



Homelessness Strategic Updates 29/11/22

Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee

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Housing solutions



Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUCH)



Department for Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities

Was formally MHCLG (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government)

- ❖ The Rt Hon Michael Gove MP has been appointed as the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Minister for Intergovernmental Relations
- ❖ The Rt Hon Lucy Frazer KC MP, Minister of State (Housing and Planning) – **overall responsibility for Housing Strategy.**
- ❖ **Felicity Buchan MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Housing and Homelessness, including rough sleeping and supported housing/families programme.)**
- ❖ **Lee Rowley MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Local Government and Building safety) – Including integration strategy and communities**
- ❖ Local Authority have specialist HAST (Homelessness advice and Support Team)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-levelling-up-housing-and-communities>

HAST (Homelessness advice and support team)
Secretary of state and Minister for Rough Sleeping and Housing



DLUCH strategic overview - National Context

- ▶ Govt Rough Sleeping Strategy published in 2018 sets out the government's vision for **halving rough sleeping by 2022 and ending it by 2025**. [The rough sleeping strategy - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/strategies/rough-sleeping-strategy)
- ▶ Every Local Authority now has to publish its own RS and Homelessness prevention strategy 2020 – 2025 to ensure we are aiming towards their target. The strategy overarches all the work we do.
- ▶ **End Rough sleeping for good published September 2022** [Ending rough sleeping for good - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/strategies/ending-rough-sleeping-for-good)
- ▶ New Strategy is based around 3 core pillars, prevention, intervention and recovery
- ▶ Clear and defined vision for ending rough sleeping which is:

“IS PREVENTED WHEREEVER POSSIBLE AND WHERE IT DOES OCCUR IT IS RARE, BRIEF AND NON-RECURRENT”

Definitions of homelessness

- ▶ Who is legally homeless?
- ▶ Homeless definition and Local Connection under Part VII
- ▶ A person does not need to be sleeping rough to be legally homeless.
- ▶ The Housing Act 1996 defines a person as homeless if they either:^[3]
- ▶ have no accommodation available to occupy
- ▶ are at risk of violence or domestic abuse
- ▶ have accommodation but it is not reasonable for them to continue to occupy it
- ▶ have accommodation but cannot secure entry to it
- ▶ have no legal right to occupy their accommodation
- ▶ live in a mobile home or houseboat but have no place to put it or live in it
- ▶ [Legally homeless - Shelter England](#)

Local Connection - Housing act 1996 Part VII (as amended)

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- ▶ What is a local connection?
- ▶ Local authorities can make inquiries into whether a person has a local connection to the local authority area they have applied to.
- ▶ Where an applicant has no local connection with the local authority to which they apply, the authority can [refer them to another authority](#) where they have a local connection.
- ▶ 6 out of 12 months, 3 of out 5 years.
- ▶ A person may have a local connection on grounds of:[\[1\]](#)
- ▶ normal residence
- ▶ Employment
- ▶ family association
- ▶ special circumstances
- ▶ leaving care
- ▶ local authorities that they should consider each case individually on its own particular facts.[\[3\]](#)

Rough Sleeper Count 03/11/22

- ▶ Tamworth and neighboring authorities chose night of 3rd November 2022
- ▶ 2 rough sleepers recorded
- ▶ One has refused multiple offers of accommodation and the other was found accommodation the next day
- ▶ Remains <5 positive trajectory
- ▶ Transient and not entrenched

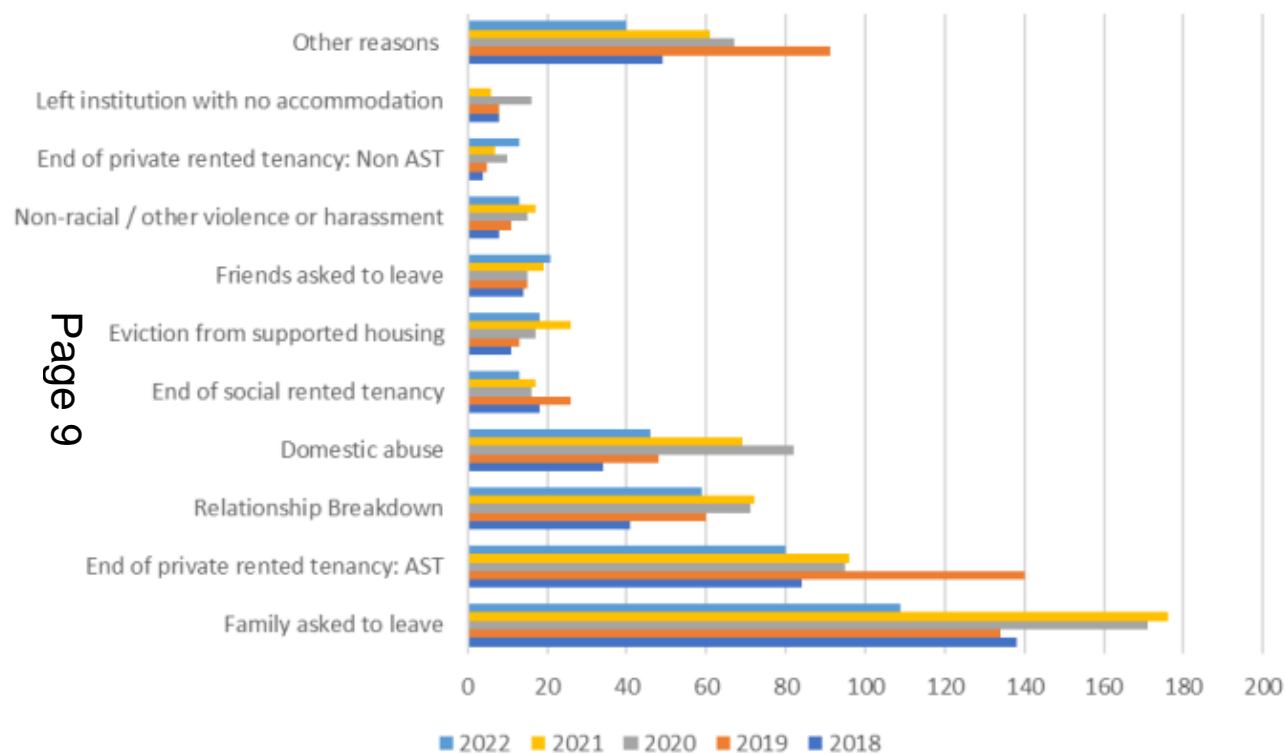
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Year	Estimate of Rough sleepers
2015	5
2016	8
2017	4
2018	3
2019	5
2020	5
2021	0
2022	2



Reasons for Approach to Tamworth BC

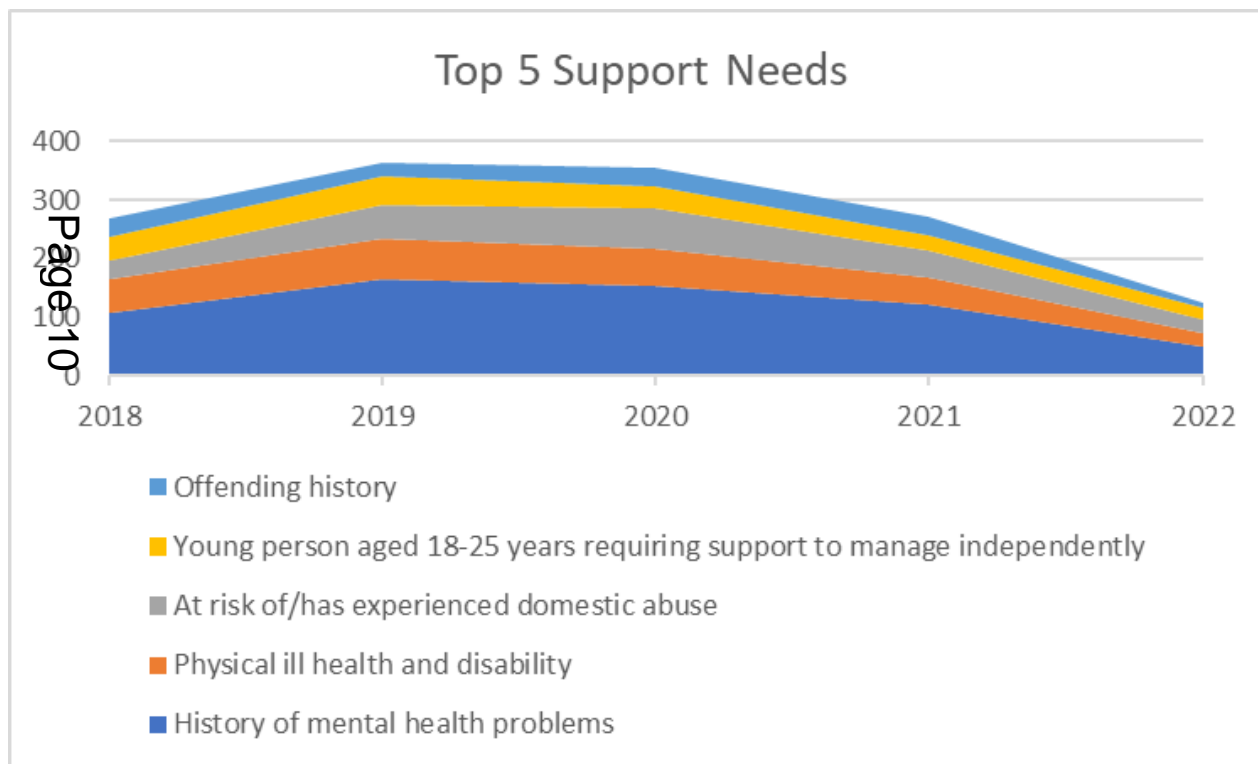
Top 10 Reason for Approach



Reasons For Approach	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	total
Family asked to leave	138	134	171	176	109	728
End of private rented tenancy: AST	84	140	95	96	80	495
Relationship Breakdown	41	60	71	72	59	303
Domestic abuse	34	48	82	69	46	279
End of social rented tenancy	18	26	16	17	13	90
Eviction from supported housing	11	13	17	26	18	85
Friends asked to leave	14	15	15	19	21	84
Non-racial / other violence or harassment	8	11	15	17	13	64
End of private rented tenancy: Non AST	4	5	10	7	13	39
Left institution with no accommodation	8	8	16	6	0	38
Other reasons	49	91	67	61	40	308
Total	409	551	575	566	412	2513

N.B- Data is taken from 1st April 2018 upon commencement of HRA to 31st October so 2018 and 2022 are part years

Top 5 Support Needs- Overview



Support need	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
History of mental health problems	108	166	152	122	51	
Physical ill health and disability	57	69	64	45	23	
At risk of/has experienced domestic abuse	31	56	70	48	22	
Young person aged 18-25 years requiring support	41	50	37	24	21	
Offending history	32	23	32	31	8	
total	269	364	355	270	125	1383

All support needs total:

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
439	542	532	443	201	2157

N.B- Data is taken from 1st April 2018 upon commencement of HRA to 31st October so 2018 and 2022 are part years

Assistance to Rough Sleepers or those at risk of Rough sleeping since pandemic

143

People have moved into settled and supported accommodation since pandemic began

- Successfully delivered RSI4
- Consistently low numbers of rough sleepers < 5
- Annual rough sleeper estimate Nov 22 reported 2

The housing outcome of clients at end of RSI

- 19 in settled accommodation (83%)
- 1 in supported housing (4%)
- 2 returned to family (9%)
- 1 in long term psychiatric care (4%)
- Case study to be shared

Rough sleeping
Delivery Plan: On track



Actions, challenges & Achievements Data picture –...”

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Achievements

Evidence and intelligence led service

Key performance when bench marked externally shows consistent achievement.

Currently:-

- **6 in B&B < 10**
- RS Count is still below 5, recorded 2
- Active cases open to the homeless Team 140 4X officers, OOH rota
- **HAST visit and feedback, best practice authority**
- 20 in council TA- self contained
- Several previous rough sleepers rehoused but struggling to sustain tenancy
- Example: Cost B&B/TA based on average 30 nights x 18 - £25k
- **Successful 1 year RSI Project delivered**
- Excellent collaborative work with Tamworth advice centre and Heart of tamworth Community project (TAC at Scared heart)

Challenges

- ▶ **Affordability**
- ▶ **Clients remain complex and chaotic and sustaining tenancies is the biggest challenge coupled with non-engagement**
- ▶ Performance strong which inevitably limits external funding opportunities
- ▶ **Increase homelessness prevention from good to great**
- ▶ Stakeholder expectations
- ▶ Revolving door of homelessness-
- ▶ Poverty / Low incomes around affordability
- ▶ Cross border placements



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Housing
Solutions
Service
Offer
includes.....

Winter Relief 2022- 2023



- ▶ Collaboration with one of our anchor charities Heart of Tamworth Community Project continues.... from 1st Dec until end of March
- ▶ Introducing Heart of Tamworth representative.

Support includes:

- ▶ Wrap around support for vulnerable clients who require intensive support, under housing first principles worked really well last year and to be continued
- ▶ Dedicated member of staff from HoT to work alongside TBC Housing solutions team
- ▶ Home visits
- ▶ Food parcel/ Hygiene pack deliveries
- ▶ Befriending – telephone & face to face
- ▶ Support while in Temporary Accommodation such as speaking to other council departments as an advocacy service if need to
- ▶ Hand holding to getting forms completed (H-reg form now online)
- ▶ Providing a single point of contact for queries, linking in with the Out reach officer
- ▶ Providing emotional support through listening and agreeing an action plan
- ▶ Hand holding to attend appointments within the community (banks, GP's)
- ▶ Upskilling, Job prospects, CV writing workshop, volunteering opportunities
- ▶ Referrals into Tamworth Advice Centre (TAC) financial/debt assistance
- ▶ Two way commitment between council and third sector, outcome focused.

Homelessness Hub - Developing the idea



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