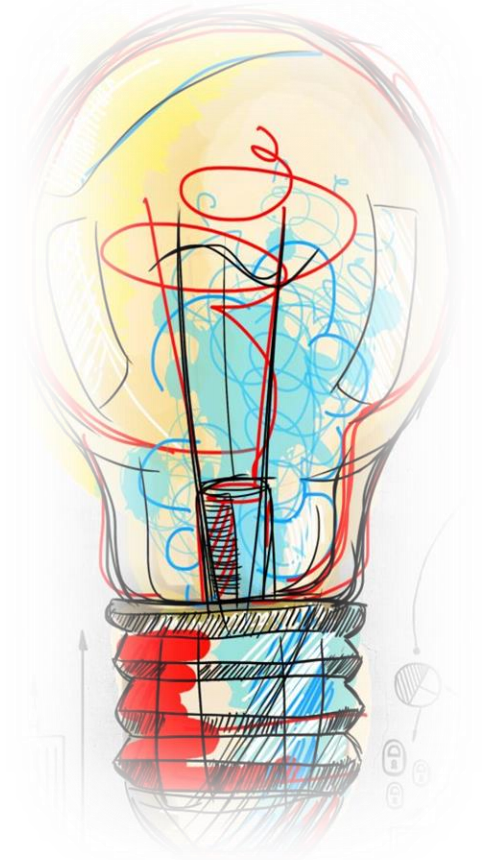




Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government



Collaboration Hub South East Homelessness Forum

South East Homelessness Forum Collaboration Hub

Context

Background to issues in the supported housing sector

1

Research has shown there are major issues in the quality of supported housing in certain areas.

2

MHCLG announced an intention to regulate the sector in March 2022 and the Supported Housing (Regulatory Oversight) Act became law in August 2023.

3

MHCLG are now implementing the Act, starting with the consultation.

National Supported Housing Standards

What you need to know

Licensing and standards

- Licensing authorities should take a consistent approach to **assessing the standards**.
- The standards will be enforced through licensing as meeting them will be a condition of being granted a licence.

Evidencing the standards

- Providers will need to demonstrate how their scheme(s) comply with the Standards.
- We are consulting on how providers can evidence the standards. See slides 9 and 10 for more detail.

What good support looks like

- The standards are not intended to tell providers and residents which model or approach should be used to deliver support.
- **Good support will involve the resident and the provider working together** to agree what is best for the resident.

Support plans and needs assessments

- Each **support plan** and **needs assessment** should be tailored to the resident.
- We are seeking views on what should be included in a needs assessment and in a support plan.

Supported Housing Licensing Regime

Our proposals for a national framework, locally delivered. Do you agree?



Licences

- Each local authority in England will run a licensing scheme.
 - Licences ensure that the National Supported Housing Standards are met.
-



Schemes

- Each 'scheme' within a local authority district will need to hold a licence.
 - Proposed definition of 'scheme': *a building or, a part of a building or a group of buildings with a single postal address, comprised of one or more units, where at least one of those units is supported housing.*
-



Duration

- We propose licenses will last 5 years.
-



University of
Southampton



Disseminating Research into Practice

Prof Nick Maguire

Lucy Hartland-Grant

*Centre for Homelessness Research and Practice,
University of Southampton*

Aims of today



Understand what research is – what do we mean by research, why it matters and how it relates to practice



Learn where to find trustworthy, relevant research – including accessible resources beyond academic journals



Explore how to apply it meaningfully to your work – using real-world examples and group activities

What do we mean by “Research”?

- ❑ Research is the collection, analysis and interpretation of information to answer a question or explore an issue
- ❑ Research uses structured methods to gather evidence – this might be to look for patterns or meanings, to test ideas or to generate new understanding

Where you might find it:

- Peer reviewed journals – academically reviewed, high rigour
- Trade journals – sector-specific, written for practitioners
- Grey literature – reports, evaluations, briefings shared by organisations e.g., Crisis or Homeless Link

Types of research

- **Qualitative research** – explores experiences, meaning, and behaviour through interviews, focus groups, or observations. Analysed qualitatively
- **Quantitative research** – measures things using numbers; analysed statistically using surveys or administrative data
- **Mixed methods** – combination of qualitative and quantitative research

Quick fire – 5 mins

Where might you find research?

If you have previously used research, where did you find it?



Nature of research and practice



Evidence-based practice

Uses the best available research to inform decisions

Aims to apply proven approaches to improve outcomes

Combines research with practitioner expertise and lived experience



Evidence-generating practice

Practice settings can generate new knowledge through reflection, evaluation and co-production

Practitioners and people with lived experience play a central role

Translating research into practice

Research doesn't automatically lead to change — it needs to be relevant, realistic, and usable in real-world settings.

Efficacy vs effectiveness

- Efficacy: does it work in controlled, ideal conditions e.g., trial?
- Effectiveness: does it work in everyday settings, with the complexity of real life?

Controllability vs ecological validity

- High control makes it easier to isolate impact but often removes context. Ecological validity means the research reflects real-life environments
- Most useful research strikes balance: rigorous but grounded in reality

Pure research vs translational research

- Pure research explores theory or understanding
- Translational research applies findings to address practical problems
- How do we bridge the gap?

Exercise (10 mins)

In your groups, discuss when you have been able to use research to underpin your practice.

- What research was it (or type of)
- How did you use the research
- What are the barriers to using research in practice
- What is needed to make a better use of research?

Feedback

How to precis research (assimilate it quickly!)

- A precis is a short, clear summary that captures the key points of a research study - it helps you to focus on what matters most – quickly

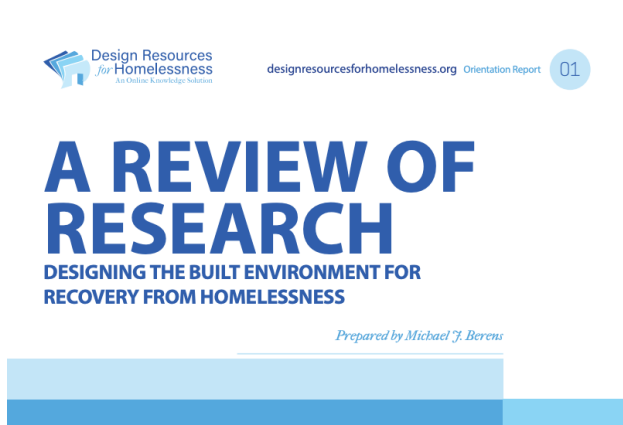
What to look for when reading:

- What question is the research asking? Who was involved? What did they do? What did they find? Why does it matter?

How to write your precis

- Summarise aims and methods, highlight key findings, explain implications
- Use plain English!
- Think about using AI

Exercise (15 mins) – Implementing research



- Read the original research presented.
- How could you use it to inform and improve the practice of your organisation?
- How will you know if your organisation has improved?

The data environment



What data do you currently gather?

Who you support?

What you deliver?

Outcomes? Experiences?



Who is that data for?

Funders and commissioners?

Managers and leaders?

Frontline staff?

Policy makers and researchers?

Bridging the gap: improving research- practice links

Research and practice can feel disconnected if the research feels abstract or inaccessible

What can co-creation look like?

- Practitioners shape the research questions
- People with lived experience co-design the method
- Findings are shared back in accessible formats
- Research is used to drive change, not just publication

How can we make this happen?

- Building relationships with local researchers, universities or knowledge hubs
- When applying for funding, include time and budget for co-produced research
- Ask “how will this be used” before starting a project

Final reflections

- What will you do to improve the research you can access, use or influence?
- What do you need to make that happen – time, confidence, connections, support?
- How can research become a regular part of your decision-making?
- Who can you collaborate with – locally or nationally?

Remember: you don't need to be a researcher to use research – but you can shape what's valued, explored and how its shared

Thank you!

To join our Homelessness
Community of Practice, please
scan the QR code!



MHCLG Update - South East Homelessness Forum

7th May 2025

Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy

Latest Update – feedback and recommendations

Task and Finish Groups

The groups, which were chaired by members of the Expert Group, and feed into the Inter Ministerial Group (**IMG**), have now fed back their recommendations on key themed areas:

- i. Working together to prevent homelessness (**prevention**)
- ii. A joined up approach for people with complex needs (**Complex Needs**)
- iii. Housing
- iv. Temporary Accommodation
- v. Helping people reach their full potential (**Full Potential**)
- vi. Workforce Development
- vii. Accountability and Impact.

Local Authority and other stakeholder feedback has also been collated under the above themes.



Next Steps:

Recommendations are being assessed and considered across government. Publication of the Strategy is planned following phase 2 of the Spending Review.

Youth Homelessness

Policy updates and headlines

As part of the Government's legislative programme in the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill:

The Government has made the decision to include an amendment within the Bill to disapply the intentional homelessness test for certain care leavers.

This is building on the previous update to the Homelessness Code of Guidance (May 24) which set the expectation IH decisions for care leavers should only be made in exceptional circumstances - as it is of the view that no care leaver who is in scope of corporate parenting duties should be found to have become homeless intentionally.

In tandem with progression of the bill, MHCLG plans to engage closely with the sector on:

- A new burdens assessment. Factors include; rent arrears, temporary accommodation costs, repair and maintenance, tenancy sustainment support.
- Developing further measures to support successful implementation of this important change in legislation.

We expect the bill to get Royal Assent in July 2025 with the intention to implement this measure as soon as possible following this. [The link to the bill can be found here](#)

If there are any questions, please contact our Youth Advisers at HAST@communities.gov.uk

Local connection residency test exemption for care leavers under age 25

Ministers will convene roundtables with stakeholders to explore the detail of the exemptions further and consider what more needs to be done to support vulnerable cohorts. Regulations will be brought forward when Parliamentary time allows.



Ofsted research into homeless 16/17 year olds

This key piece of research is expected to be published early Spring 2025.

HCLIC annual care leaver tables

Separate tables are now published to show homelessness Prevention & Relief duty data, providing greater insight into the reasons care leavers are approaching and becoming homeless - they can be found [here](#)

Homelessness Data

October to December 2024

National Headlines

Assessment and outcomes

- 76,820 households were **homeless or threatened with homelessness** and owed a statutory homelessness duty, down 4.9% from this time last year.
- 34,010 households were **owed a prevention duty**, down 2.7% from the same quarter last year.
- 42,810 households were **owed a relief duty**, down 6.6% from the same quarter last year. **Households with children owed a relief duty** decreased 8.6% from the same quarter last year to 10,570 households in October to December 2024.
- 17,690 households were accepted as **owed a main homelessness duty**, up 9.3% from October to December 2023.
- For households owed a **prevention duty, end of private rented Assured Shorthold Tenancy (AST)** accounted for 36.5% (12,430) of households owed a prevention duty. This is down 0.6 percentage points from the same quarter last year.
- For those owed a **relief duty, family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate** was the most common reason for homelessness, accounting for 12,340 households (28.8%), up 0.9 percentage points from the same quarter the previous year.
- For households owed a relief duty, 4,520 households were **sleeping rough at the time of application**, this is down 2.2% from October to December 2023
- The number of households **required to leave accommodation provided by the Home Office asylum support** that were owed a relief duty is 3,590 a 32.1% decrease from the previous year (but an increase of 76.0% compared to the previous quarter).

Outcome of prevention and relief duties ended

- The **prevention duty ended** for 35,110 households in October to December 2024. 53.8% (18,890) of households secured accommodation for 6 months or more and their homelessness was prevented, up 2.0 percentage points from last year.
- 23.9% (8,400) of households were **homeless at the end of a prevention duty** and therefore owed a relief duty, down 1.5% percentage points from the same quarter last
- The **relief duty ended** for 53,890 households. 32.1% of households (17,300) had accommodation secured for 6 months or more, down 0.9 percentage points from the same quarter last year. For 50.3% (27,120) of households the relief duty ended **because their homelessness had not been relieved within 56 days**. This is up 2.2 percentage points from the same quarter last year.



National Headlines

Temporary Accommodation

- On 31 December 2024, **127,890 households were in temporary accommodation**, which is up 1.5% from the previous quarter and an increase of 13.6% from 31 December 2023
- 81,060 **households with children** were in temporary accommodation on 31 December 2024. This includes 165,510 children.
- The number of **adult only households** in temporary accommodation rose 3.0% from the previous quarter and rose 13.3% from the same time last year to 46,830
- The number of **households in B&B** was 16,390, a decrease of 7.0% since last quarter but still up 2.8% from the same time last year. The number of households in B&B with dependent children decreased 19.7% from the previous quarter and was down 5.0% to 4,330 households compared to 4,560 on 31 December 2023.
- 3,110 families had been in B&B for more than the statutory limit of 6 weeks, down 10.4% from last quarter but up 5.1% from 2,960 in the same quarter last year.



The **release and data tables** can be found [here](#) and includes a **dashboard** with a summary of local authority performance on statutory homelessness measures.

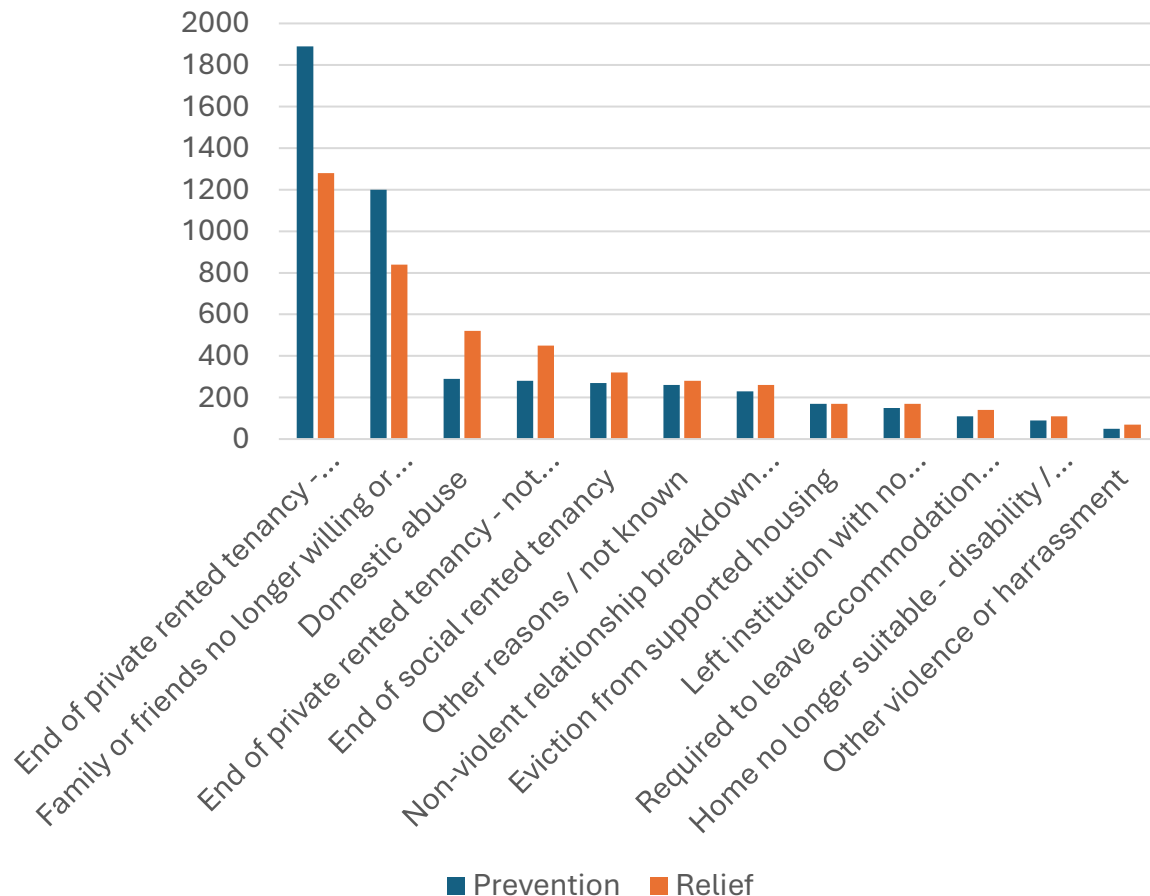
The new quarterly release now includes new tables for additional temporary accommodation breakdowns which includes information on length of stay and children in temporary accommodation.

If you do use our statistics, please take the time to fill in our [survey](#), it should take less than 5 minutes.

If you have any questions, please contact homelessnessstats@levellingup.gov.uk

Headlines in the South East

Causes of homelessness

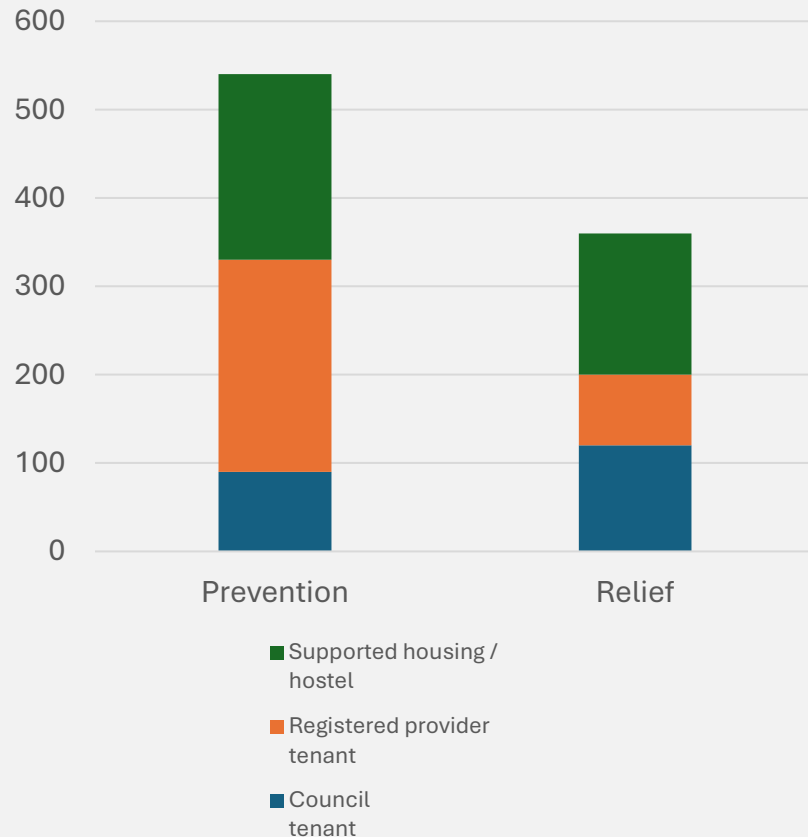


- In the South East, 11020 households had a **homelessness assessment** and 9670 were owed a **prevention or relief duty**
- 45% had a **prevention duty owed** and 42.2% had the **relief duty owed**.
- 6440 **single households** presented in the quarter compared to 3220 **family households**.
- 74% of applicants owed the **relief duty were single households**.
- 600 **rough sleepers** had a homelessness assessment
- 54.3% of the cases where the **prevention duty ended had accommodation secured** – 56.2% of the cases were **single households**
- 28.6% of the cases where the relief duty ended had accommodation secured – 75% of the cases were single households
- 59.3% of the cases where a main duty was accepted, were family households
- There were 8890 households with children in temporary accommodation and 6190 single households
- There were 140 family households in Bed & Breakfast accommodation – 90 of those were for 6 weeks or more

Evictions from the sector

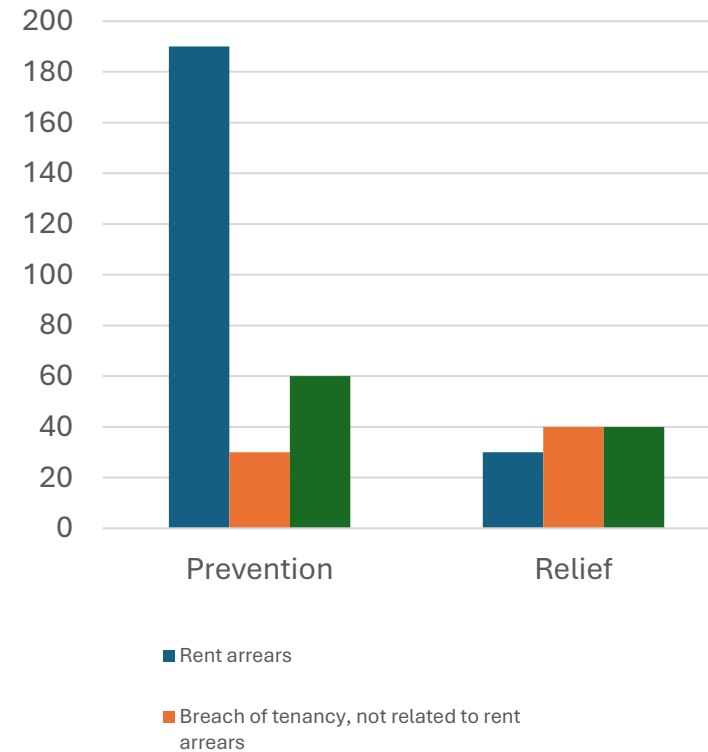
Homelessness due to loss of social or supported housing

Accommodation at the time of application

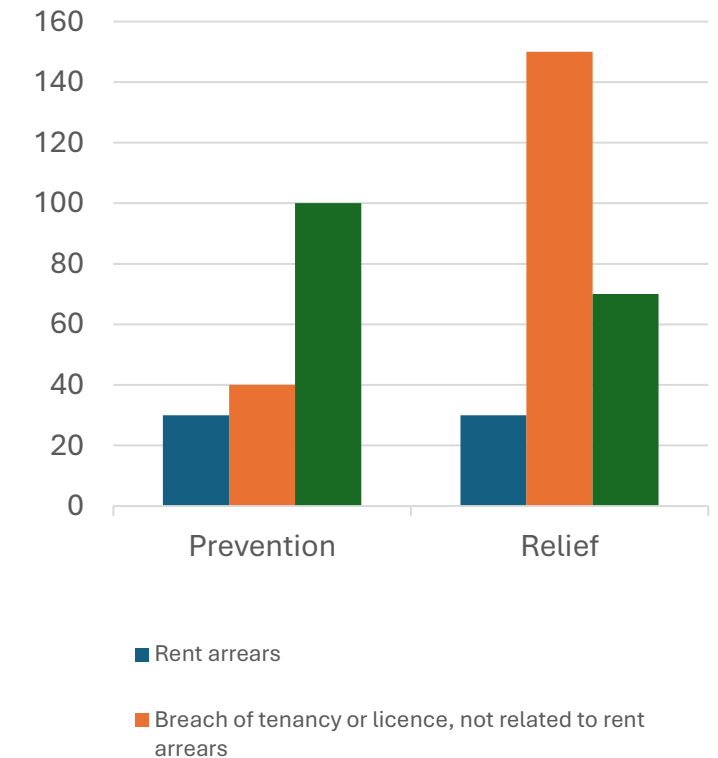


Reason for loss of settled home

Social rented tenancy

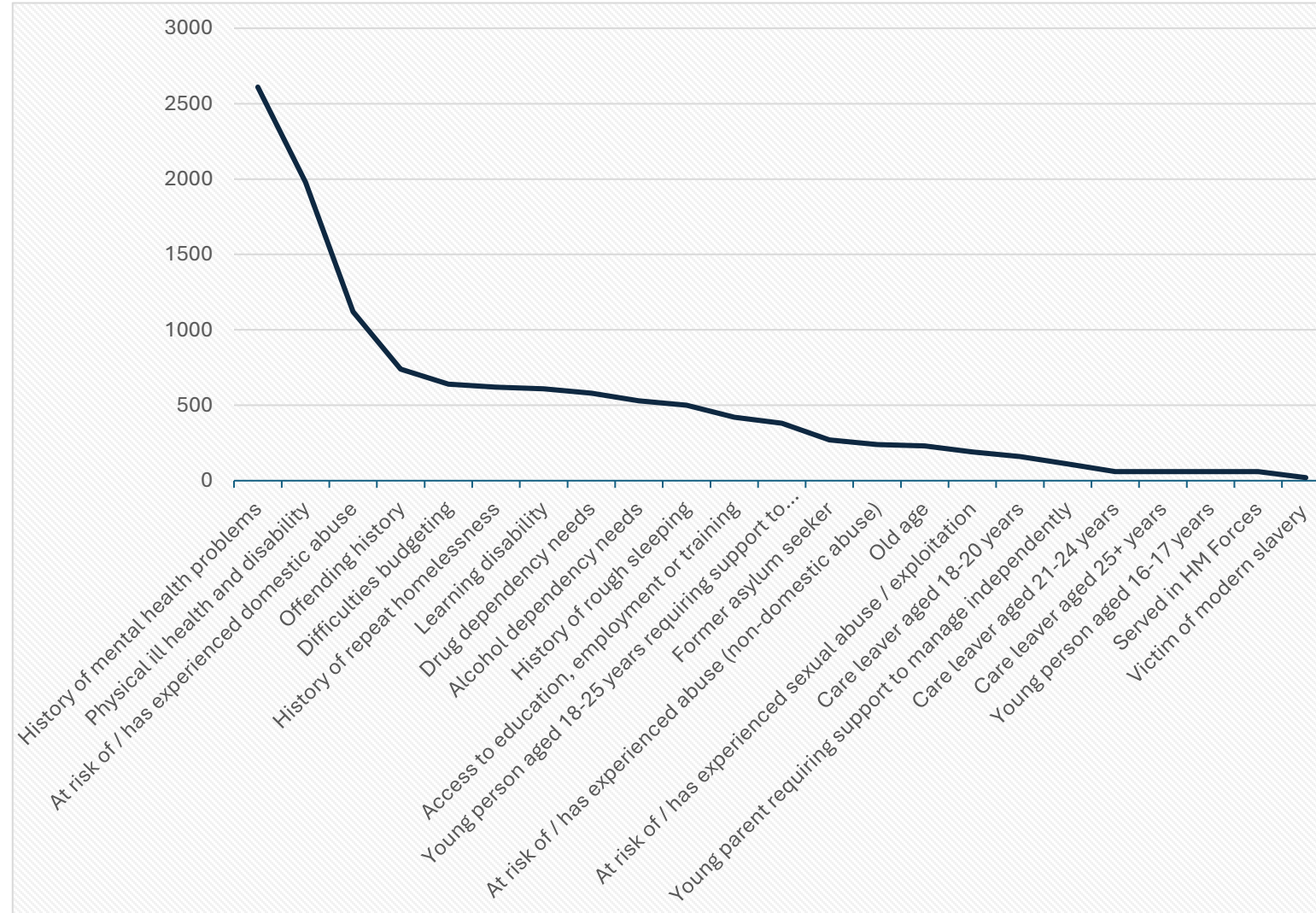


Supported Housing



Support Needs

Support need profile across the South East region



Support need	Total Number
History of mental health problems	2610
Physical ill health and disability	1980
At risk of / has experienced domestic abuse	1120
Offending history	740
Difficulties budgeting	640
History of repeat homelessness	620
Learning disability	610
Drug dependency needs	580
Alcohol dependency needs	530
History of rough sleeping	500
Access to education, employment or training	420
Young person aged 18-25 years requiring support to manage independently	380
Former asylum seeker	270
At risk of / has experienced abuse (non-domestic abuse)	240
Old age	230
At risk of / has experienced sexual abuse / exploitation	190
Care leaver aged 18-20 years	160
Young parent requiring support to manage independently	110
Care leaver aged 21-24 years	60
Care leaver aged 25+ years	60
Young person aged 16-17 years	60
Served in HM Forces	60
Victim of modern slavery	20

Duty to Refer

How are partners working to prevent homelessness in South East

Since October 2018 specified public bodies have had a new **'Duty to Refer'** with consent, their service users who are homeless or threatened with homelessness to a LA of their choice

Public Bodies with Duty to Refer 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

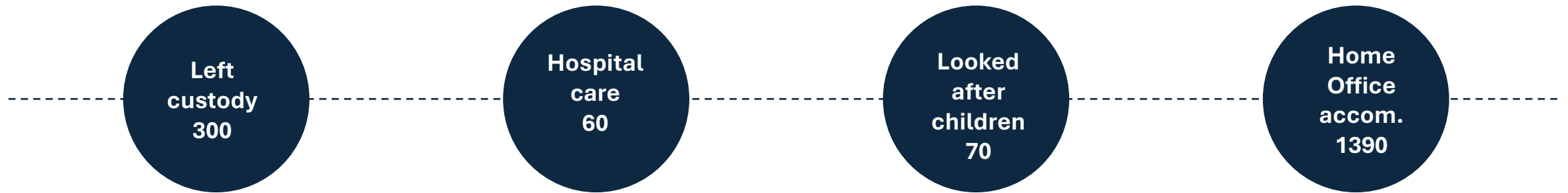


Local authorities and partners are encouraged to build referral protocols and procedures with ALL service providers that can help identify and support people threatened with homelessness

Total households assessed as a result of a referral	1790	100.0%
Total households referred under the Duty to Refer	1020	57.0%
National Probation Service	430	24.0%
Children's Social Services	170	9.5%
Hospital A&E, Urgent Treatment Centres or in-patient care	140	7.8%
Jobcentre Plus	110	6.1%
Adult Social Services	80	4.5%
Mental Health in-patient care	40	2.2%
Adult Secure Estate (prison)	30	1.7%
Children's Early Help Services/Children's centres	20	1.1%
Youth Secure Estate	0	0.0%
Community Rehabilitation Company	0	0.0%
Nil Recourse Team	0	0.0%
Secretary of State for defence in relation to members of the armed forces	0	0.0%
Not Known	0	0.0%
Households referred by an agency (not subject to the Duty to Refer)	730	40.8%
Households referred by another local authority	40	2.2%

Homeless from institutions

South East



63.1% of all cases were **already homelessness** when approaching the local authority

Homelessness from institutions remains a significant cause of demand.

Effective partnerships are in place in many areas but could be improved to ensure earlier referral, clearer information sharing and aligned support.

These causes of homelessness are subject to sudden increases as seen in Asylum and Resettlement cases as backlogs clear, Prison Release as part of early release schemes and Hospital Discharge when there is significant seasonal pressure.

Rough Sleeping Snapshot Autumn 2024

Headlines

From the Rough Sleeping Snapshot

- The number of people estimated to be sleeping rough on a single night in autumn 2024 is 4,667. This has risen for the third year in a row, increasing 20% since 2023. However, it remains 2% below the peak in 2017 and is 164% higher than in 2010 when the snapshot approach was introduced.
- Nearly half (45%) of all people sleeping rough on a single night in autumn are in London and the South East, which is similar to previous years.
- The largest regional increase was in London, rising from 1,132 in 2023 to 1,318 in 2024 - an increase of 186 people or 16%.
- The only region with a decrease was the North West of England - a decrease of 2 people.
- Over half the increase in the number of people sleeping rough on a single night is driven by 12 local authorities (4% of all areas).
- In 46% of local authorities the number decreased or stayed the same compared to 2023.
- The majority of people sleeping rough in England are male, aged over 26 years old and from the UK. This is similar to previous years.
- These statistics show there were 2.2 times more people sleeping rough over the month compared to a single night, illustrating that the flow of people onto and off the street over the course of a month is significantly higher than those seen on any given night due to the dynamic nature of rough sleeping.
- In December 2024 there were an estimated 7,524 people sleeping rough over the month, and 3,375 people estimated to be sleeping rough on a single night, which is 28% lower than the 2024 annual snapshot figure. However, rough sleeping numbers are usually lower in the winter due to colder weather or more temporary night shelters.

Alongside these statistics, we are also publishing the **Rough sleeping data framework** which uses more frequent and more detailed management information about people sleeping rough to help us better understand how far rough sleeping is prevented wherever possible, and where it does occur it is **rare, brief, and non-recurring**.



More information on the rough sleeping snapshot can be found on the [.Gov website](#)

Headlines

- Westminster was the local authority both the highest number of people sleeping rough on a single night in autumn 2024 and the largest increase from 2023.
- The largest decrease in the number of people sleeping rough on a single night in autumn was in Redbridge.
- In autumn 2024, the number of people sleeping rough on a single night ranged from 0 people in 12 local authorities across England to 388 people in Westminster. The median number of people sleeping rough on a single night was 9
- The number of people estimated to be sleeping rough increased in 54% of local authority areas compared to 2023. Over 50% of the change in the number of people estimated to be sleeping rough was driven by 12 local authorities (4% of all local authorities).

Local authorities with the highest estimated number of people sleeping rough on a single night in autumn 2024, compared to previous year

Local Authority	2023	2024	Change	% Change
Westminster	277	388	111	40
Camden	121	132	11	9
City of London	61	86	25	41
Somerset	57	80	23	40
Bristol, City of	67	77	10	15
Brighton and Hove	52	76	24	46
Leeds	49	69	20	41
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	64	63	-1	-2
Leicester	26	61	35	135
Waltham Forest	25	60	35	140

Local Authority increases/decreases

- The number of people sleeping rough on a single night has decreased or remained the same in 46% of all local authorities, compared to last year.
- The local authority with the largest absolute decrease in the number of people sleeping rough was Redbridge, where 19 people were estimated to be sleeping rough on a single night in autumn 2024 compared to 51 people in 2023.

Local authorities with the biggest decrease in the number of people sleeping rough on a single night in autumn 2024, compared to previous year

Local Authority	2023	2024	Change	% Change
Redbridge	51	19	-32	-63
Warrington	21	3	-18	-86
Barking and Dagenham	22	6	-16	-73
Haringey	48	32	-16	-33
Ealing	53	38	-15	-28



National and Local Picture

Housing Brighton 2025 South East Homelessness Forum X CIH

May 2025



Who are we?

Our vision

Making people's experience of temporary accommodation short, safe and healthy.

Our values

1. People before programmes
2. Collaboration before competition
3. Innovation before Institutions

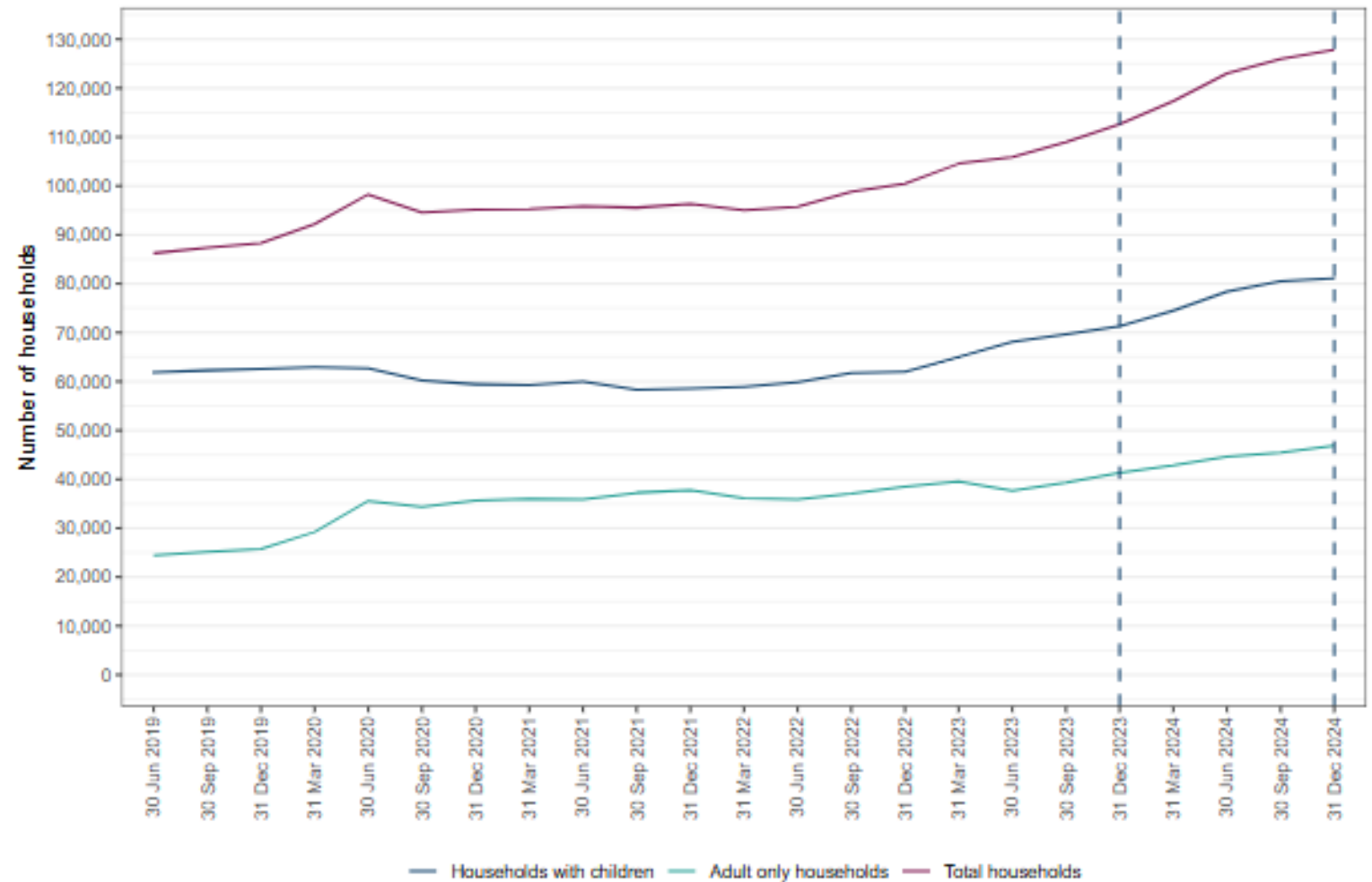


Justlife

National Statistics England Oct-Dec 2024

127,890 households were in temporary accommodation on 31 December 2024, up 1.5% from the previous quarter and up 13.6% from the same time last year.

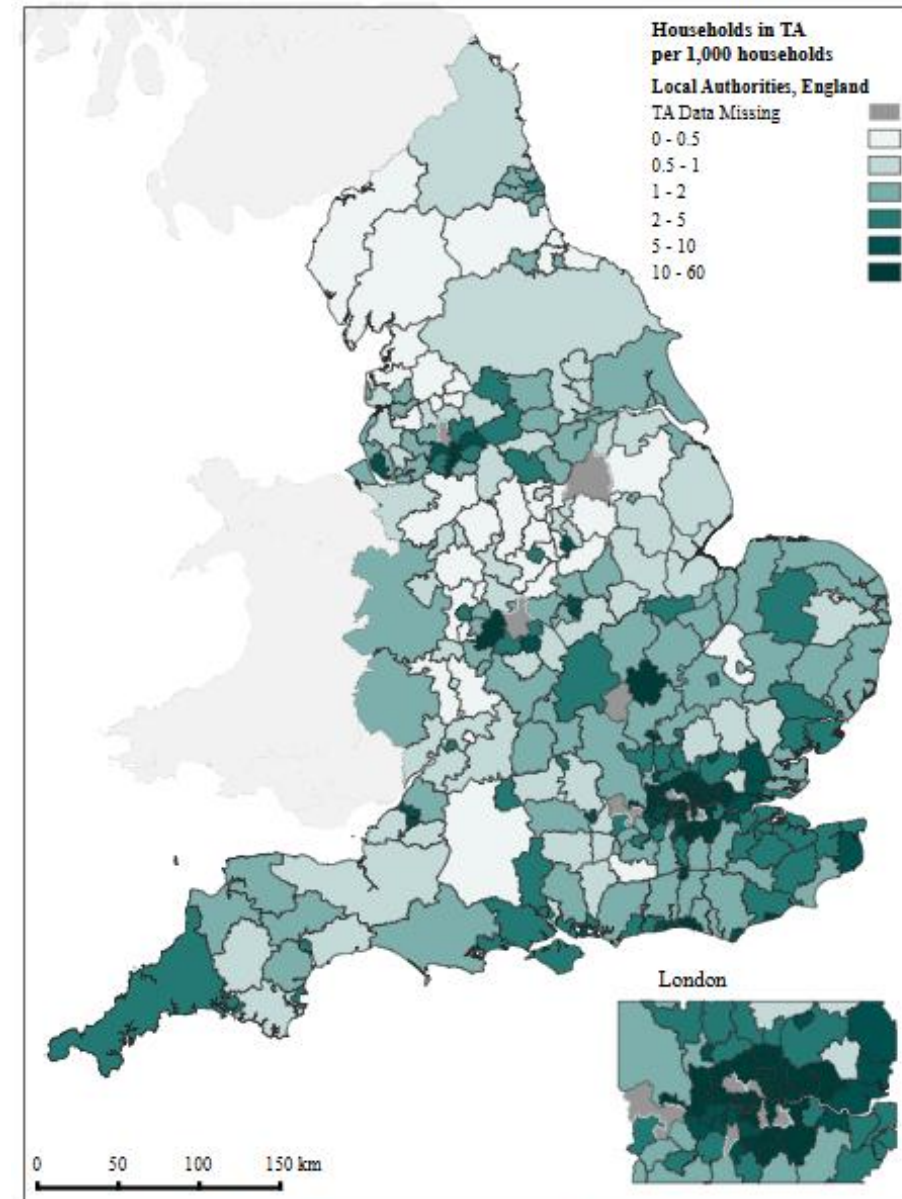
Chart 4: Number of households in temporary accommodation on 30 June 2019 to 31 December 2024, by household composition



<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/statutory-homelessness-in-england-october-to-december-2024/statutory-homelessness-in-england-october-to-december-2024>

- A total of **165,510** dependent children were living in temporary accommodation on 31st December 2025.
- Adult only households increased by **3.0%** and households with children increased by **0.7%** from the previous quarter.
- On 31 December 2024, there were 19.7 households living in temporary accommodation per 1,000 households in London, compared with 2.7 households per 1,000 in the Rest of England.
- Slough Borough Council had the highest rate outside London with 20.7 households per 1,000 households.

Map 1: The number of households in temporary accommodation per thousand households across England. This map shows that the highest rates of temporary accommodation are typically in London and other urban hotspots.



Produced by Homelessness Statistics Team, MHCLG
(c) Crown copyright and database rights 2022 Ordnance Survey

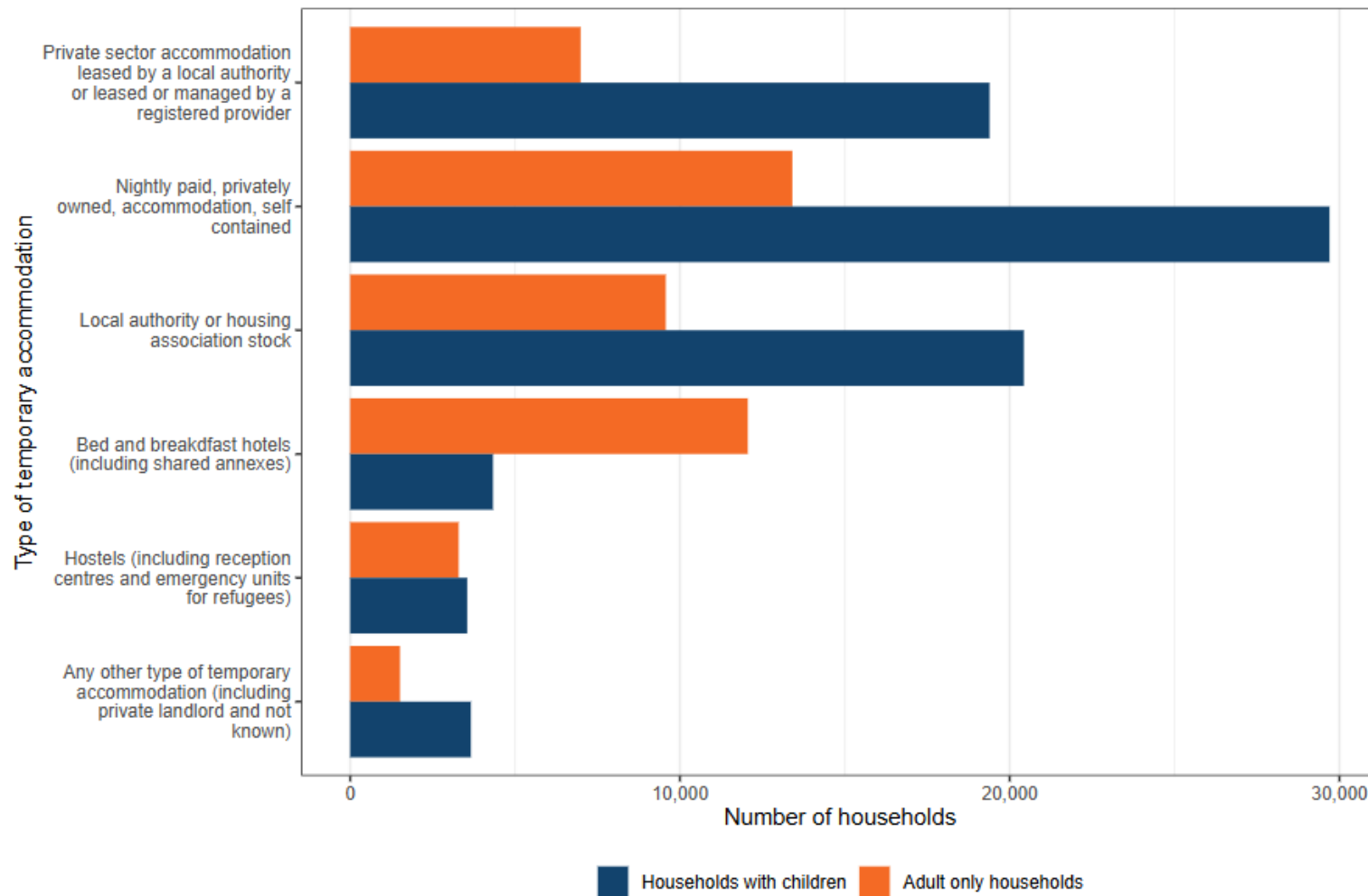
Data sources: OS Boundary Line,
Local Authority HCLIC returns,
ONS Household Population Projection

This chart shows the number of households in temporary accommodation on the last day of the quarter, by type of temporary accommodation

The most common length of time for households with children to have spent in temporary accommodation is 5+ years (18,200 households or 22.5%). Of these 48.1% were in private sector accommodation.

The most common length of time for adult only households to remain in temporary accommodation is less than 6 months (16,280 households or 34.8%). Of these 43.0% were in bed and breakfast accommodation.

Chart 5: Number of households in temporary accommodation on 31 December 2024 by temporary accommodation type and household composition

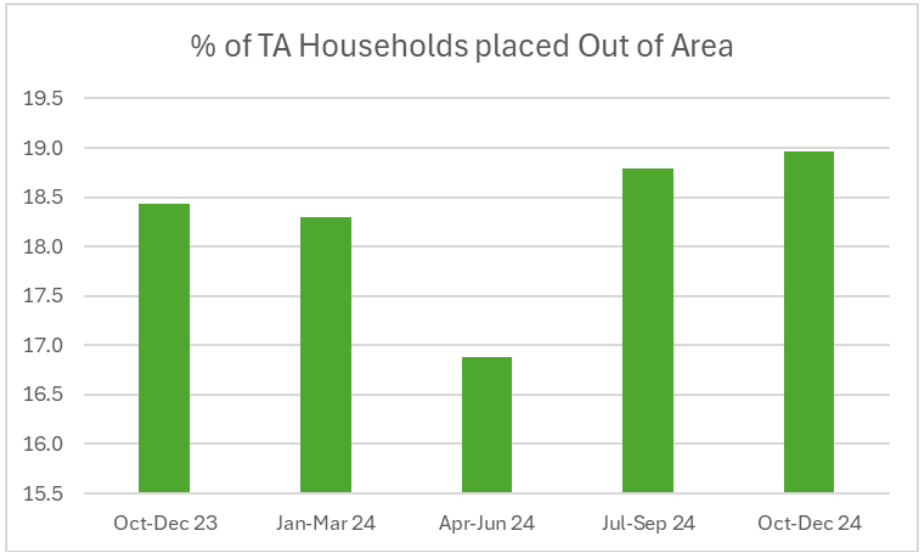
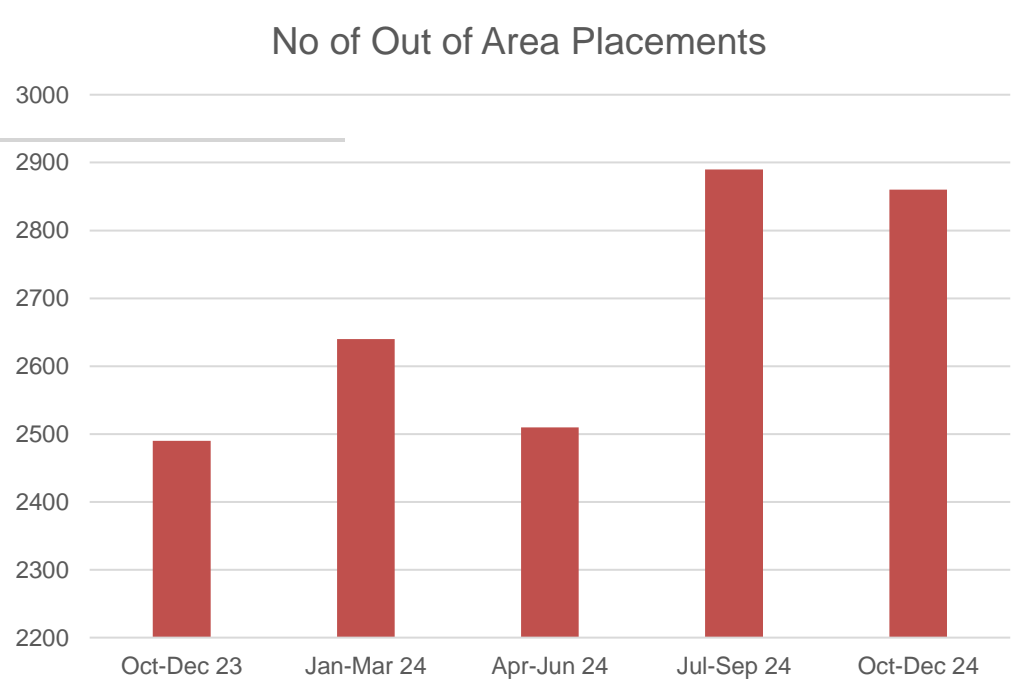
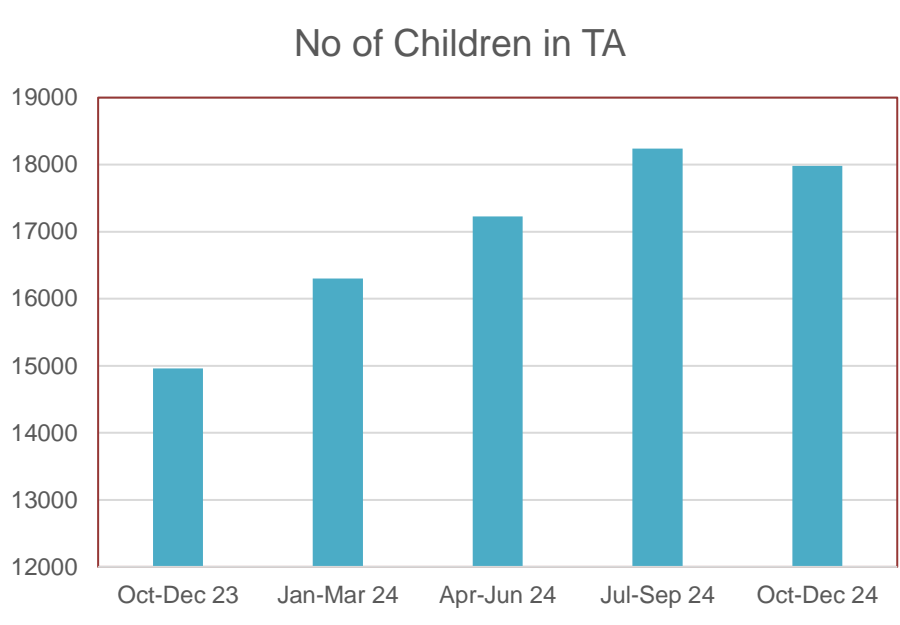
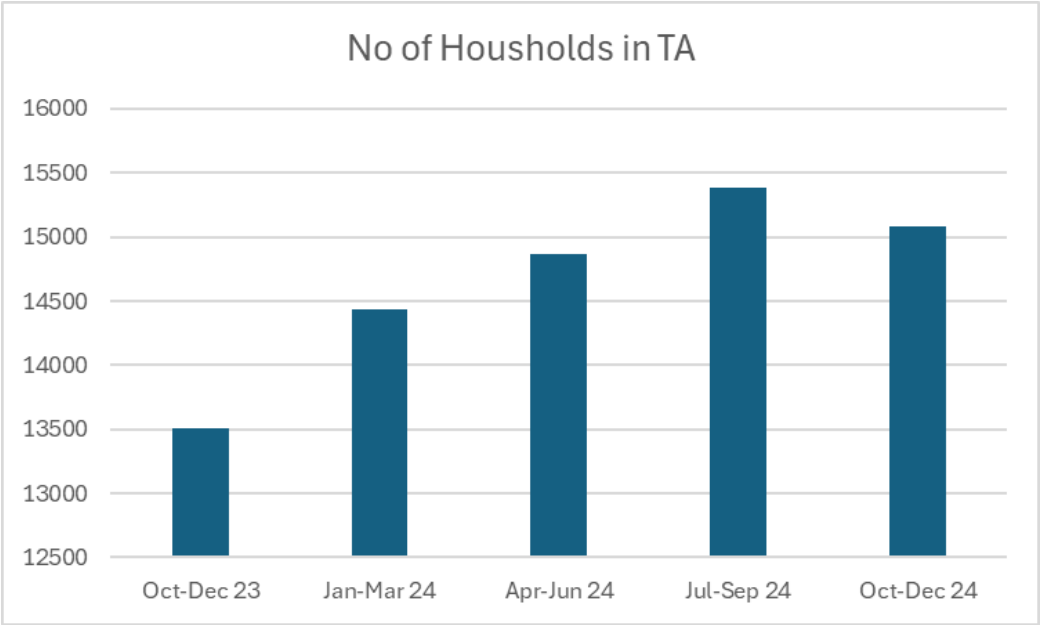


South East England latest stats

	Total number of households in TA	Number of households in area (000s)	Total number of households in TA per (000s)	Total number of households in TA with children	Total number of children in TA	In TA in another local authority district
ENGLAND	127,890	24,209	5.28	81,060	165,510	41070 (32%)
Rest of England excluding London	55,730	20,550	2.71	33,370	71,620	7740 (14%)
South East	15,080	3,912	3.86	8,890	17,980	2860 (19%)



South East England TA Trends



Questions for Today's workshop

What is causing stays in TA to not be 'short, safe and healthy' in your area?

What can your organisation and others in your area do to improve this?

What would you like to see the Government do to help you improve this?