/04.

The proportion of people confirmed as rough sleeping after leaving RSI accommodation remains minimal (3% in 2005/06; 2% in 2003/04).

CONTACT DETAILS

The Homelessness and Housing Support Directorate funds CHAIN and the Clearing House.

Broadway, one of London's leading homelessness charities, manages both services.

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The full version of this report is available in the Voice section of Broadway's website:
www.broadwaylondon.org/broadwayvoice/

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