



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

MHCLG

NPSS Conference

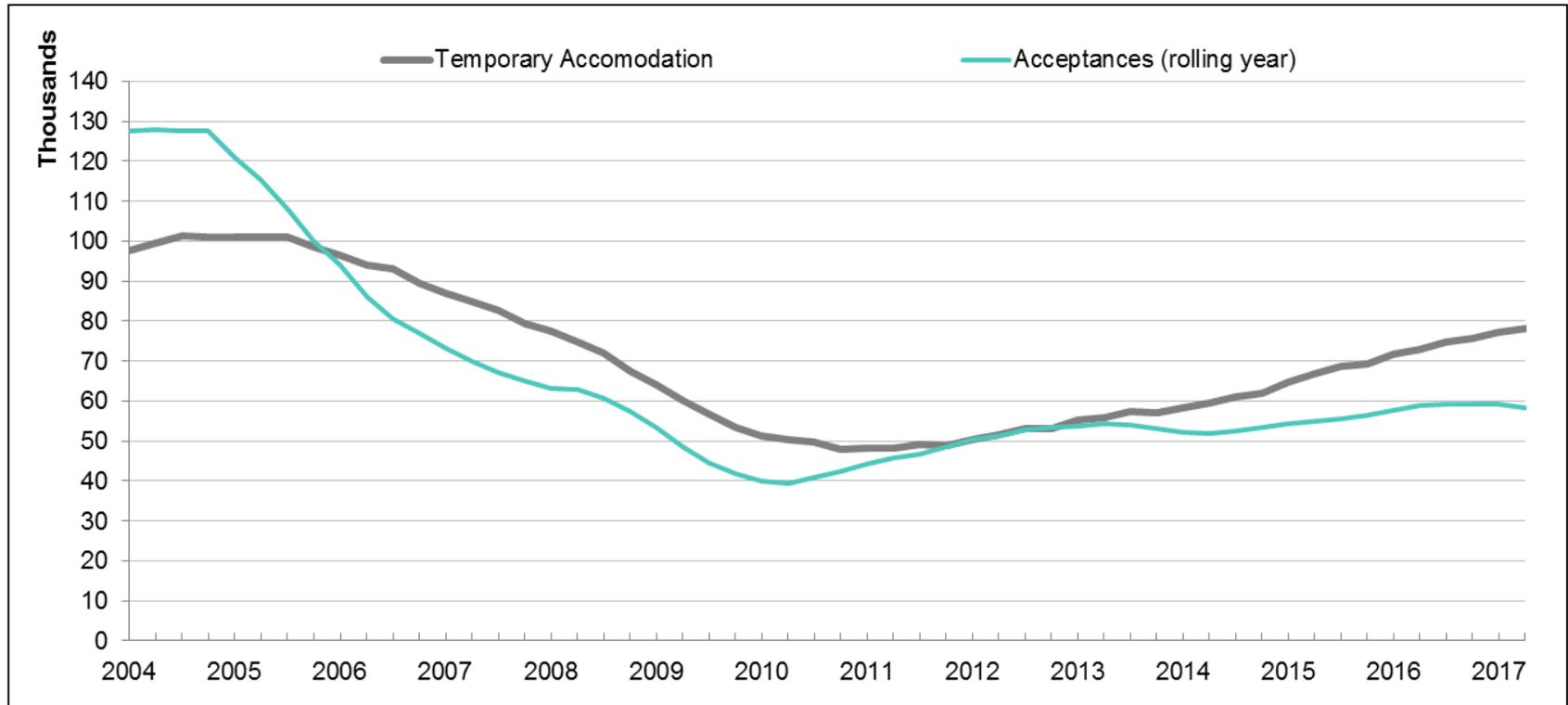
3rd July 2018

Jim Crawshaw, Homelessness Advice and Support Team



Homelessness –national trends

Acceptances and households in temporary accommodation



Statutory homelessness and numbers in temporary accommodation are rising. The number of households in TA is up 65% on the lowest point in 2010



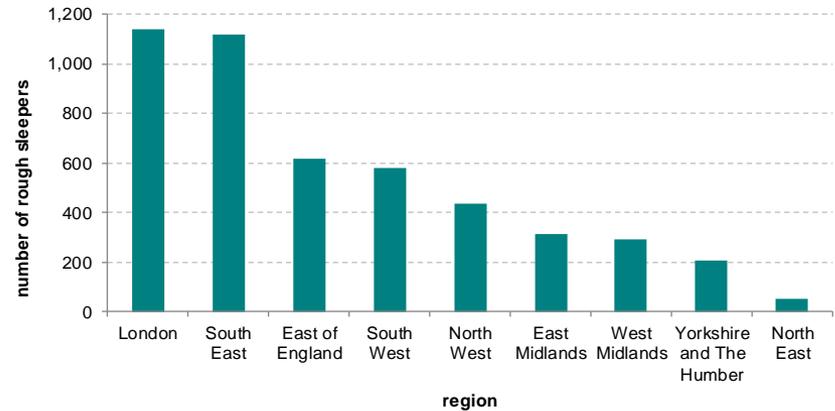
Rough Sleeping – Trends and Context

24% of rough sleepers are in London...¹

- London’s CHAIN database records information on rough sleepers seen by outreach workers throughout the year. In 2016/17, 8,108 people were seen sleeping rough. *Not comparable with MHCLG statistics.*²
- MHCLG single night figures show 40% of rough sleepers in London were non-UK nationals. This compares to 14% in the rest of England.¹
- Rough sleepers in London tend to have lower support needs than those in the rest of England³, but affordability issues are worse.

...but it’s not just a London problem.¹

Rough sleeping on a single night by region, 2017¹



London LAs with highest rough sleeping on a single night, 2017¹

Local Authority	2016	2017
Westminster	260	217
Camden	17	127
Newham	41	76
Redbridge	60	65
Ealing	27	62
Southwark	32	44
Waltham Forest	47	44
Haringey	29	43
City of London	50	36
Hillingdon	28	36

Local Authority	2016	2017
Brighton and Hove	144	178
Manchester	78	94
Luton	76	87
Bristol, City of	74	86
Bedford	59	76
Southend-on-Sea	44	72
Cornwall	99	68
Oxford	33	61
Birmingham	55	57
Salford	26	49

1. MHCLG Rough Sleeping Statistics 2017, England single night snapshot https://www.gov.uk/government/Rough_Sleeping_Autumn_2017_Statistical_Release.pdf
 2. GLA CHAIN Database for London 2016/17 <https://files.datapress.com/london/dataset/chain-reports/2017-06-30T09:03:07.84/Greater%20London%20full%202016-17.pdf>
 3. Peter MacKie, Nations Apart https://www.crisis.org.uk/media/20608/crisis_nations_apart_2014.pdf



Government has been clear that driving down rough sleeping is an immediate priority.

MANIFESTO COMMITMENT

Our aim is to halve rough sleeping over the course of the Parliament and eliminate it altogether by 2027.

ROUGH SLEEPING AND HOMELESSNESS REDUCTION TASKFORCE

Rough Sleeping identified as a high priority by Cabinet. A Rough Sleeping and Homelessness Reduction Taskforce has been meeting since March, supported by an Advisory Panel of homelessness sector experts – including local authority representatives

ROUGH SLEEPING STRATEGY & INITIATIVE

A Rough Sleeping Strategy to be published this summer setting out how Government intends to meet the manifesto commitment
Immediate action is needed to bring down numbers sleeping rough before the winter. A Rough Sleeping Initiative has been launched which includes a new cross-disciplinary team made up of experts and £30m investment in local services in 2018-19 to reduce rough sleeping this year.



Why do people sleep rough?

...People who sleep rough often have vulnerabilities due to adverse life experiences or health issues. Time on the street makes people more likely to develop or deepen a need.

Eviction

New UK nationals rough sleepers in London stated the **most common reason for losing their last settled base was being asked to leave or evicted from property** (42%).²

Childhood trauma and abuse

c.30% of single homeless people were excluded or suspended from school, and 23% have experienced abuse from family members/friends.³

History of care

10% of rough sleepers in London have a history of Care.²
24% of single homeless people have been in local authority care.³

Personal shock

New UK national rough sleepers in London stated the **second most common reason for losing their last settled base was relationship problems** (18%).²

Offending history

33% of rough sleepers in London have experience of being in prison.²

41% of single homeless people have served a prison sentence.³

Alcohol & substance misuse

35% of rough sleepers in London have a substance misuse need, and 43% have an alcohol need.
22% had both a substance misuse and mental health need.²

Dual diagnosis

Mental health need

Over half of UK national rough sleepers have a mental health need.⁴ A very high proportion of rough sleepers have attempted suicide compared to the general population.

Migrants

Tend to have lower needs but some are very vulnerable

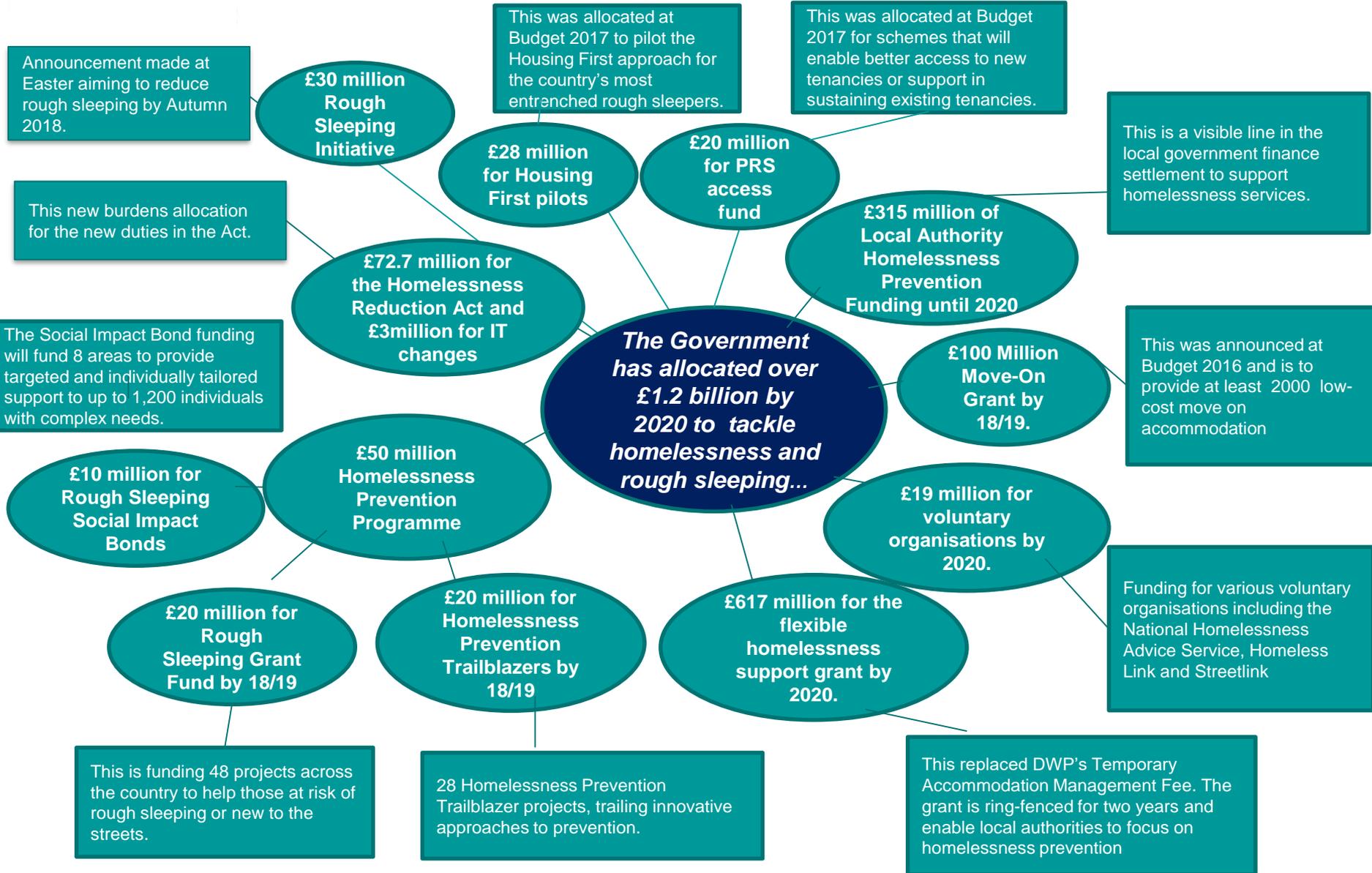
Some sleep rough in order to save money to send home, while others cannot access housing.

Poverty and poor financial/personal resilience

1. Lankelly Chase, *Hard Edges*, <https://lankellychase.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Hard-Edges-Mapping-SMD-2015.pdf>
 2. London CHAIN 2016/17 3. Peter MacKie, *Nations Apart* 2014, https://www.crisis.org.uk/media/20608/crisis_nations_apart_2014.pdf]
 4. St Mungo's *Stop the Scandal*, <http://www.mungos.org/documents/7021/7021.pdf>, Policy Lab Homelessness project
 5. MEH. - Fitzpatrick, Bramley and Johnsen, 2012 - *Multiple Exclusion Homelessness in the UK*



Government Funding to Prevent and Relieve Homelessness





Duty to Refer

- Under section 213B the public authorities specified in regulations are required to notify a housing authority of service users they consider may be homeless or threatened with homelessness (i.e. it is likely they will become homeless within 56 days). Before making a referral a public authority must:
 - a. have consent to the referral from the individual;
 - b. allow the individual to identify the housing authority in England which they would like the notification to be made to; and,
 - c. have consent from the individual that their contact details can be supplied so the housing authority can contact them regarding the referral.
- Information should be stored securely



Public Bodies with Duty to Refer from October 1st 2018 are:

- (a) prisons;
- (b) youth offender institutions;
- (c) secure training centres;
- (d) secure colleges;
- (e) youth offending teams;
- (f) probation services (including community rehabilitation companies);
- (g) Jobcentre Plus;
- (h) social service authorities;
- (i) emergency departments;
- (j) urgent treatment centres; and,
- (k) hospitals in their function of providing inpatient care.
- (l) Secretary of State for defence in relation to members of the armed forces

Local authorities and partners are encouraged to build referral protocols and procedures with ALL service providers that can help identify and support people threatened with homelessness



What is your experience?

- An increase in customers accessing the service?
- Cases held for officers for longer periods – growth in caseloads?
- Increase, or otherwise in TA...what are the drivers?
- H-Clic challenges – still a mixed picture with providers?
- Improvements in customer care and feedback?
- Overall are you positive/negative/not sure?



The Homelessness Advice and Support Team

- **Supporting the implementation of the Homelessness Reduction Act; including having a particular focus on improving outcomes for single people and rough sleepers**
- **Supporting areas to develop their homelessness strategies and governance with a focus on preventing homelessness through collaboration across public services**
- **Providing targeted challenge and support to help struggling areas to improve their practice and performance**
- **Supporting the development and sharing of effective practice, working alongside our Trailblazer areas**
- **Providing intelligence from local areas to inform on-going policy development.**



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ANY QUESTIONS?

Contact email for enquiries

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