



Homelessness & Housing Delivery Task Group
Monday, 13th November, 2023 at 11.30 am
in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Saturday Market
Place, King's Lynn, PE30 5DQ

Reports marked to follow on the Agenda and/or Supplementary Documents

1. **Presentation on Homelessness Overview - Trends and Challenges**
(Pages 2 - 18)

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King's Lynn and West Norfolk Homelessness trends and challenges

Nikki Patton, Housing Services Manager

Andy King, Senior Housing Manager

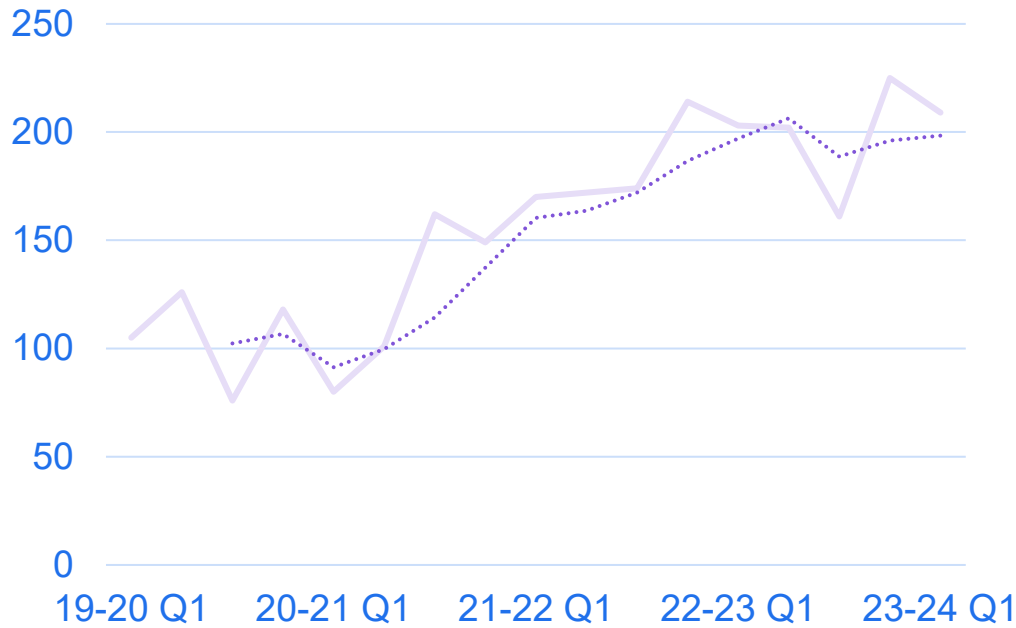
November 2023

Borough Council of
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Homelessness Presentations

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- Presentations averaged at c.100 per quarter in 2019/20
- Steady increase over COVID pandemic
- Now at average of c.200 per quarter



Reason for presentation

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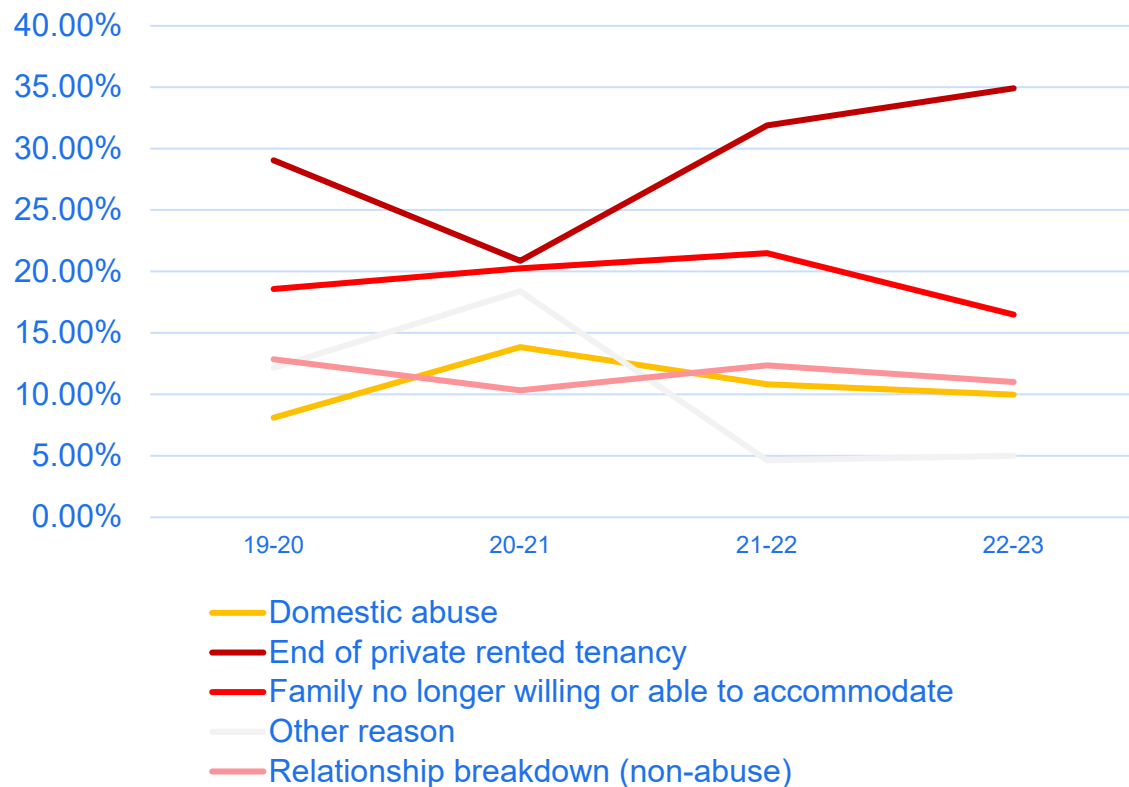


Chart shows key increases relating to:

- End of PRS tenancy
- Domestic abuse

Other significant factors include:

- Family no longer willing/able to accommodate
- Relationship breakdown



The Private Rented Sector

Demand

- Presentations doubled since 2019
- 80+ households in TA at huge cost to council

Supply

- Landlord exodus driven by legislative changes, mortgage rates and house prices

Accessibility

- Local Housing Allowance frozen
- No affordable properties for families on benefits
- Typical £3-400 shortfall per month



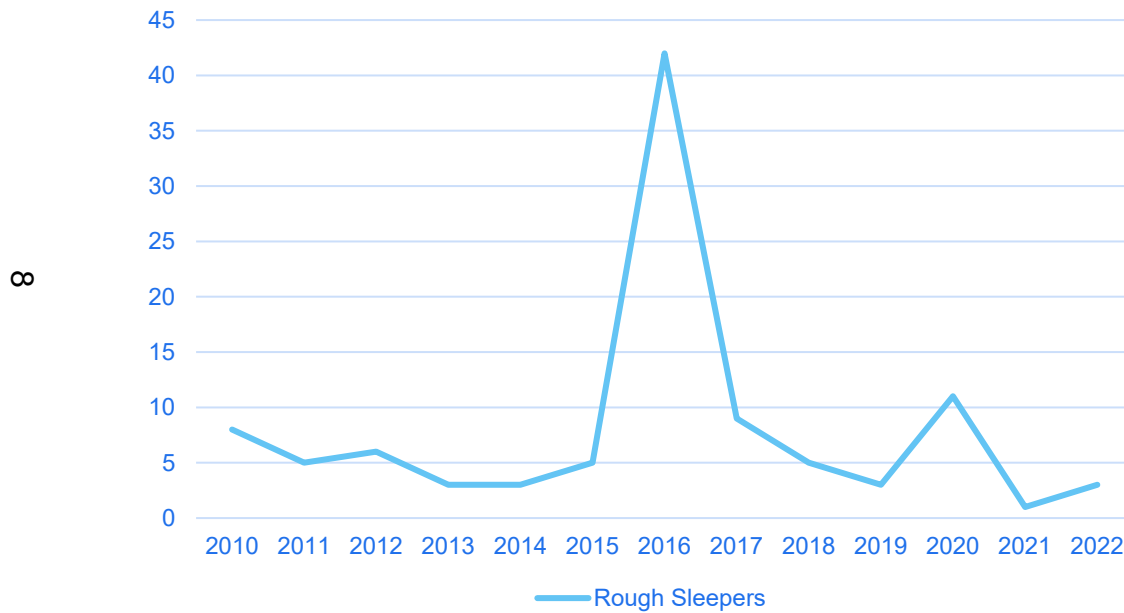
Domestic Abuse

- **Domestic Abuse Act 2021** – Automatic priority need for victim-survivors of domestic abuse
- **Increased awareness** – and improved support from support providers e.g. Leeway and Pandora Project
- **New Sanctuary Scheme** – : two dispersed properties suitable for any gender (plus children)
- **DAHA (Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance)** – aiming for accreditation in Spring/Summer 2024

Other contributory factors

- **Physical Health** – 21% of applicants, up from 16%
- **Mental Health** (30%); **Alcohol Dependency** (9%) – slight increases
- **Reductions** in numbers with drug dependency (4.6%) and 16-17 year olds (0.4%)
- **Horizon Scanning:**
 - Homes for Ukraine ending 2024
 - Asylum and Immigration
 - Renters (Reform) Bill – impact on PRS

Rough Sleeping



- **Rough sleeping peaked in late 2010s** following end of Supporting People contracts and other contributory factors
- **2016 figure of 42 on a par with Southend, Cambridge, Exeter – 17th highest nationally**



Rough Sleeping – action taken

- **Commissioned intensive support service** (Purfleet Trust) providing outreach and in-reach (through DLUHC RSI)
- **Housing First (x8) and Housing-led accommodation (x10)** for people with longer-term histories of sleeping rough
- **Enhanced homelessness prevention service** through the Sustainable Housing Partnership Service (SHPS) (county funded)
- **Welfare cabins** for people with higher support needs

Rough Sleeping – impact

- **Rough Sleeping reduced to 0-3 on a single night consistently**
 - 6th largest reduction in RS numbers nationally between 2016-22
- **Housing First accommodation** has high level of success with people with long-term history of sleeping rough
- **Purfleet Pathways houses** – 100% success rate of people moving into PRS/social accommodation in 2022
- **Able to focus on prevention and recovery-** ie preventing RS from occurring in first place as opposed to responding to high numbers on the street into emergency accommodation. Where RS does occur we want it to be rare, brief and non-reoccurring.
- **However:**
 - DLUHC RSI funding ends March 2025
 - Local success set against national trend of increasing RS numbers



KING'S LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK - OUTLINE MAP OF SERVICES – SIMPLIFIED VERSION

Prevention – to prevent people sleeping rough for the first time

Intervention – to support people sleeping rough / at imminent risk

Accommodation – short, mid and long-term accommodation for single people who are sleeping rough or at risk

Recovery – activities to sustain accom. and address support needs

		First Stage	Second Stage	Long-term																
11	Criminal Justice collab.	BCKLWN – Housing Needs (inc. out of hours)	Welfare Cabins (pods)	Supported accom. (hostels etc)	Housing First	Purfleet Trust – intensive support														
	Hospital discharge						Purfleet Trust – outreach service	Nightly-paid / B&B accom.	Youth Accom.	Social Housing	SHPS – sustainment									
	Adult Social Care Help Hub											Purfleet Trust – day centre	Temporary Accom. (Council owned)	Housing-led accom.	Private Rented Accom.	CGL – drug and alcohol				
	BCKLWN Housing Needs																King’s Lynn Night Shelter (October-June)	Refuge and specialist accom.		General services e.g. Money Advice, Steam Café, Purfleet Trust, Shelter
	SHPS																			

SYSTEM SUPPORT – underlying strategies and practices to ensure the best service for people sleeping rough or at risk

Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy; council’s Corporate Plan.
Homelessness and Housing Delivery Task Group. Multi-agency strategic and operational meetings
Protocols including care leavers, 16/17 year olds

Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy

Nikki Patton, Housing Services Manager
Andy King, Senior Housing Manager

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Background – why are we doing this?

- **Legal requirement**
 - Section 1(1) of the Homelessness Act 2002
- **Good practice, regardless**
 - Significant developments since 2019 in terms of demographic, demand and the nature and scope of the borough's resource
 - Necessary to identify resources and services required

Timeline



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Review – Oct 2023 to Jan 2024

- **Data ‘deep dive’**
 - BCKLWN - all homelessness presentations 2019-23
 - Data ‘ask’ of partner agencies
 - Specific ‘ask’ of social services
- **Focus Groups**
 - BCKLWN – Housing Options; other council departments
 - Partners – Accommodation; support
 - Lived experience – families; people who have slept rough
- **Summary paper**



Formulate – Jan-Apr 2024

- **Further focus groups**
 - Co-production focus with partners and lived experience
- **Research**
 - What works well elsewhere?
- **Key elements**
 - Advice and information
 - Early identification and intervention
 - Breaking cycles of homelessness
 - Developing partnerships



Launch! – May 2024 (TBC)

- **A borough-wide strategy**
- **Created and owned** by the borough
- **Recognise** successes and achievements
- **Acknowledge** the work to come

Questions / Discussion