



Community & Children's Services Committee

Date: WEDNESDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 2023
Time: 2.00 pm
Venue: COMMITTEE ROOMS, WEST WING, GUILDHALL

Members:

Ruby Sayed (Chair)	Caroline Haines
Helen Fentimen (Deputy Chair)	Laura Jørgensen
Joanna Tufuo Abeyie	Florence Keelson-Anfu
Deputy John Absalom	Alderman Alastair King DL
Munsur Ali	Alderman Christopher Makin
Shahnan Bakth	Benjamin Murphy
Jamel Banda	Matt Piper
Matthew Bell	Henrika Priest
Ian Bishop-Laggett	Deputy Nighat Qureishi
Anne Corbett	Naresh Hari Sonpar
Aaron Anthony Jose Hasan D'Souza	James St John Davis
Mary Durcan	Ceri Wilkins
Deputy John Fletcher	Deputy Philip Woodhouse
Deputy Marianne Fredericks	
Steve Goodman OBE	
John Griffiths	

Enquiries: julie.mayer@cityoflondon.gov.uk

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Ian Thomas CBE
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

AGENDA
Part 1 - Public Reports

1. **APOLOGIES**

2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

3. **MINUTES**

To agree the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 14th September 2023.

For Decision
(Pages 7 - 14)

4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

To note the Committee's outstanding actions list.

For Information
(Pages 15 - 16)

5. **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPING SUB COMMITTEE**

Report of the Town Clerk.

For Decision
(Pages 17 - 20)

6. **HOMELESSNESS & ROUGH SLEEPING STRATEGY 2023-2027**

Report of the Executive Director, Community and Children's Services.

For Decision
(Pages 21 - 80)

7. **CITY OF LONDON PRIMARY ACADEMY ISLINGTON (COLPAI) - RESIDENTIAL BUILDING NAME**

Report of the Executive Director, Community and Children's Services.

For Decision
(Pages 81 - 84)

8. **EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN: TACKLING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS**

Report of the Executive Director, Community and Children's Services.

For Decision
(Pages 85 - 90)

9. **UPDATES FROM SUB COMMITTEES, ALLOCATED MEMBERS TO THE VARIOUS HOUSING ESTATES AND PORTFOLIO HOLDERS**

The relevant Chairs, Portfolio Holders and Allocated Members to be heard.

For Information

10. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

11. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

12. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

MOTION - That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

For Decision

Part 2 - Non-Public Reports

13. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

To agree the non-public minutes of the previous Committee meeting.

For Decision
(Pages 91 - 92)

14. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

To note the non-public outstanding actions list.

For Information
(Pages 93 - 94)

15. **COLPAI VERBAL UPDATE**

City Surveyor to be heard.

For Information

16. **MIDDLESEX STREET COMMUNAL HEATING REPLACEMENT**

Report of the Executive Director, Community and Children's Services.

For Decision
(Pages 95 - 106)

17. **SYDENHAM HILL: WINDOWS AND COMMON PARTS REDECORATION**

Report of the Executive Director, Community and Children's Services.

For Decision
(Pages 107 - 114)

18. **HOLLOWAY ESTATE: WINDOWS AND COMMON PARTS REDECORATION**
Report of the Executive Director, Community and Children's Services.
For Decision
(Pages 115 - 122)
19. **GOLDEN LANE ESTATE (PHASE 2): WINDOWS AND COMMON PARTS REDECORATION**
Report of the Executive Director, Community and Children's Services.
For Decision
(Pages 123 - 148)
20. **WINDSOR HOUSE: WINDOWS AND COMMON PARTS REDECORATION**
Report of the Executive Director, Community and Children's Services.
For Decision
(Pages 149 - 156)
21. **SUMNER BUILDINGS AND AVONDALE SQUARE ESTATE**
Report of the Executive Director, Community and Children's Services.
For Decision
(Pages 157 - 168)
22. **ISLEDON HOUSE INFILL PROJECT**
Report of the Executive Director, Community and Children's Services.
For Decision
(Pages 169 - 202)
23. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**
24. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

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COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE (CCS)

Thursday, 14 September 2023

Minutes of the meeting held at Guildhall at 2.00 pm

Present

Members:

Ian Bishop-Laggett	Deputy John Fletcher
Anne Corbett	Steve Goodman
Mary Durcan	Deputy Marianne Fredericks
Helen Fentimen (Deputy Chairman) – <i>in the Chair</i>	Alderman Christopher Makin
	Benjamin Murphy

In Attendance:

Eamonn Mulally – Chair of Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Sub Committee

Officers:

Judith Finlay	- Executive Director, Community and Children's Services
Chris Lovitt	- Deputy Director, Public Health, City and Hackney
Julie Mayer	- Town Clerk's Department
Helen Turnbull	- Town Clerk's, Media Services
Mark Jarvis	- Chamberlains
Simon Cribbens	- Community and Children's Services
Paul Murtagh	- Community and Children's Services
Jason Hayes	- Community and Children's Services
Liam Gillespie	- Community and Children's Services
Rachel Talmage	- Community and Children's Services

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Ruby Sayed, Joanna Abeyie*, Deputy John Absalom, Munsur Ali, Shahnan Bakth*, Jamel Banda, Matthew Bell, Aaron D'Souza, John Griffiths, Caroline Haines, Florence Keelson Anfu, Alderman and Sheriff Alastair King, Henrika Priest, Deputy Nighat Qureishi*, Naresh Sonpar, James St John Davis, Ceri Wilkins and Deputy Philip Woodhouse.

**Members who joined the meeting remotely*

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED, that – the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 17th July 2023 be approved.

4. **ACTION TRACKER**

The Committee received the action tracker and the Executive Director agreed to work with the Chair and Deputy Chair to improve its format.

In respect of Community Safety Patrolling (delivered by Parkguard), officers had submitted a bid to the Home Office for their 'Safer Streets Fund' and, if successful, this would enable the scheme to be widened. However, if unsuccessful, officers would explore if there might be other funding sources available. The Chair noted that Parkguard had been raised in a number of Committees recently. Officers reiterated that this patrolling is not a 'call and response' service but seeks to give reassurance, undertake targeted activity and support the homelessness outreach teams.

5. **COMMUNAL HEATING AND HOT WATER SYSTEM**

The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Community and Children's Services in respect of the decision taken by the Committee, in September 2019, to replace the existing communal heating and hot water system at the Middlesex Street Estate, with a new, more efficient system. The report asked the Committee to consider a Members's proposal to allow leaseholders to opt-out of the new system and install their own. Members had received an email from the Chair of the Petticoat Square Leaseholders Association, setting out their response to the report.

During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- a) It is possible for individuals to install their own system for hot water and heating, subject to tolerance checking and assurance that it would not be detrimental to other residents. If not, an upgrade and meter change would be necessary, which would incur a cost to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Leaseholders. Currently, officers are only aware of a small number of leaseholders who wish to opt out.
- b) Leaseholders can be compelled to allow access, under the terms of the Lease. Members had expected to see more legal information in the report.
- c) More energy efficient equipment should lower consumption; i.e. LED power, and general upgrades and inspections will ensure safety. The City Corporation is able to get a lower unit price and new builds perform a lot better in terms of energy consumption.
- d) Leaseholders would like to understand the benefits against a system which they could purchase on the open market. Central government is encouraging social landlords to be more flexible and residents feel that the City Corporation is imposing a decision on them.
- e) In concluding the debate, the Chair suggested, and Members agreed, that the Committee is not able to make an informed decision based on the current version of the report. The Chair stressed that there was never any intention

to apportion blame and would like to see any perceptions addressed. The Chair suggested that further work to resolve the queries, as set out under f (i-v) below, should include residents as well as officers. The Chair also expressed concerns in that we are approaching another winter, without an adequate heating system.

- f) Members agreed that the next iteration of this report, to be agreed under Delegated Authority, needs to include the following information:
- i. The full extent of the works in terms of the electrical supply and feasibility.
 - ii. The actual number of Leaseholders who might wish to opt out.
 - iii. More clarity on the legal position.
 - iv. Changes in the costings over the past 4 years.
 - v. Information as to whether residents in other Local Authorities have opted out.

Members were encouraged to contact the Executive Director, Judith.finlay@cityoflondon.gov.uk with any further queries.

Members noted that the additional work requested above would be completed within the next month, ahead of the delegated decision being taken. The Town Clerk advised that the consultation process for a delegated decision can include the whole Committee, not just the Chair and Deputy Chair. Furthermore, when the decision is reported to the next Committee, it will include Members' comments.

RESOLVED, that – authority be delegated to the Town Clerk, in consultation with all Members of the Community and Children's Services Committee, to agree the installation of a new communal heating and hot water system, to all properties on the Middlesex Street Estate currently served by the existing communal heating system, as per 'leases under repair', and to continue to recover service charges for the communal heating and hot water system installation and future servicing costs.

6. HOUSING SPECIFIC WINTER MEASURES

The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Community and Children's Services, which sought approval of an extension of a programme to provide a suite of housing specific thermal winter measures to homes on its social housing estates, with poorly performing single-glazed windows. The Assistant Director agreed to refresh and reissue last years' communications in terms of damp and mould. Members noted that following a survey of the Almshouses, the damp and rot in the Almshouses had been rectified to all homes except for one where, there are access issues. Works to our social housing were due to start shortly.

RESOLVED, that – the statistics provided on the take-up of the housing specific thermal winter measures offered last winter, for homes on the City of London Corporation's (the Corporation's) social housing estates, be noted and the extension agreed.

7. **CITY ASSESSEMENT CENTRE - PROCUREMENT STAGE 2 AWARD**

The Committee received a report of the Executive Director, Community and Children's Services (CCS) and the Chief Operating Officer, in respect of the award of the contract for the City of London Rough Sleeper Assessment Centre. Members noted that the decision would be taken by the Finance Committee and was before CCS Committee for information.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

17. **VERBAL UPDATES FROM THE SUB COMMITTEES, ALLOCATED MEMBERS AND PORTFOLIO HOLDERS**

The Town Clerk reminded Members of the vacancies being carried for Allocated Members to represent Avondale Square, Harman Close and the South Bank Estates.

The vacancy on the Safeguarding Sub Committee had been advertised to the wider Court but remained unfilled.

Allocated Members

Members considered the briefing and photographs from the Allocated Member and noted the following:

1. The poor condition of the front doors and hallways at Spitalfields.
2. Whilst Dron Estate is generally in good order, residents had submitted a petition, seeking to retain their Estate Assistant. Residents felt strongly that this member of staff had been very effective in dealing with day to day matters. The Allocated Member suggested that the issues highlighted were reflective of issues on other estates, where works had not been made good, and expressed concerns in that an unkempt appearance can increase anti-social behaviour. The other Allocated Members were reminded to be vigilant to this.
3. Middlesex Street remains in a very poor condition and photographs were tabled showing low level damage caused by contractors failing to make good. The Allocated Member suggested that this could be remedied by withholding payment to Contractors pending satisfactory inspections, followed by a 7-day period to enable residents to comment. The Executive Director agreed to this request, as a soon practical and within the terms of the contract.

The Assistant Director responded to the above points as follows:

4. Some of the issues had been observed during Estate walkabouts and could be resolved quickly. The next meeting of the Committee would receive an update on the remaining issues.
5. The internal redecoration works would best be carried out once the current major works programmes were complete.

6. The guest rooms would re-open next week, following some delay to sourcing furniture.
7. The problem with the ANPR reader on the entrance barrier was being rectified.
8. The alarm had been problematic since its upgrade and, it has subsequently been agreed that this will be replaced as part of the CoLP project.
9. Notices across the estate would be checked to ensure they contain correct, up-to-date information.
10. Funding had been identified as part of the Police Project to upgrade and modernise the ball court. Initial repairs to the acoustics and insulation would be undertaken over the next couple of weeks.
11. A consultant had been successful in identifying the impact matting, under the artificial grass, as the cause of static electric shocks to the playground equipment. This will now enable a permanent fix to be sourced via the contractor.

Carers update

Members noted that they would receive the new Carers' Strategy at the November meeting of the Committee. The Lead Member had met with her counterpart in Hackney and they would be working together, given the large number of carers in Hackney and relatively low number in the City. The Chair also recommended reaching out to Nina Griffith of the City and Hackney Place Based Partnership.

Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Sub Committee

The Chair advised that the Committee would receive the new Strategy for 2023-27 at their next meeting on 4th October 2023.

9. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

In response to a question about the extension of the Repairs and Maintenance Contract, and concerns expressed by the Golden Lane Estate Residents' Association, the Assistant Director, Barbican and Property Services, addressed the Committee, taking full responsibility for the delay in procuring the new contract.

Members noted that a Deed of Variation would be sought, to extend the contract by a year. During this time, officers would fully engage with residents, review the current contract, specification and supply chains. The governance route would be via the Operational Property and Projects Sub Committee, the Finance Committee and the Court of Common Council but CCS Committee would receive the reports for information. Members noted that the Head of Special Projects would be running this procurement process separately and a draft timeline would be circulated to Members. The Executive Director gave further assurance in that the City Corporation would not be in this position again and would be overseeing the extension and the new contract. The former Chair of the Housing

Management and Alsmhouses Sub Committee reminded Members of the Sub Committee's suggestion of a compensation system for residents, in the event of service failures and missed appointments.

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

The Assistant Director advised that RAAC had traditionally been used between the 1950's and the 1990's. An officer working group had been set up across the City Corporation's relevant departments and a desk top survey conducted on the blocks built during that period. Members noted that the Government had provided an identification tool for a physical survey but given the tight timeframe, the works are likely to need an independent surveyor.

11. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED – That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item no(s)	Para no(s)
12-19	3

12. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that – the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 17th July 2023 be approved.

13. **ACTION TRACKER (NON-PUBLIC)**

The Committee received the non-public actions tracker.

14. **CITY ASSESSMENT CENTRE - APPENDIX**

The Committee receive a non-public appendix in respect of agenda item 7.

15. **SYDENHAM HILL REDEVELOPMENT, LEWISHAM, SE26 6ND**

The Committee considered and approved a report of the City Surveyor.

16. **FINANCE UPDATE AND DRAFT ACCOUNTS FOR CITY OF LONDON COMBINED RELIEF OF POVERTY (CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1073660)**

The Committee received a report of the Bridge House Estates Charities Director (on behalf of the Chamberlain).

17. **VERBAL UPDATES**

The Assistant Director, Community and Children's Services and the City Surveyor were heard.

18. **QUESTIONS**

There were no questions whilst the public were excluded.

19. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no items whilst the public were excluded.

The meeting ended at 3.40 PM

Chairman

Contact Officer: julie.mayer@cityoflondon.gov.uk

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Agenda Item 4

Title	Date Added	Pending Actions	Action Owner	Due Date	Update
COLPAI and Isleden House - Local Lettings Plan.	03/11/2022	A member requested that a visual map regarding overcrowding of social housing be provided.	Housing Needs Manager	November C&CS	Officers have compiled the data on overcrowding in the City and are compiling this data in a visual format.
Savills Review	13/03/2023	Briefing to be scheduled for members after May Committee if a breakfast briefing has not been arranged. A report on this to go to the HMASC Meeting.	Housing & Barbican	December C&CS	A report will be presented to C&CS Committee in December 2023.
Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023-27	03/05/2023	Further information is needed.	Head of Strategy and Performance	November C&CS	The strategy will come to November C&CS Committee.
CCS High Level Business Plan	03/05/2023	A members briefing needs to be arranged in respect to the 5-year business plan. A member requested for social mobility to be added to the plan.	Head of Strategy and Performance	January/February C&CS	The business plan will come to January/ February C&CS Committee.
CoL Women Project Update	27/07/2023	*Chair asked if consideration could be given to women with no recourse to public funds. *Clarity sought with respect to 'those who identify as women'. *Committee to receive further report at the end of the year, with a comprehensive business case, to demonstrate the impact of the CoL Women Project and secure its continuity.	Homelessness & Rough Sleepers	December C&CS	A report will be presented to C&CS Committee in December 2023.
Golden Lane Estate Community Safety Patrolling	27/07/2023	More frequent patrols by City Police/Parkguard requested.	AD Commissioning and Partnerships	December C&CS	Officers have submitted a bid to the Home Office for their 'safer streets fund' and if successful, this would enable the scheme to be widened.
Carers - Information and Advice	27/07/2023	*Carers would like to see a dedicated information/advice facility in the City of London. *Funding had been approved for a card which allows parent carers to jump queues at leisure activities and facilities. Members asked if similar could be made available for adult carers.	Head of Strategy and Performance	December C&CS	A report will come to C&CS Committee in December 2023.
Window Replacement	27/07/2023	Chair asked for a joint officer report of the Chamberlain and Housing consultants in terms of the HRA implications regarding whether windows replacements could be extended irrespective of age. A Housing Review was due to be complete in October, and committee would receive a report in November.	Housing & Barbican	December C&CS	A report will come to C&CS Committee in December 2023.
Middlesex Street Estate Communal Heating System	14/09/2023	Members requested that additional work be carried out within the next month, ahead of the delegated decision being taken. Further work to be completed to resolve queries below should include residents as well as officers - next iteration of report under delegated authority should include: i. The full extent of the works in terms of the electrical supply and feasibility. ii. The actual number of Leaseholders who might wish to opt out. iii. More clarity on the legal position. iv. Changes in the costings over the past 4 years. v. Information as to whether residents in other Local Authorities have opted out.	Housing & Barbican -	November C&CS	A briefing note was produced by Officers and this was shared and discussed at a meeting with Members. The meeting included two residents wishing to opt out.
Middlesex Street Estate Condition	14/09/2023	Estates in poor conditions. This could be remedied by withholding payment to contractors pending satisfactory inspections - followed by a 7-day period to enable residents to comment. AD of Housing to give further updates at next meeting.	Housing & Barbican	November C&CS	Officers have visited Middlesex Street and have implemented several actions to resolve some of the issues raised.
Housing specific winter measures	14/09/2023	Communications to be sent out to all regarding damp and mould to all on the estate.	Housing & Barbican	November C&CS	A 2 page article on damp and mould will be in the December edition of @home. All residents were sent the damp and mould leaflet earlier in the year. The corporate website is being updated with the latest news on damp and mould. A training session was held on 15th September 2023 on Damp, Mould and Condensation for non-technical staff.
Repairs and Maintenance Contract.	14/09/2023	The Head of special projects will run the procurement process and a draft timeline circulated to Members .	Housing & Barbican	Ongoing	Both contracts for Repairs & Maintenance currently with Wates (HRA) and Metwin (Barbican) will expire at the end of March 2024. A committee report requesting approval to proceed with a deed of variation for both contracts extending until the end of March 2025 is being prepared and will be presented for approval to Finance Committee and Procurement and Projects Sub Committee in December. It is unfortunate that a lack of oversight has caused this problem with insufficient time to re-procure in time for the current contract expiry date. To re-procure new contracts and consult with all stakeholders a deed of variation is required to maintain the current contracts until March 2025. It is recognised that the current contract performance is not optimal, and robust contract management will be required to ensure that the service improves whilst re-procurement is taken forward. A questionnaire will be distributed to all residents and stakeholders to obtain feedback on current arrangements, and soft market testing will be taken forward prepare the market to the opportunities of the new contracts, and to attract a high calibre of contractors and to set out our expectations for the service going forward.
Major Works Refurbishment - Golden Lane Estate	13/03/2023	Chair has requested for a 9-monthly update on the refurbishment works.	Housing & Barbican	December C&CS	This has been included in the reporting process for the project and the first report will be presented to C&CS in winter.
Tenant Satisfaction Measures	27/07/2023	*Housing KPIs (with TSMS) to be reported on, on a monthly basis WEF end of June 2023 *Consideration for a monthly HMASC sub-group to be set up, with delegated responsibility for scrutiny/sign off of KPIs and TSMS *Explore Options for tenant perceptions survey, report findings and recommendations to October HMASC	Housing & Barbican	(Monthly - Ongoing)	*Officers have appointed Acuity to carry out the tenant survey in preparation for the first regulatory return which is due in April 2024 *The survey will be carried out by telephone and online and will take place from 25 September to 21 October 2023 *Acuity will ensure that a minimum number of tenants are contacted to ensure the results are statistically significant *We are not required by the Regulator for Social Housing to survey leaseholders, however they will be included in the online survey to enable us to gauge satisfaction *The proposed performance sub-group of HMASC requires further discussion and ultimately a decision by Members on whether such a group should be constituted

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Committee(s) Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Sub Committee – For Recommendation Community and Children’s Services Committee – For Decision	Dated: 04/10/2023 01/11/2023
Subject: Terms of Reference of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Sub Committee	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	3, 8 & 10
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: The Interim Deputy Town Clerk, Gregory Moore	For Decision
Report author(s): Katie Davies, Governance Officer	

Summary

This report calls for an update of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping’s Terms of Reference, following a recommendation by the Sub Committee to the Community and Children’s Services Committee for final approval. This update focuses on External Membership and frequency of meetings.

Recommendation(s)

Members are invited to:

- Approve, subject to any comments, the increased number of co-opted external members from two to three and removal of the vacant Police Committee membership as set out in the updated terms of reference of the Sub Committee (**Appendix 1**); and
- Approve, subject to any comments, the decreased number of meetings per year as set out in the updated terms of reference of the Sub Committee (**Appendix 1**).

Main Report

1. As part of the implementation of the 2011 Governance Review, it was agreed that all Sub Committees of Grand Committees of the Court of Common Council review their Terms of Reference on an annual basis.
2. In accordance with Standing Order 27.1(a), a Sub Committee may at any time alter the membership of a Sub-Committee set up by them.

3. At the 4 October 2023 Homelessness and Rough Sleeping meeting, the Sub Committee agreed to recommend the revised Terms of Reference to the Community and Children's Services Committee for approval.

Proposals

4. The Grand Committee is therefore requested to consider the following:
5. Increase the number of co-opted external members from two to three;
6. Actively recruit people who are currently working in or have recent experience of homelessness and people at risk of becoming homeless, i.e. those living in precarious/temporary accommodation, with one appointment to a person from the interfaith community;
7. In the first instance, to offer two two-year terms, and one three-year term;
8. Reduce the two places currently allocated to the police committee to one, but given the opportunity to fill one of the external members appointments in the first instance; and
9. Reduce the frequency of meetings from five to four times per annum, to better align with the most recent and up-to-date data and reports.

Conclusion

10. The Committee is requested to approve, subject to any comments, the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Terms of Reference.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Updated Terms of Reference

Katie Davies

Governance Officer

E: katie.davies@cityoflondon.gov.uk

HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPING SUB COMMITTEE

Constitution

- i. The Chairman & Deputy Chairman of the Community and Children's Services Committee;
- ii. Up to *six Members of the Community and Children's Services Committee and/or the Court of Common Council;
- iii. ~~Two~~One Members representing the Police Authority Board;
- iv. A representative of the City church; and
- v. Chairman of the Safer City Partnership or his/her representative

The **quorum** of the sub committee shall consist of any three Members of the Court of Common Council.

The Sub Committee will have the power to **co-opt up to ~~two~~three external members** outside of the Court of Common Council, with priority of one appointment given to the Police Authority Board. - These individuals will provide specialism and experience relevant to the subject matter.

Terms of Reference:

1. To give consideration to strategies and proposals to alleviate rough sleeping and homelessness in the City of London together with other associated activities.
2. To have an overview of government and regional policies on rough sleeping; and advise the Grand Committee of their impact on the City of London Corporation's Rough Sleeping and Homelessness Strategy and practice arrangements;
3. To have an overview of rough sleeping in the City of London;
4. To monitor new approaches to working with rough sleepers;
5. To monitor the financial implications in delivering a service to rough sleepers;
6. To be informed about the health and wellbeing of rough sleepers, what services are required and how they can be delivered;
7. To monitor the implications of any enforcement activities; and
8. To monitor the numbers of rough sleepers on the City streets.
9. To liaise with other local authorities and agencies working towards tackling homelessness and rough sleeping.
10. To make recommendations to the Grand Committee for decision.

Suggested frequency of meetings – ~~4~~5 times a year

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Committee(s): Community & Children’s Services Committee - For Decision	Dated: 01/11/2023
Subject: Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023-27	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1,2,3,4
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: Judith Finlay, Executive Director – Community & Children’s Services	For Decision
Report author: Scott Myers, Strategy & Projects Officer, Community & Children’s Services	

Summary

This report presents the City of London Corporation’s draft Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023-27 for approval.

This draft strategy has been endorsed by the Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Sub-Committee and incorporates changes they proposed.

The draft strategy sets out the vision, approach, and commitment to tackle homelessness and rough sleeping in the Square Mile in all its forms.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- **Approve the draft Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023-27 set out in Appendix 1**

Main Report

Background

1. Homelessness describes being without a place to call home – whether that means sleeping on the streets, a friend’s sofa or in a squat, or occupying

accommodation which is temporary, unsuitable, or in which it is not safe to remain.

2. Homelessness presents most obviously in the City of London among those seen sleeping rough on the streets. However, our services also support those at risk of homelessness or who have lost their homes and who seek our help.
3. The scale and nature of homelessness in the Square Mile is driven by and echoes the issues beyond its boundaries. Many of those who seek our help are connected to the City of London through their employment. Those who sleep on our streets have invariably come to the City – whether from other parts of London or the UK, or from outside of the UK.
4. Members of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Sub-Committee have been involved in the development of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023-27 throughout the stages of development and public consultation, as well as after the public consultation had ended.
5. This involvement has also included involvement in development sessions with relevant Officers to investigate in more detail how the strategy outcomes and priorities would be delivered and measured for success.
6. As a result of these sessions at the request of Members of the Sub-Committee, additional changes were made to the strategy to strengthen it and include additional details on national and local legislative context and data, an update on progress achieved during the previous strategy, an expansion of why the priorities were chosen and case studies showing good practice.
7. In addition to including relevant contextual information, the strategy includes details of the various actions that will help deliver the priorities identified in the strategy and will form part of the ongoing Service Development Plan for delivery of this strategy.
8. As well as making changes to the strategy, an evidence bank showing the picture of homelessness and rough sleeping within the City of London was developed, which can be seen in Appendix 2.
9. The Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Sub-Committee endorsed this strategy on the 4th October 2023.

Draft Homelessness Strategy 2019-23

10. The draft strategy shown in Appendix 1 has been shaped by analysis of homelessness and rough sleeping in the City of London, current service delivery, a review of the previous strategy, engagement with key stakeholders and service providers, and feedback from service users. It also reflects changes in related government legislation, guidance and strategy, and the City Corporation's participation in the Mayor of London's Life of the Streets Taskforce.

11. A twelve-week public consultation period was also undertaken which informed the strategy further and resulted in positive contributions from participants on our identified priorities.
12. Promotion of the consultation was targeted to gather feedback from our partners, current service users, individuals who have experience of homelessness and or rough sleeping, and members of the public. Further input from those with experience of homelessness or rough sleeping was gathered through our commissioned partners and work with the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy Group.
13. As part of this consultation and engagement work, an up-to-date evidence bank has also been developed setting out a picture of homelessness within the City of London and can be seen in Appendix 2.

Vision

14. The draft strategy sets out the City Corporation and its partners vision for homelessness and rough sleeping services over the next four years. This vision is 'homelessness is brief, it does not reoccur, its impact on the individual, families and children, and our communities is minimised, and it is prevented where possible'.

Strategic Priorities

15. To deliver this vision, the draft strategy sets out four strategic priorities. These are:
 1. Providing rapid, effective and tailored interventions
 2. Securing access to suitable and affordable accommodation
 3. Working collaboratively
 4. Supporting beyond accommodation

Delivery

16. The City of London Corporation's Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy will govern our approach until 2027. However, as economic and political shifts could happen during this period, it will be underpinned by a Service Development Plan which will be continuously refreshed to adapt to changing priorities and demands.
17. This Service Development Plan will set out the actions we will undertake to deliver the vision and strategic priorities listed above and within the draft strategy.
18. The implementation and delivery of the Service Development Plan will be overseen by the Rough Sleeping Strategy Group and reported to the City Corporation's Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Sub-Committee.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Financial implications – Within existing resources

Resource implications – Within existing resources

Legal implications – The City of London Corporation has a statutory duty under the Housing Act (1996) to prevent homelessness and provide assistance or advice to those who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness. Under the Homelessness Act, 2002, the City of London Corporation is required to have a strategy in place covering all forms of homelessness in its locality, that must be updated at least every 5 years.

Risk implications – None identified

Equalities implications - Developing a dedicated Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy with strong evidence on how we will deliver the strategy will work towards tackling inequality of opportunity. A dedicated Equality Impact Assessment has also been developed to demonstrate this, as inequality disproportionately impacts on those with protected characteristics. This can be seen in Appendix 3.

Climate implications – None identified

Security implications – None identified

Conclusion

15. The draft Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023 - 27 is the overarching strategic document that guides services and activities for approaching homelessness in all its forms in the City of London. It outlines the values and principles that guide our work, our vision, and how we intend to achieve it. This report asks members to approve the draft Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023 – 27.

Appendices

- **Appendix 1 – Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023-27**
- **Appendix 2 – Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Evidence Bank**
- **Appendix 3 – Equality Impact Assessment**

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City of London Corporation

Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023-2027

1 Introduction

Homelessness is a crisis that can have a profound impact on the lives of those affected. Within the Square Mile, homelessness is most obviously seen on our streets, but it is an issue that is wider than rough sleeping – including those hidden from view who may sleep on a friend’s sofa, or those housed in accommodation which is unsafe or severely overcrowded.

The groups most likely to experience homeless are the most vulnerable in our society with related mental and physical health issues within single person households. However, anyone can experience homelessness and those who have been in care, experienced exclusion from school or college, the criminal justice system substance misuse, victims of domestic abuse and non-UK nationals are all over-represented within homelessness statistics.

As well as these referenced groups, this strategy relates to those homeless whether they are individuals, couples, households with children or without.

The City of London Corporation is committed to prevent or end the homelessness of those seeking our help. Whichever route brings people, families, or children into our services, we aim to act swiftly and effectively with compassion, fairness and respect.

We spend more than £4 million each year to deliver the services, support and accommodation to prevent or resolve homelessness. This strategy provides the priorities to focus our delivery and investment going forward, to shape our services and guide our decision making to deliver our vision, that:

Homelessness is brief, it does not reoccur, its impact on the individual, families and children, and our communities is minimised, and it is prevented where possible.

To secure this vision, we have identified four strategic priorities:

1. **Providing rapid, effective and tailored interventions** to minimise the duration of homelessness, prevent the loss of accommodation and prevent the crisis of street homeless leading to the harm of long-term rough sleeping
2. **Securing access to suitable and affordable accommodation** by maximising access to a range of housing options, delivering more homes; providing supported specialist housing accommodation for those with support needs
3. **Working collaboratively** with other agencies including the voluntary and business sectors to reach across traditional boundaries and support those facing homelessness or are rough sleeping and deliver a consistency of service across service and local authority boundaries

4. **Supporting beyond accommodation** to provide support alongside appropriate accommodation to secure better outcomes, enhance employability, support recovery and prevent repeat homelessness

These priorities provide the framework for our strategy to deliver better outcomes for individuals, and more efficient and effective services. They will be underpinned by a 5-year Service Development Plan that will be continuously refreshed, so that it remains responsive to political, policy and economic change.

2 STRATEGIC CONTEXT

This strategy is shaped and responds to the drivers of national and regional policy, and the interface with a range of City Corporation strategies and responsibilities.

2.1 National

The UK Government sets the legislative framework for preventing and addressing homelessness. Since 2017 the UK government has acted to strengthen legislation, to shift the focus to prevention, and to reduce the barriers to help for specific groups such as those, including children, who experience domestic violence and those who have served in the armed forces. Legislation gives local authorities the primary role in responding to homelessness. It is backed by significant funding in the form of Homelessness Prevention Grant.

The Government is also committed to end rough sleeping in this parliament. To meet this commitment, the Government has published a cross-government strategy, *Ending Rough Sleeping for Good* which introduced several initiatives and funding so that local authorities, voluntary, faith and community sectors can intervene swiftly when someone is sleeping rough.

These commitments include funding to local authorities in the form of the Rough Sleeping Initiative Grant, and programmes to increase the supply of supported accommodation.

The government has also expanded its Rough Sleeping Drug and Alcohol Treatment Grant Programme, with the scheme providing funding for substance misuse treatment services for people sleeping rough or at risk of sleeping rough.

2.2 Regional

The Mayor of London has set out his vision and priorities for tackling the shortage of affordable housing across London, and its links to homelessness in his London Housing Strategy. The strategy highlights the importance of prevention and the need to address the root causes of homelessness to drive forward effective prevention work.

He is committed to ending rough sleeping and has established the Life Off the Streets Executive Board – of which the City Corporation is a member – to work in partnership with organisations across London to monitor the effectiveness of interventions in tackling rough sleeping and identifying further interventions.

2.3 Local

The City of London Corporation is the governing body of the Square Mile, dedicated to vibrant and thriving City, supporting a diverse and sustainable London within a globally successful UK.

Its Corporate Plan 2018-2023 seeks a flourishing society in which:

- People are safe and feel safe
- People enjoy good health and wellbeing
- People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential
- Communities are cohesive and have the facilities they need

This strategy supports the delivery of that plan, and both contributes to and is supported by the delivery of a range of strategies and plans including the *Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy*, the *Local Plan*, the *Safer City Partnership Strategy*, the *Violence and Women and Girls Strategy* and the *Department of Community and Children's Services Business Plan*.

3 Background

Homelessness describes a range of situations that include those described by legislation, and situations we might recognise as homelessness such as sofa surfing or in its worst form, rough sleeping.

Government legislation describes a household as homelessness where:

- they have no accommodation they are legally entitled to occupy, either in the UK or overseas
- they have accommodation but cannot secure entry to it
- they have accommodation designed or adapted to be lived in that consists of a 'moveable structure' (such as a caravan, mobile home, or canal boat) but they have nowhere to put it
- they have accommodation but it is not reasonable or suitable to continue living there

Somebody is threatened with homelessness if:

- they are likely to become homeless within 28 days
- they have been giving a valid notice (known as a Section 21 notice) to leave a property, and that notice will expire within 56 days

Local authorities have a legal responsibility to support people and families who are threatened with homelessness or who are homeless. As well as the 1996 Housing Act, this strategy has also been informed by the following national legislation.

- Homelessness Reduction Act 2017
- Domestic Abuse Act 2021
- Armed Forces Act 2021

- Children Act 1989

These four Acts add to existing legislation and strengthen the response to tackling homelessness. They explicitly state that a person who is homeless as a result of being a victim of domestic abuse is classed as being in priority need, as well as those who previously served in the regular naval, military or air forces.

The picture of statutory homelessness in London highlights the challenges local authorities in London are facing, with rising demand and cost for housing, temporary accommodation and homelessness and rough sleeping services. The average cost of privately rented accommodation has risen by 5% in the 12 months to May 2023 up from an increase of 5% in the 12 months to April 2023. (Office for National Statistics, 2023). The average private rent in London was £2039 per month which is beyond the means of many families. This is also true of properties for purchase within London, particularly with higher mortgage borrowing rates and the price of housing means that secure home ownership is out of reach for many individuals and families within London, and places more pressure on the rental market, which has increased rent prices. This has placed acute stress on the budgets of many households within London and has increased the number of individuals or families presenting to us for homelessness assistance or tenancy and social housing support.

Applications for homelessness in London have risen by 54% between 2013 and 2023 and UK Government statistics show that in 2022, 59% of people in temporary accommodation across England were in London.

The number of people seen sleeping rough in London is also increasing. In 2023, the GLA reported that the number of people sleeping rough in London has increased by 9% compared with 2022. The figures show that 3,272 individuals were sleeping rough in the capital from April to June 2023, compared to 2,998 individuals from April to June 2022. Of those 84% were male, and half were UK nationals.

3.1 The City

With London's smallest population, the City Corporation deals with the lowest number of approaches for homeless assistance – having a duty to assist 29 households in 2022/23 - and has the lowest number of households placed in temporary accommodation in London.

With over 500,000 jobs supported within the Square Mile, it is unsurprising that the majority of those seeking homelessness advice, information and assessment are connected to the City through work.

In 2022/23 512 people approached the City Corporation for help because of the risk of experience of homelessness – an increase of 16 per cent on 20/22. In the same year, 129 households were placed into temporary accommodation over the course of the year – an increase of 20 per cent on 2021/22.

In 2022/23 outreach services recorded 482 people sleeping on the streets of the Square Mile – the sixth highest level among London's local authorities. Half of those sleeping rough were new to the streets – having no record of street homelessness anywhere in London.

Among those homeless on the streets 38 per cent had long term histories of rough sleeping and 17 per cent had returned to street homelessness. The profile of those sleeping rough in the Square Mile has moved towards a younger, more complex cohort with higher support needs.

3.2 Our strengths

- A commitment to deliver comprehensive services that has been backed by a significant growth in funding by the City Corporation
- Quality services, co-located with social care, that deliver advice, guidance and assessment that is accessible through an inclusive range of channels
- Spot purchasing of interim accommodation allowing us to search in or as close as we can to the areas where a homelessness applicant last resided to help maintain links with support networks and services where possible
- Provision of specialist and enhanced services – such as a dedicated homelessness social work, enhanced tenancy sustainment and “Housing First” accommodation
- Integrated and tailored response to street homelessness that goes beyond accommodation to support those who sleep rough to sustain a life away from the streets
- The learning and success of our “everybody in” approach during the pandemic evolved into an “in for good” approach to prevent a return to the streets
- Successfully securing external funding and partnerships to strengthen our approach and expand services
- Committed partnerships with neighbouring local authorities, the City and Hackney Health and Care Board, City of London Police and the voluntary sector

3.3 Our challenges

- Housing insecurity and homelessness is increasing, and the wider economic context would suggest this will continue in the period ahead
- Increasing demand places pressure on our services and budgets, and is increasing London wide competition for - and the cost of - temporary accommodation
- The diversity of need we respond to – including from those fleeing domestic violence, those from the LGBTQI+ community, those with uncertain migration status and youth homeless - is growing and more evident
- Secure, affordable housing options are severely limited and constrain the timely move-on from our hostel and interim accommodation provision
- Many of those homeless on our streets are very transient – moving across service boundaries and interrupting service interventions
- Housing solutions are predominantly beyond the boundaries of the Square Mile and the statutory remit of our wider services
- Access to primary care for those homeless on the streets is limited by location of provision

- Some of those homeless on our streets can be associated with anti-social behaviour or other criminality – as victim or perpetrator – causing concern to those who live, work in or visit the City
- Services that play a vital role in preventing homelessness and sustaining life away from the streets – including mental health services and voluntary sector services – are facing significant pressures

4 Progress since the last strategy

Since the last Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy in 2019, the City Corporation has delivered new initiatives to tackle homelessness and rough sleeping. These include:

- a pilot for a safe and secure accommodation project for women fleeing domestic abuse to help address violence against women and girls (VAWG)
- a high support hostel to provide 29 additional beds, securing a more effective response to rough sleeping
- funding for a tri-borough “staging post” hostel for those street homeless to relieve pressure on assessment and emergency placements
- a Rough Sleeping Mental Health Programme (RaMHP) in partnership with East London Foundation Trust (ELFT)
- a Homeless Health Coordinator to deliver a dedicated work plan to improve the health of rough sleepers
- a new partnership with Guy’s and St Thomas’ to provide clinical in-reach to Grange Road hostel
- an extended substance misuse offer to those who have left street homelessness and been accommodated beyond the Square Mile
- improved Homelessness & Rough Sleeping web pages to provide enhanced information and advice

5 Developing this strategy

This strategy has been developed through consultation with key stakeholders, including those who have experienced homelessness and those who remain homeless in the City.

This process has identified the four key priorities, set out in the section below. For each priority, we set out what the implementation of this strategy will achieve in addressing that priority, and what will be done to secure those achievements.

6 Priorities

6.1 Priority 1: Providing rapid, effective and tailored interventions

By focusing on the prevention of homelessness before it occurs, we recognise that early interventions are important to minimising the duration and preventing homelessness. We believe that for this to be the most effective, these early interventions should be personalised to provide the most appropriate response in conjunction with the City of London Housing department.

Case Study – City of London Corporation Women’s Project

The City of London opened its first dedicated women’s accommodation project in April 2023. The Domestic Abuse Act (2021) introduced new requirements for local housing authorities to have safe accommodation available to any applicant on approach where domestic abuse is the reason they have given for leaving their home. Recognising the national and regional shortage of affordable, suitable accommodation, The City of London commissioned an existing housing provider to refurbish a 6-bed housing in a London Borough. Security was upgraded and its location is kept confidential to protect anonymity of residents. To date, the City Corporation have placed 6 women using this project.

To deliver this priority, over the next four years we will focus on the following:

- Improve access to rapid ‘off the street’ options for rough sleepers to end rough sleeping events quickly
- Deliver a clear, consistent approach to protect those sleeping rough, our communities and our services from ASB and criminality ensuring our community feels safe for all
- Strengthen our communication methods to improve referral pathways to local providers and outreach services
- Embed co-production with people with lived experience of homelessness when designing or renewing services

Key actions to deliver these include:

- Open a new Rough Sleeping Assessment Centre in the Square Mile (under construction, due to complete in 2024)
- Review and re-commission our frontline outreach services that consider inclusion of best practice examples and input from those with lived experience of homelessness and or rough sleeping
- Implement new Severe Weather Emergency Protocols (SWEP) so these interventions reach more people in an impactful way
- Re-commission the City Advice Service so that all groups of people including residents and young people have access to accurate information and support.

Some of our key measures of success on the delivery of these are:

- Increase in the rate of homelessness preventions
- Increase in referrals received under the Duty to Refer
- Reduction in the number of individuals entering temporary accommodation
- Reduction in the number of individuals sleeping rough during severe weather events

6.2 Priority 2: Securing access to suitable and affordable accommodation

Case Study – High Support Hostel

The City of London Corporation and its commissioned partners conducted research to determine what additional projects could be introduced to have the highest impact in supporting those in our rough sleeping population who have the most complex needs. In November 2022, The City of London Corporation opened a 29-bed high support hostel. This new service occupies a site that was redeveloped from the ground up and designed with psychologically informed principles in mind. The project removes barriers between staff and residents and creates mixed areas for residents and staff to share time and participate in activities.

We recognise that access to suitable and affordable accommodation is central to promoting good health and wellbeing of our service users, as well as being a way off the streets for those rough sleeping. We believe that access to suitable and affordable accommodation needs to be appropriate to the level of need of the client and will help prevent homelessness occurring in the first place.

To deliver this priority, over the next four years we will focus on the following:

- Increase access to safe and suitable accommodation for those fleeing domestic abuse and violence against women and girls (VAWG)
- Work to keep families and children near local services and schools
- Minimise the use of inappropriate temporary accommodation
- Improve options within the private rented sector to support move on
- Reduce the number of rough sleepers returning to the streets

Key actions to deliver these include:

- Maximise our temporary accommodation offer by using targeted support, help with rent deposits and support to sustain long-term tenancies
- Create and implement a temporary accommodation framework for procurement of interim and emergency housing
- Deliver new accommodation solutions, such as increases in the number of available hostel beds and access to social housing in the City of London
- Expand the City of London's Housing First offer to maximise the number of tenancies available to rough sleepers

Some of our key measures of success on the delivery of these are:

- Reduction in the number of households placed in temporary accommodation
- Reduction in the length of stay in temporary accommodation
- Increase in the number of properties available to individuals facing homelessness or are rough sleeping
- Number of commissioned and appropriate hostel beds increases

6.3 Priority 3: Working collaboratively

Homelessness and rough sleeping cannot be solved in silo. Working in partnership with multiple agencies that reach across traditional boundaries is key in supporting those facing homelessness or are rough sleeping. By working in partnership with key services when developing or delivering services, services will be delivered consistently across service and local authority boundaries.

Case Study – Health Community Wellbeing Van

The City of London Corporation's Health Community Wellbeing Van is a partnership between City & Hackney Public Health, North-East London Integrated Care Board and East London Foundation Trust. This weekly, GP led services brings vital primary care interventions directly to rough sleepers found in the Square Mile. The service operates from a fully converted vehicle and launched in February 2023. The van offers a private consultation space, storage for clinical equipment and signposting resources and facilities for making hot drinks. The van also delivers a range of health and wellbeing interventions to people experiencing homelessness and who are less likely to access traditional healthcare sessions

To deliver this priority, over the next four years we will focus on the following:

- Develop sub regional and pan-borough solutions to homelessness
- Strengthen our engagement with health partners to improve interventions for the most vulnerable
- Maximise the use of commissioned drug and alcohol services, City Advice and psychological services to prevent homelessness
- Deliver an embedded multi-agency response to ASB and criminality to protect rough sleepers and our communities

Key actions to deliver these include:

- Develop and implement a new Youth Homelessness Protocol to improve the holistic approach to supporting young people facing homelessness
- Implement an improved pathway for non-UK nationals who have no recourse to public funds
- Improve the safeguarding of vulnerable adults who are street homeless by developing solutions with the City & Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board
- Use engagement with City Businesses through business groups to shape their involvement in our work

Some of our key measures of success on the delivery of these are:

- Increase in cross-sector buy in to homelessness prevention within the Square Mile
- Reduction in anti-social behaviour reported
- Up take of commissioned services increases
- Improved pathways for those who have no recourse to public funds

6.4 Priority 4: supporting beyond accommodation

We recognise that it is important to provide wrap around support alongside appropriate accommodation for those who are rough sleeping or facing homelessness to enable them to remain in long term accommodation and prevent a return to the streets. By providing wrap around support that is tailored to the needs of the individual, we aim to secure better outcomes, improve health and wellbeing, enhance employability and support recovery, all of which will reduce the likelihood of returning to the streets or homelessness occurring in the first place.

Case Study – Employment and Progression Service – ‘Streets to Work’

The first project of its kind in the City of London, ‘Streets to Work’ launched in February 2023. The project has a remit to work across all our cohorts – vulnerably housed social tenants, residents in supported accommodation and rough sleepers. The service offers individuals the opportunity to build up their skills through education, training and employment opportunities as well as through volunteering. The service offers a mix of one-to-one and group sessions held in the community or at a client’s accommodation. We expect to see the project work with a minimum of 40 people per year, with 15 of these gaining stable employment.

To deliver this priority, over the next four years we will focus on the following:

- Improve health and wellbeing outcomes among those facing homelessness or are rough sleeping
- Improve tenancy sustainment in the private rented sector so clients on the path to recovery remain housed
- Improve the employability of former and current rough sleepers
- Support service users with complex substance misuse needs remain in long term accommodation
- Strengthen feedback opportunities by giving service users a stronger voice to shape the services they use

Key actions to deliver these include:

- Reduce delays in hospital discharge by improving communication with hospital teams

- Expand the support offer available to those with complex substance misuse needs by maximising the involvement of commissioned Pan-London services
- Deliver a clinical space in the Square Mile to provide primary care for those sleeping rough
- Encourage local businesses to employ and train those who have or who are experience homelessness

Some of our key measures of success on the delivery of these include:

- Reduction in the number of people sleeping rough
- Reduction in the number of repeat rough sleepers
- Reduction in delayed transfers of care
- Increase in number of service users entering education, employment or training

7 Implementation and delivery

This strategy is delivered in the context of legislative change – particularly the government’s commitment to fully imbed the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 and its commitment to prevention, and the enactment of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

It aligns with the government’s strategy “Ending Rough Sleeping for Good” and with the City Corporation’s participation in the Mayor of London’s Life of the Streets Taskforce and its framework to address the wider determinants of rough sleeping with partners across the capital

In its delivery it supports the City of London Corporation to meet the objectives of its Corporate Plan and is supported by the delivery of the Housing Strategy, Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Safer City Partnership Strategy.

The Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy is agreed, renewed, and monitored by the City of London Corporation’s Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Sub-Committee. A detailed service development plan will support the delivering of this strategy and refreshed to reflect service demand and legislative change.

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Evidence base - Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023-27

Rough sleeping

The first quarter 2023 – 2024 CHAIN data (April to June 2023) reports an increase of rough sleepers in the City of London from the same period last year, with a total of 180 rough sleepers. This is an increase of 32 rough sleepers from the same period last year.

Of those 180 rough sleepers, 45 have been recorded as new rough sleepers (those not contacted by outreach teams rough sleeping before the period). Eighty-two rough sleepers were recorded as living on the streets (those who have a high number of contacts with outreach over three weeks or more), an increase of 26 from the same period last year. Finally, 59 rough sleepers were recorded as intermittent (people seen rough sleeping before the period began but not regularly enough to be considered as living on the streets). This is an increase of eight rough sleepers from the same period last year.

Comparisons between City of London and Greater London.

Figure 1 breaks down the number of rough sleepers in the City of London across 2018 – 2023 (five-year timeline) in total and by CHAIN recorded sub-categories of flow, stock and returner. Figure 2 by comparison outlines the same for Greater London.

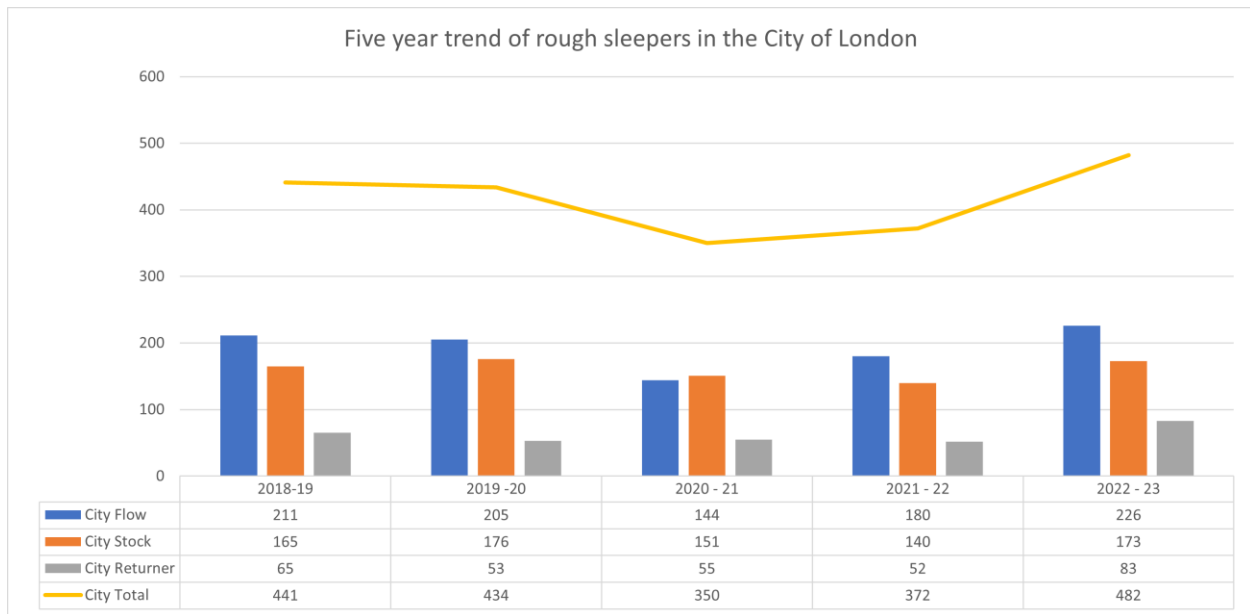


Figure 1: rough sleepers in the City of London across 2018 – 2023 by total and by CHAIN recorded sub-categories of flow, stock and returner.

There is a divergence between the total number of rough sleepers in the City of London and London as a whole across the five-year period of 2018 to the end of the reporting period in 2023. Whilst the City of London saw a steady drop across 2020 to 2021 (which would coincide with measures taken during the pandemic to support rough sleepers) after a plateau over 2018

- 2020, London as a whole saw a gradual increase of rough sleepers before a sharp drop off over 2020 into 2021. However, both the City of London and London as a whole have seen a sharp increase in rough sleepers from 2022 onward. Both the City of London and Greater London are seeing numbers of rough sleepers in line with peak numbers from previous years. The City of London reported the highest number since 2018-2019.

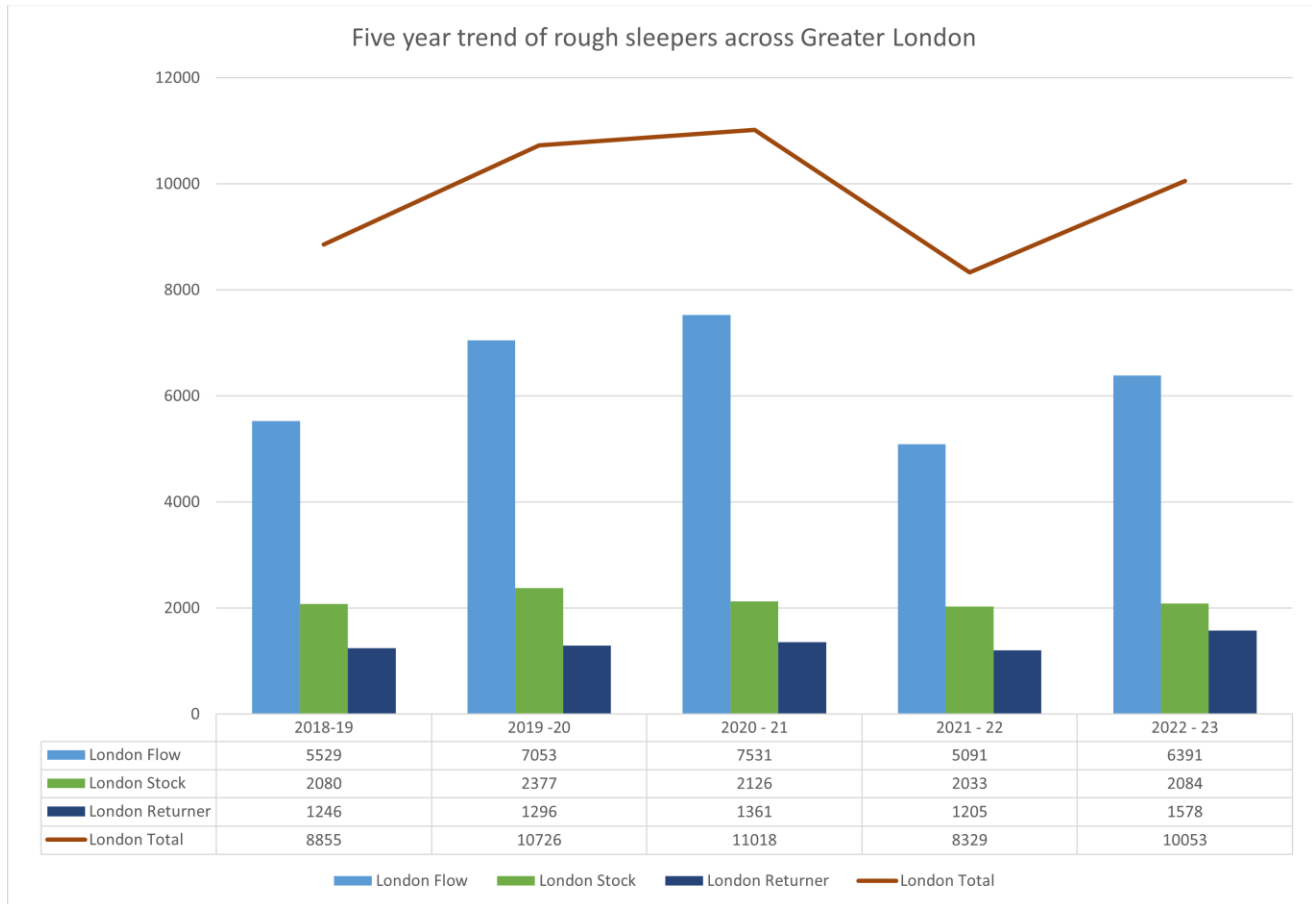


Figure 2: rough sleepers across Greater London across 2018 – 2023 by total and by CHAIN recorded sub-categories of flow, stock and returner.

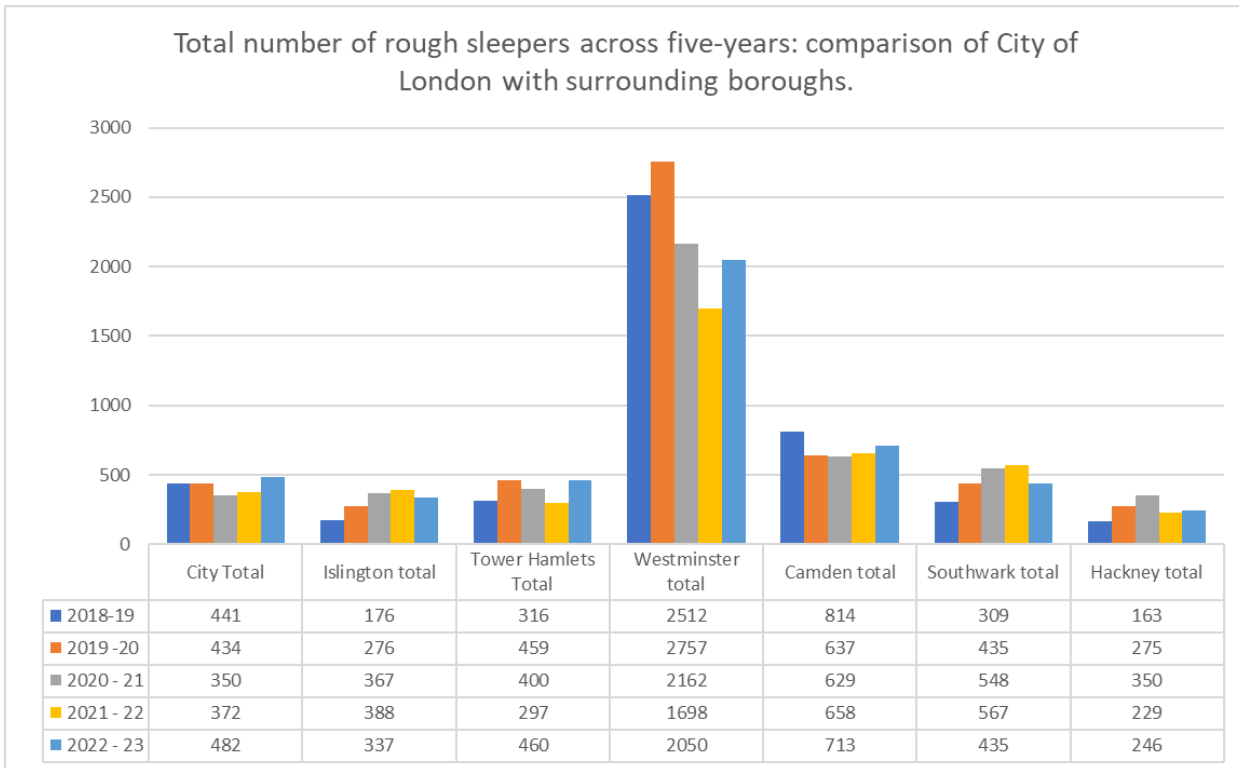
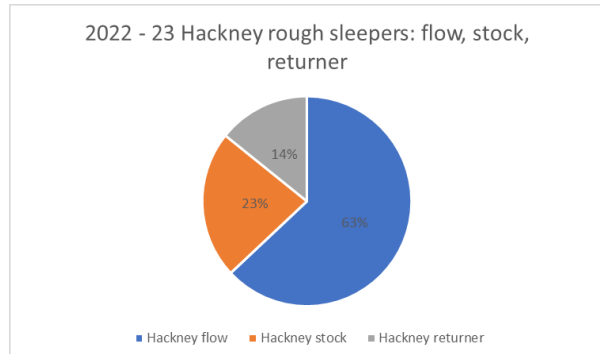
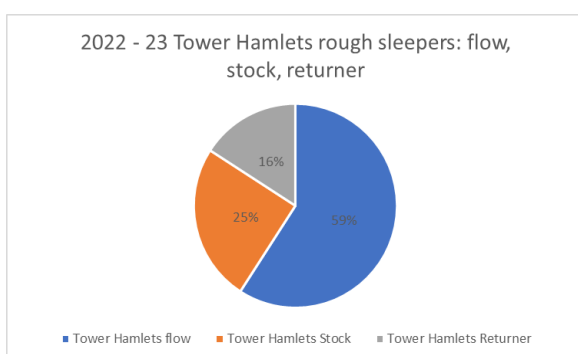
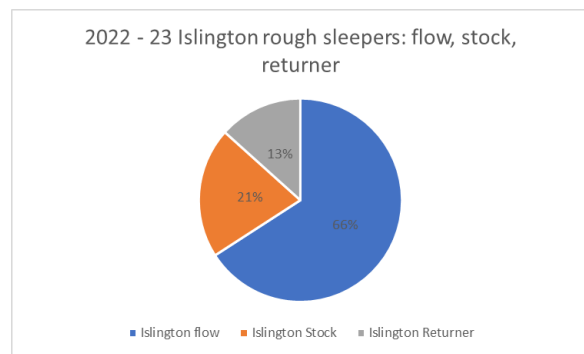
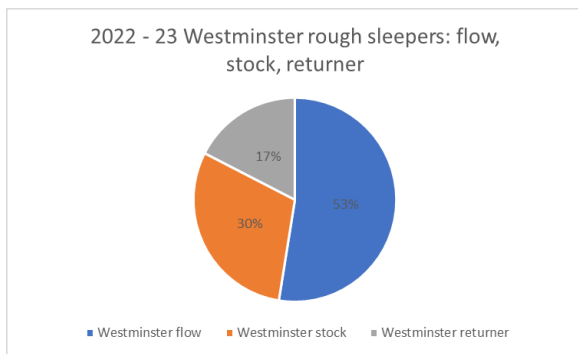


Figure 3 shows how City of London rough sleeping data compares to the boroughs surrounding the City of London. Westminster has the highest levels of rough sleepers across the five-year period. However, only City of London and Tower Hamlets show the highest number of rough sleepers in 2022-23, than compared with any other year in that five-year period.



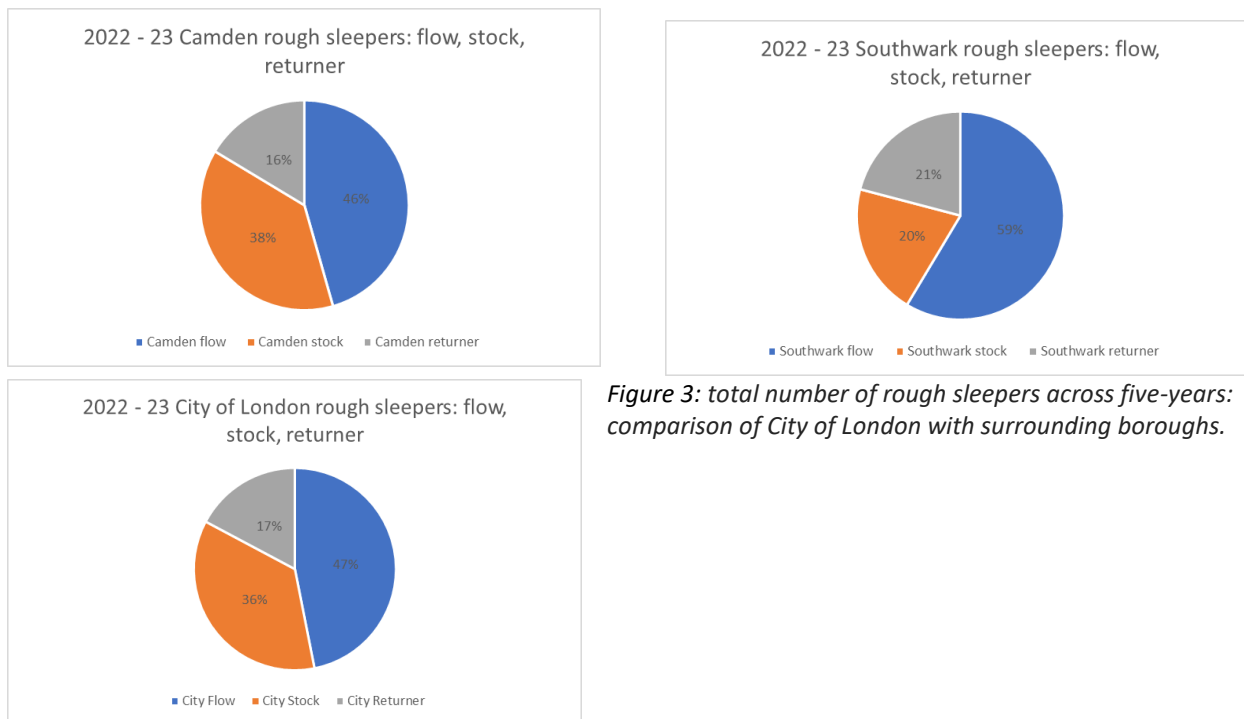


Figure 3: total number of rough sleepers across five-years: comparison of City of London with surrounding boroughs.

Only Camden has a higher percentage than the City of London of its rough sleeping total categorised as stock rough sleepers over 2022 – 23. The number of returning rough sleepers across all boroughs is on average 16% of their totals. Flow has the biggest percentage change across the seven boroughs, with Islington showing the highest percentage of its total as flow rough sleepers at 66%.

City of London annual CHAIN report findings, 2022/23

The CHAIN 2022 – 2023 report for the City of London showed the highest number of rough sleepers in the City of London yet recorded by CHAIN at 482 (looking over a 10-year period). This represents a 30% increase when compared to 2021/22. Figure 1 shows that the latest annual report recorded the highest number of both flow and returner rough sleepers in the City of London over a five-year period.

In October 2022, recording of people’s history prior to first being seen rough sleeping was changed on CHAIN. The changes were made in order to collect more detailed information about where people had been staying, why they had left the accommodation and how long ago this was, and whether they had approached a local authority for help in relation to leaving the accommodation. Recording of this information was extended to people who had returned to rough sleeping, in addition to those who were seen rough sleeping in London for the first time. The timing of the change means that, in this area of reporting, we do not have a single consistent dataset covering the whole year. In order to provide full information, we have presented both datasets in this report, accompanied by an explanation of the differing underlying bases. The original methodology is referred to here as 'legacy recording'.

Demographics and support needs

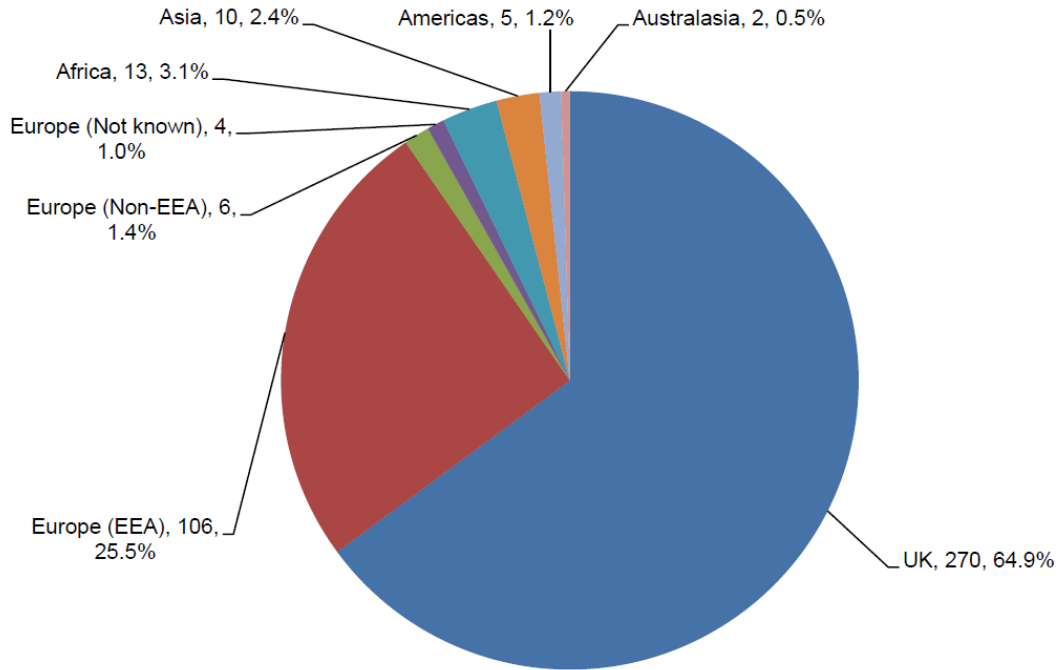


Figure 4: people seen rough sleeping in 2022/23, by nationality.

Nationality	Flow	Stock	Returner	Total	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
UK	108	108	54	270	64.9%
Romania	10	12	3	25	6.0%
Poland	11	18	3	32	7.7%
Lithuania	3	4	4	11	2.6%
Portugal	1	3	2	6	1.4%
Ireland (Republic of)	5	2	1	8	1.9%
Bulgaria	4	1	0	5	1.2%
Italy	0	3	0	3	0.7%
Latvia	0	0	2	2	0.5%
France	0	2	0	2	0.5%
Spain	0	0	1	1	0.2%
Other European (EEA) countries	2	5	4	11	2.6%
Europe (EEA)	36	50	20	106	25.5%
Europe (Non-EEA)	2	2	2	6	1.4%
Europe (Not known)	2	2	0	4	1.0%
Eritrea	1	2	1	4	1.0%
Sudan	1	0	0	1	0.2%
Nigeria	2	1	0	3	0.7%
Somalia	0	0	1	1	0.2%
Ethiopia	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Other African countries	3	0	1	4	1.0%
Africa	7	3	3	13	3.1%
India	0	0	1	1	0.2%
Afghanistan	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Iran	0	1	1	2	0.5%
Pakistan	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Bangladesh	0	1	0	1	0.2%
Other Asian countries	5	0	1	6	1.4%
Asia	5	2	3	10	2.4%
Americas	3	2	0	5	1.2%
Australasia	2	0	0	2	0.5%
Not known	61	4	1	66	
Total (excl. not known)	165	169	82	416	100.0%
Total (incl. not known)	226	173	83	482	

Total excluding not known is used as base for percentages.

Table 1: nationality of people seen rough sleeping during 2022/23, by flow, stock and returner breakdown.

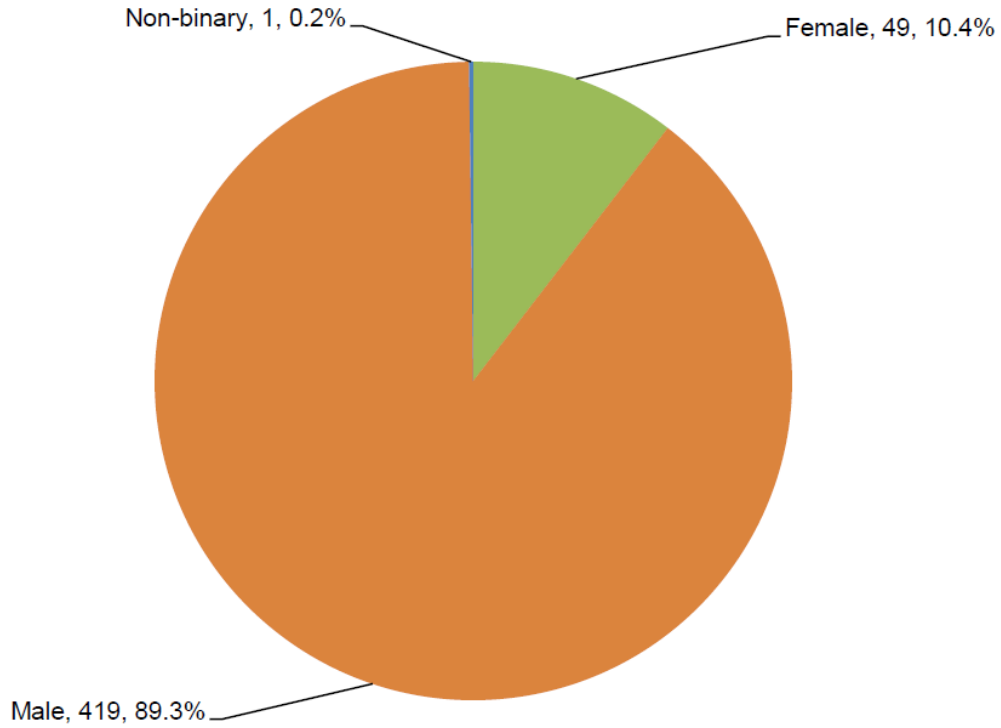


Figure 4: people seen rough sleeping in 2022/23, by gender. This excludes 13 people whose gender is not known.

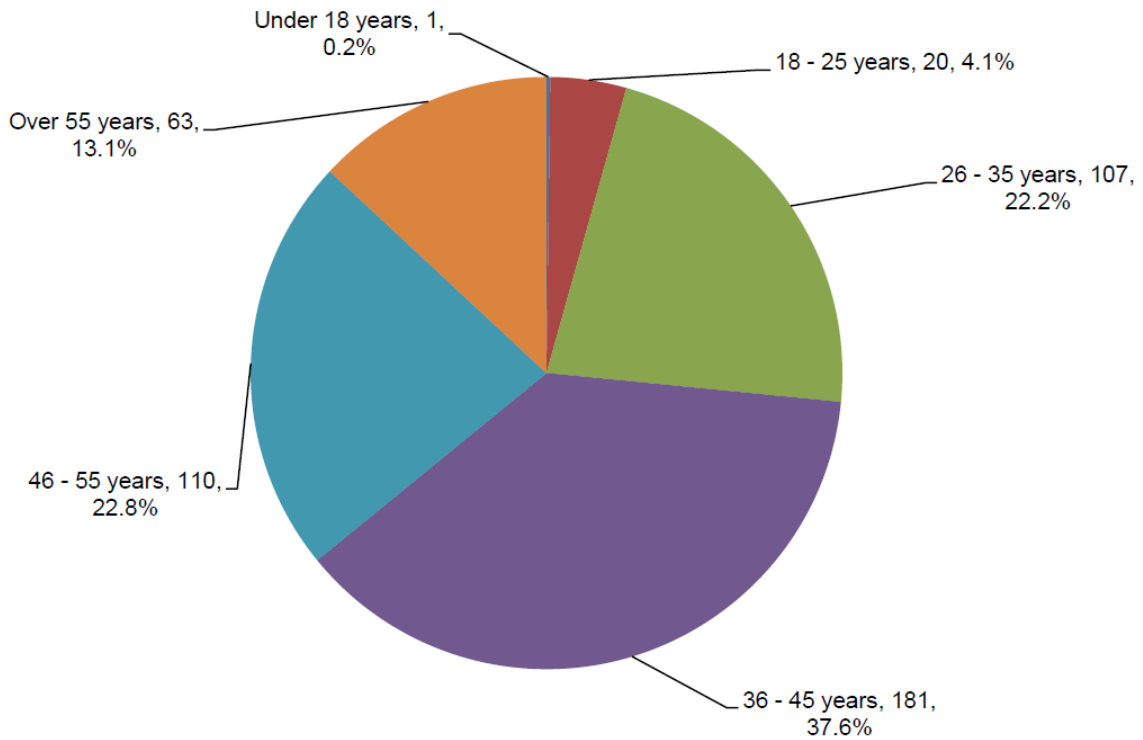


Figure 5: people seen rough sleeping in 2022/23, by age.

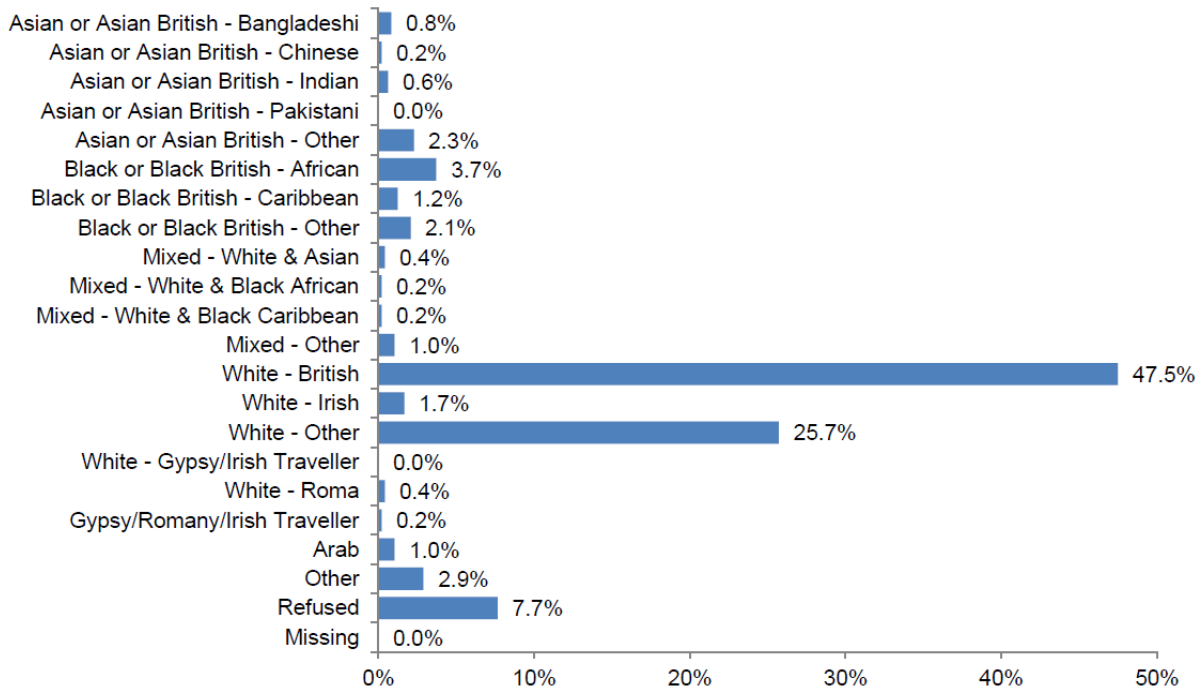


Figure 6: people seen rough sleeping in 2022/23, by ethnicity. The previously employed category of 'Gypsy/Romany/Irish Traveller' was replaced in 2021 with separate categories for 'White - Gypsy/Irish Traveller' and 'White - Roma' in order to bring CHAIN recording into line with Office for National Statistics usage. Some people seen rough sleeping during the period have not had their ethnicity information updated to reflect these new categories, so the original category is also included in the chart.

Support needs data in CHAIN is derived from assessments made by support workers in the homelessness sector. It is important to note that 36% of people seen rough sleeping in the borough in 2022/23 did not have a support needs assessment recorded.

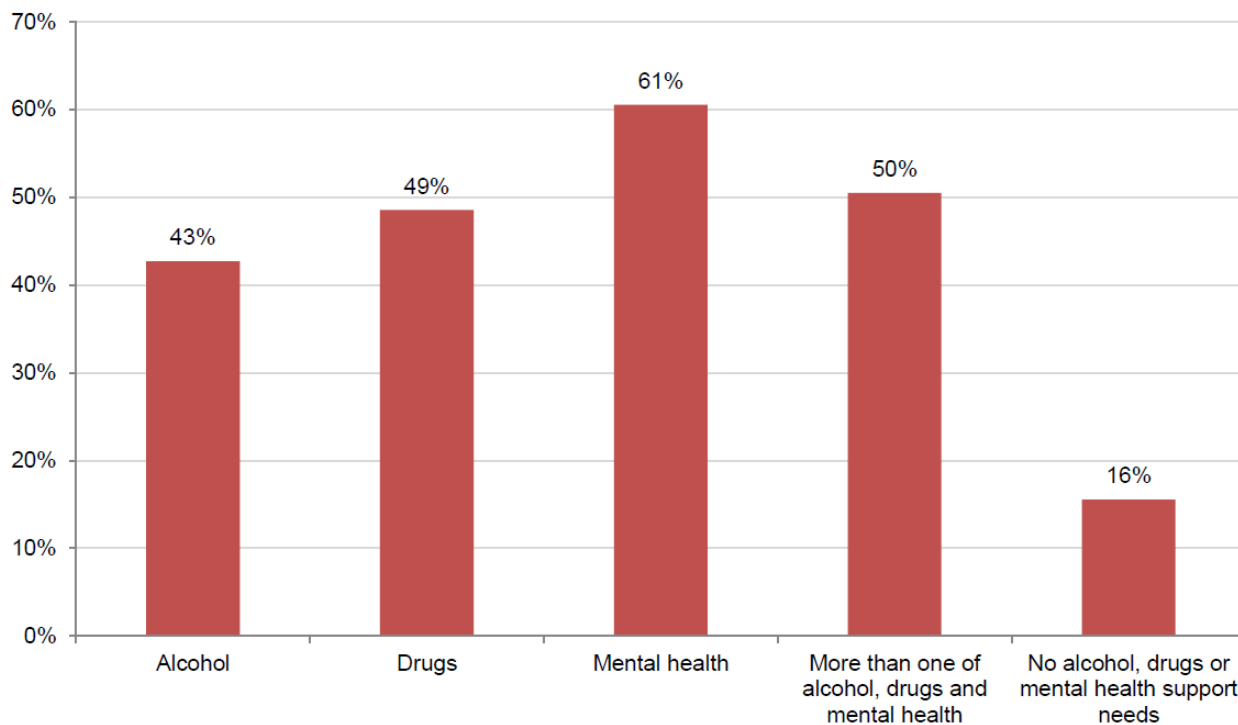


Figure 7: people seen rough sleeping in 2022/23, by support needs. Note that the base figure for this chart excludes people for whom none of the three support needs were known or assessed (173).

Support Needs	No.	%
Alcohol only	28	9%
Drugs only	19	6%
Mental health only	47	15%
Alcohol and drugs	16	5%
Alcohol and mental health	25	8%
Drugs and mental health	52	17%
Alcohol, drugs and mental health	63	20%
All three no	48	16%
All three no, not known or not assessed	11	4%
All three not known or not assessed	173	
Total (excl. not assessed)	309	100%
Total (incl. not assessed)	482	

Total excluding not known or assessed is used as base for percentages.

Table 2: people seen rough sleeping in 2022/23, by support needs combination.

23 people seen rough sleeping in the borough in 2022/23 had experience of serving in the armed forces, of whom 12 were UK nationals. Time spent in the forces could have been at any point in the person's life, and it is not necessarily the case that the person has recently been discharged.

Statutory homelessness

There has been an increase in approaches across the board since the pandemic, with a significant increase in 2020/21. The largest cohort of approaches remains single applicants, however, there has been an increase in the number of families.

Financial Year	Number of approaches
2018/19	87
2019/20	85
2020/21	338
2021/22	429
2022/23	512

Table 3: Number of approaches over 5 years.

Reason for approaches

However, there has been a sustained 20-25% increase year on year since. Reasons for the increase in approaches are as follows:

- a continuing trend of applicants misunderstanding the City's geographical location and jurisdiction,
- the cost-of-living increases,
- landlord evictions re-commencing after lockdowns,
- rising cases of domestic abuse and sexual violence, and
- the general impact of lockdown exposing more hidden homelessness such as sofa-surfing.

Domestic violence

The biggest change in reasons for approaching statutory services has been due to domestic abuse. This is now the second most common reason for homelessness. There was an initial rise in cases due to the lockdowns, and due to the introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 in July 2021. The Act made fleeing domestic abuse an automatic priority need and introduced additional duties for the service in this area, including additional requirements for the accommodation provided to victims of domestic violence. For context, the period 2018/19 recorded three approaches over the year due to domestic abuse, while the period 2022/23 recorded 53 approaches due to this reason. Approaches due to domestic violence are not required to have a local connection to the City of London.

Work connection

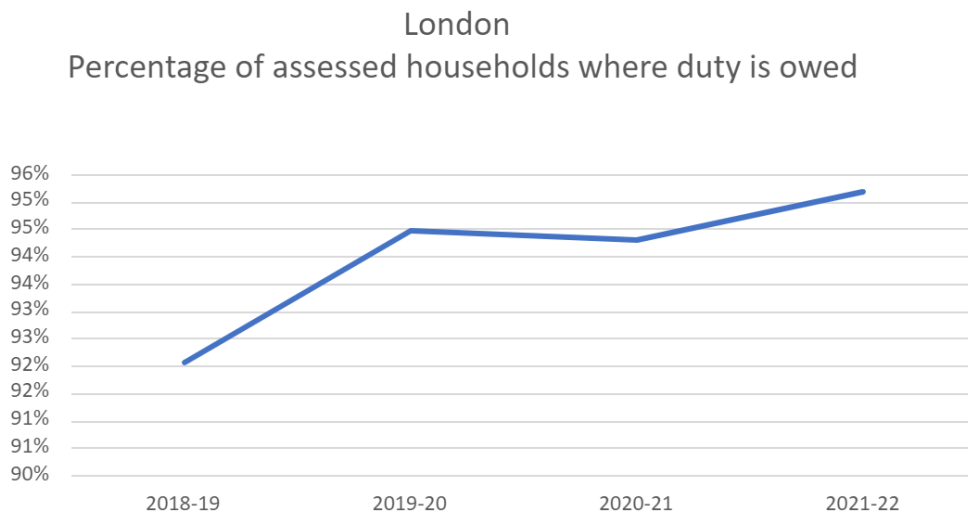
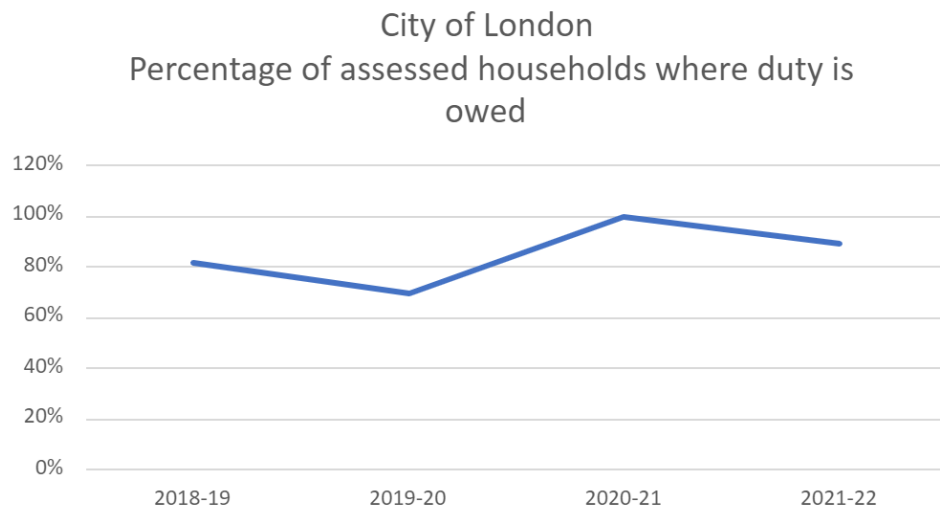
A high proportion of approaches are from people with a work connection to the City of London, rather than existing residents – which makes up a much lower proportion of approaches.

Changes in policy after the pandemic

Usage of temporary accommodation increased post pandemic due to the 'Everyone In' policy ending, and the subsequent decanting of hotels and hostels of people placed during this time. This resulted in a larger number of discretionary placements and more statutory placements in line with the general increase in approaches/duties.

Accepted as owing a duty

The two figures below (8 and 9) portray visually the percentage of cases assessed as being owed a duty across 2018 – 2022 in the City of London, and across London as a whole.



Total cases accepted due to prevention or relief, by reason, across 2018 – 2024 (to date)

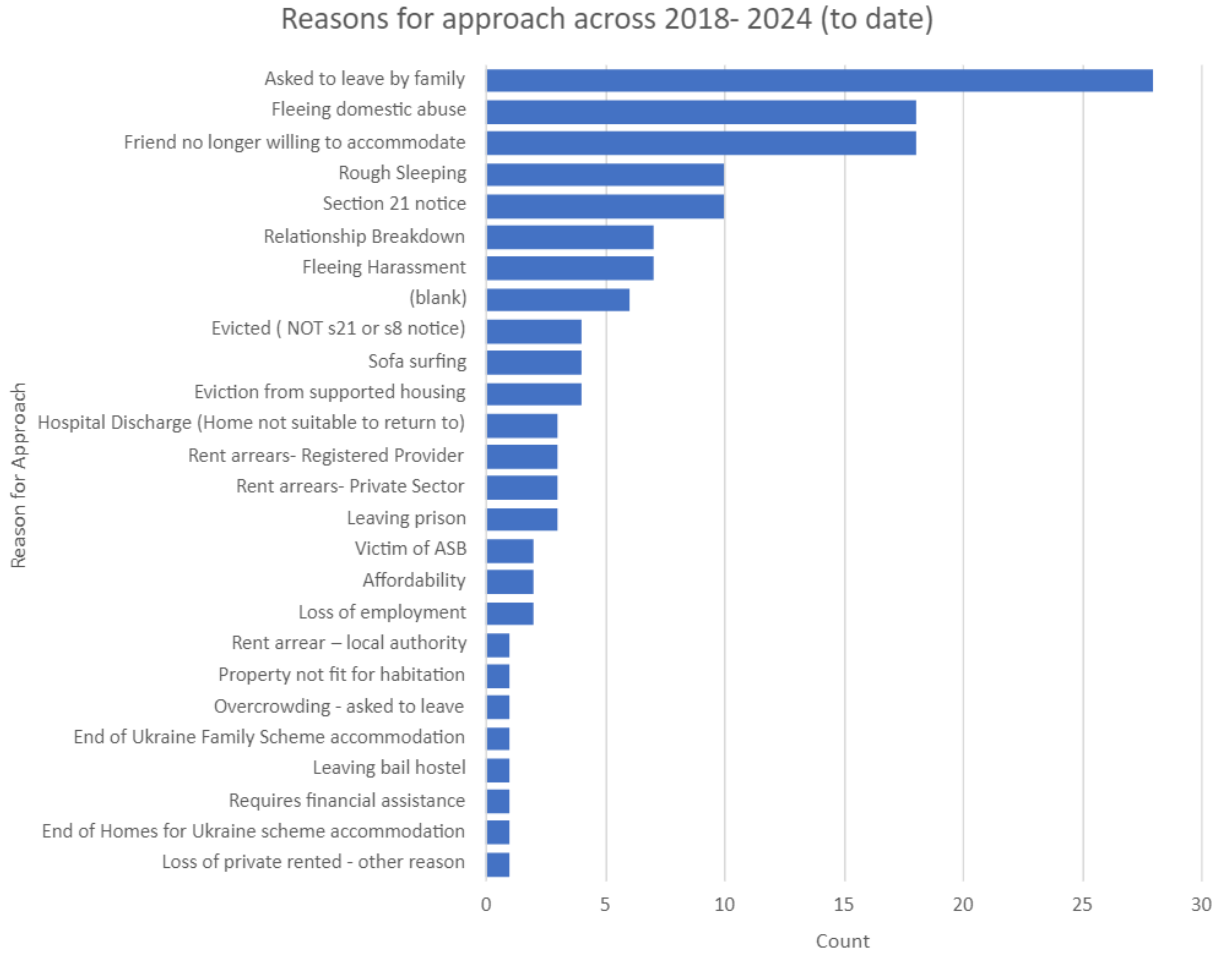


Figure 10: Reasons for homelessness for cases accepted as either a prevention or relief duty, across 2018 – 24 (to date)

Financial Year	Households with dependent children	Single applicants
2018/19	8	21
2019/20	8	20
2020/21	5	13
2021/22	6	17
2022/23	12	17

Table 4: Breakdown of household compositions accepted as either a prevention or relief duty, by year

Temporary accommodation

The following table provides an overview of homeless households placed in temporary accommodation by type of accommodation, across 2018 – 2023.

Year	Type		
	Shared accommodation/B&B	Self-contained accommodation	Hostels and commercial hotels
2018 - 19	19	50	2
2019 - 20	18	48	2
2020 - 21	6	63	0
2021 - 22	13	91	0
2022 - 23	20	77	32

Table 5: Homeless households placed in temporary accommodation by type of accommodation, across 2018 – 2023

Housing need

As of August 2023, the City of London Corporation housing waiting list was as follows:

Housing type	Waiting list
studio	362
1 bed	204
2 bed	250
3 bed	133
4 bed	028
total	977

Table 6: City of London Corporation waiting list, August 2023

Of the 977 on the waiting list, the following are existing tenants on City of London Corporation estates across the capital.

Housing type	transfer
studio	0
1 bed	32
2 bed	63
3 bed	48
4 bed	14
total	175

Table 7: Existing tenants on City of London Corporation waiting list, August 2023

Most households on the Housing Register do not live in the City of London “Square Mile” but do have a local connection through working in the City of London.

Overcrowding in the City of London is determined as follows:

- If a household has one bedroom less than their assessed need (e.g., they have two-bedroom need and are in a one-bedroom property) they will be moderately overcrowded as they are lacking one bedroom.
- If they have a three bedroom need and are in a one-bedroom property, they would be severely overcrowded and get severe overcrowding priority.

It is not possible to report from current statistics on whether or not any overcrowding in the City of London is due to children or adult family members. Further, analysis can only be done on households who are registered and eligible. There may be households in owner occupied properties who are overcrowded but would not be eligible as homeowners. This is also true for households which are not eligible due to no recourse to public funds.

The table below is an analysis completed on 6th June 2023 of overcrowded households living in the City of London, "Square Mile", on the Housing Register:

Summary by estate	Building	Moderate = lacking one bedroom	Severe = lacking two or more bedrooms	Total
Golden Lane:	Crescent House	2	2	4
	Cullum Welch House	0	1	1
	Basterfield House	2	0	2
	Hatfield House	2	0	2
	Great Arthur House	4	0	4
	Bayer House	1	0	1
	Stanley Cohen House	1	0	0
	Bowater House	2	0	2
Middlesex St	Petticoat Square	14	1	15
	Petticoat Tower	4	0	4
Guinness Trust	Iveagh Court	2	0	2
	Mansell St	8	2	10
Private rent	Fetter Lane	1	0	1
	Bishopsgate	0	1	1
Overall Total:		43	7	50

Table 8: Overcrowding in Estates across City of London, June 2023

EQUALITY ANALYSIS (EA) TEMPLATE

Decision

Date



What is the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED)? [Double click here for more information / Hide](#)

What is an Equality Analysis (EA)? [Double click here for more information / Hide](#)

How to demonstrate compliance [Double click here for more information / Hide](#)

Deciding what needs to be assessed [Double click here for more information / Hide](#)

Role of the assessor [Double click here for more information / Hide](#)

How to carry out an Equality Analysis (EA) [Double click here for more information / Hide](#)

Page 1

The Proposal *Click and hover over the questions to find more details on what is required*

Assessor name: Kate Bygrave

Contact details: kate.bygrave@cityoflondon.gov.uk

1. What is the Proposal?

The Homelessness Strategy 2023-27 sets out the City of London Corporation's (City Corporation) vision, approach and commitment to tackle homelessness in the Square Mile in all its forms.

2. What are the recommendations?

Outcome 1: We will aim that homelessness is Prevented

Outcome 2: We will provide effective and early Intervention to prevent homelessness

Outcome 3: We will provide effective and early Recovery support to minimise the impact of homelessness

Outcome 4: We will work in Collaboration to provide support those who are affected by homelessness

3. Who is affected by the Proposal?

Homelessness is defined as not having a secure place to stay. This could include rough sleeping on the street, being in temporary or unsuitable accommodation, sleeping on a friend's sofa, or in a squat, or just not having some where safe to live. Homelessness can affect anyone, including families and children, couples, and single people, and can occur due to a variety of circumstances, including employment, health issues, family breakdown, housing costs and availability.

The most visible, and most dangerous form of homelessness is rough sleeping on the streets. Those sleeping rough in the Square Mile are predominately white British nationals between 26 and 45 years of age.

Local Authorities have a statutory duty to provide advice and assistance to residents and households who are risk of homelessness, including sourcing temporary accommodation. Some people are at higher risk of becoming homeless, including those on low incomes, in unstable employment or living in insecure or poor quality accommodation. The strategy and ongoing actions need to ensure that no one facing homelessness is allowed to slip through the gaps.

Key borough statistics:

The City has proportionately more people aged between 25 and 69 living in the Square Mile than Greater London. Conversely there are fewer young people. Approximately 800 children and young people under the age of 18 years live in the City. This is 11.8% of the total population in the area. Summaries of the City of London [age profiles from the 2011 Census can be found on our website](#). A new census was carried out in 2021, although only basic estimates have been released

A number of demographics and projections for demographics can be found on the [Greater London Authority website in the London DataStore](#). The site details statistics for the City of London and other London authorities at a ward level:

- [Population projections](#)

The populations of residents of the square mile are predicted to rise, and for the

[Double click here to show borough wide statistics / hide statistics](#)

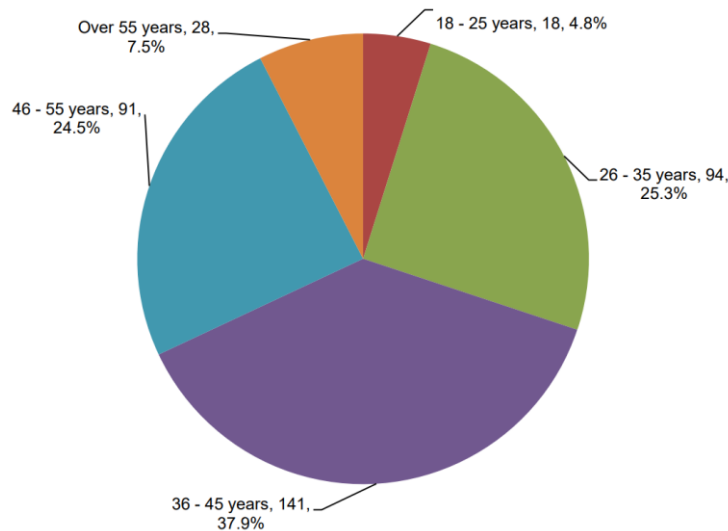
Age

Additional Equalities Data (Service level or Corporate) *Include data analysis of the impact of the proposals*

Rough Sleepers

The chart below shows the age profiles of those recorded as rough sleeping in the City of London from Counts conducted in 2021. The largest cohort of rough sleepers remains the 36-45 year old (37.9%) ages 26-35 and 46-55 are the next highest (25.3% and 24.5% respectively). The City of London has a relatively low percentage of rough sleepers over the age of 55, and under 25 (7.5% and 4.8% respectively). The majority of the rough sleepers identified in the City of London are working age.

Page 53



Statutory Homelessness

Data from. Only 28 requests were made to the statutory homelessness team for Duty. Of these 36% were made by those 25-34 and 45-54. There were no applications by anyone over the age of 55, or below 18, with only 4% of applications being aged 18-24, 24% were aged 35-44. This again shows that the majority of those at risk or experiencing homelessness.

Age

What is the proposal's impact on the equalities aims? Look for *direct impact* but also evidence of *disproportionate impact* i.e. where a decision affects a protected group more than the general population, including *indirect impact*

Young people

The City of London has low figures for those aged 25 and under sleeping rough. However, this figure will not include or identify the 'hidden homeless' who are more likely to be young people.

Action for Children have estimated that over 120,000 children and young people are homeless in the UK. (*What is the extent of youth homelessness in the UK? | Action For Children – accessed October 2022*). The research also suggests that 26% of care leavers have slept on a friend's sofa, and 14% have slept rough. Research from Centrepont also shows that there are strong links between rough sleeping as a young person and long-term rough sleeping and social exclusion in later life.

The drivers and impacts of youth homelessness and rough sleeping are often very different from those of older adults, and as such consideration of these issues should be included in any work, and distinct and tailored services and support in both the statutory and voluntary sector are in place.

The research from Centrepont (*Centrepont (2019) No place to stay: Experiences of Youth Homelessness. London: Centrepont.*) also suggests that the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic have intensified the key drivers for youth homelessness and rough sleeping for example family breakdown and domestic abuse, and there is also a likelihood for this to increase in the financial drivers of youth homelessness due to the cost-of-living crisis. The Youth Homelessness Data bank, which captures youth homelessness data regardless of whether or not they have been assessed, shows a decrease for youth Homelessness in London, despite an overall year-on-year increase of youth Homelessness across the UK. Centrepont's report also highlights that 4 in 10 of the young people spoken to were either in care or care experienced. This suggests that local authorities may not be meeting their duties around providing children's care services, leaving vulnerable children to fall through the safety net. Relationship breakdown, bereavement and leaving care all acted as triggers that contributed to young people sleeping rough. These circumstances are

What actions can be taken to avoid or mitigate any negative impact or to better advance equality and foster good relations?

In order to prevent young people or older people from becoming homeless and resorting to rough sleeping the action plan that accompanies the homelessness strategy will need to:

- Ensure that statutory services and teams across the Community and Children's Services department are aware of situations that can lead young people to homelessness.
- Ensure that all services and teams are able to identify those at risks, leading to support from the necessary service in a timely manner.
- Ensure that all City of London front line staff are able to signpost young people to the right service and information they may need. This includes involving education services and across borough.
- Review the offering of housing to young people and that it is affordable for them to rent.
- Ensure that housing issues faced by older people, and those at risk are identified, and that services take into account housing needs
- Ensure that the complex nature and multiple needs of older homeless are recognised and that older people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness are not marginalised.

Age

consistently identified in research as precursors to young people becoming homeless (Watts, E. E., Johnsen, S., & Sosenko, F. (2015). *Youth Homelessness in the UK: A Review for The OVO Foundation*. Edinburgh: Heriot-Watt University).

Reports differ on their estimation of youth hidden homelessness, the study by Centrepont estimated that as many as 73% of homeless young people had experience of being hidden homeless or sofa-surfing, Clark (2006) (Clarke, A., (2016) *The Prevalence of Rough Sleeping and Sofa Surfing Amongst Young People in the UK. Social Inclusion Volume 4, Issue 4*. Available at:

<https://www.cogitatiopress.com/socialinclusion/article/viewFile/597/597>)

identified in the region of 35% of all young people had experience of sofa-surfing and hidden homelessness and 26% of all young people had slept rough at some point. Whereas reports from Crisis suggest that over 100,000 young people in England, over half of young people homeless, rough sleeping or in unsuitable or temporary accommodation had experience of sofa surfing. (Crisis (2022) *The Homelessness Monitor 2022: England*. London: Crisis. Available at:

https://www.crisis.org.uk/media/246967/the-homelessnessmonitor-england-2022_full-report.pdf)

In March 2021 the Mayor of London launched an initiative to provide specialist accommodation for 18-25 year olds rough sleeping in Greater London. It is estimated that across Greater London 11% of those rough sleeping are between 18 and 25 years old

Figures from DLUHC (*Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), Live Tables on Homelessness*. Available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-homelessness>) show that in England 61,960 16-24 year olds were assessed for prevention duties , which also shows an increase in these assessments of this age group since 2018.

Older people

Research also support that homelessness amongst older people is also increasing, with the Centre for Policy and Aging rapid review (2017) (*CPA-Rapid-Review-Diversity-in-Older-Age-Older-Homeless-People.pdf*) showing that between 2010 and 2015 the number of street homeless older people has more than doubled. The increased health issues experienced by those who are homeless and rough sleeping is likely to have a higher significant impact on those over 50 years of age -

Age

considered older people (*Crane M and Warnes A M (2010) Homelessness among older people and service responses, Reviews in Clinical Gerontology, 20; 354-363*).

Crane (1999) estimated in a review that as many as 10 times the number of older people in England were sleeping rough to those in short-term or long-term temporary accommodations (*Crane M (1999) Understanding older homeless people, Open University Press, Buckingham*). The demographics of homelessness has changed in recent years with older people (aged 60 and above) currently form just 4% of statutory homeless households, and older people (aged 50 and above) make up between 9% and 12% of rough sleepers and homeless-hostel dwellers, despite this it is predicted that with a global aging population that the numbers of older people experiencing homelessness will increase.

CHAIN Data reported since 2005 has shown an increase in older people rough sleeping.

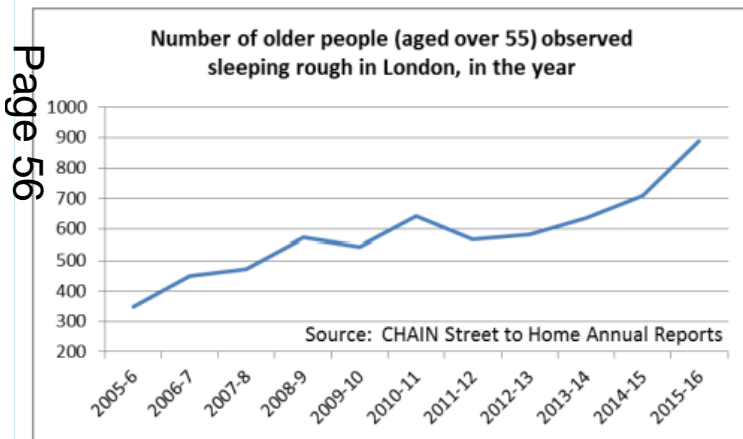


Figure 3

There has been no research carried out to the likelihood of older people to sofa-surf or be hidden homeless. Data is however available for those staying in hostel accommodation, and this suggests that older people have a tendency to remain in hostel accommodations for longer periods. The CPA report estimated this to be approximately 40% of hostel dwellers in London are older people who have been in place for over 5 years.

Age

Again as with young people the drivers for homelessness in older people, is often different from other age demographics. Older women are more likely to cite relationship breakdown as a reason for becoming homeless, while older men associate becoming homeless with job loss and drug and alcohol problems (Crane & Warnes, 2010).

Homeless older people are more likely than other groups to experience social isolation and its associated problems, as well as issues surrounding personal safety and health (Warnes A, Crane M, Whitehead N and Fu R (2003) Homelessness Factfile Sheffield Institute for Studies on Ageing, University of Sheffield; Crisis).

Disability [Double click here to add impact / Hide](#)

[Check box if NOT applicable](#)

Key borough statistics:

Day-to-day activities can be limited by disability or long term illness - In the City of London as a whole, 89% of the residents feel they have no limitations in their activities – this is higher than both in England and Wales (82%) and Greater London (86%). In the areas outside the main housing estates, around 95% of the residents responded that their activities were not limited. Extract from summary of the [2011 Census relating to resident population health for the City of London can be found on our website](#).

The 2011 Census identified that for the City of London's population:

- 4.4% (328) had a disability that limited their day-to-day activities a lot
- 7.1% (520) had a disability that limited their day-to-day activities a little.

Source: 2011 Census: [Long-term health problem or disability, local authorities in England and Wales](#)

NB: These statistics provide general data for these protected characteristics. You need to ensure you have sufficient data about those affected by the proposals – see below under “additional equalities data”.

[Double click here to show borough wide statistics / hide statistics](#)

Disability

Additional Equalities Data (Service level or Corporate) *Include data analysis of the impact of the proposals*

Rough Sleepers

Current research estimates that 1 in 5 working age adults in the UK has a disability as defined by the Equalities Act 2010, and that 50% of households will have experience of disability. This suggests that when it is considered that the highest proportion of the rough sleepers recorded within the Square Mile are working age, that it is very likely that at least 20% will have a disability

The Combined Homelessness and Information Network (CHAIN) analysis from 2021/22 showed that 57% of all recorded rough sleepers, had mental health support needs. This figure went up to 66% of all rough sleepers within the City, although it should be noted that CHAIN does not record any data on the other disability status of rough sleepers.

Disability

Chain Annual Report City of London 2021/22 – Breakdown of support needs among rough sleepers

N.B Total excluding unknown or unassessed used as base for percentages.

Support Needs	No.	%
Alcohol only	15	6%
Drugs only	24	10%
Mental health only	45	19%
Alcohol and drugs	9	4%
Alcohol and mental health	19	8%
Drugs and mental health	46	19%
Alcohol, drugs and mental health	48	20%
All three no	21	9%
All three no, not known or not assessed	13	5%
All three not known or not assessed	132	
Total (excl. not assessed)	240	100%
Total (incl. not assessed)	372	

Note: Total excluding not known or assessed is used as base for percentages.

Statutory homelessness

DLUHC's data for the statutory homelessness for the City of London does not record the disability status of those applying for prevention or relief duties. However a report produced in England, from April-June 2018, of the 58,660 households who were owed a homelessness duty, 27,580 households were identified as having support needs. Of these households 40,110 support needs were identified - an average of 1.5 support needs per household. The most common support need identified was a history of mental health problems which was reported by 12,700 of households with support needs. The second largest group was those with physical ill health or disability, identified by 8,190 households. Other notable groups included those with experience of domestic abuse (5,500 households), those with drug (3,090 households) and alcohol dependency needs (2,510 households).

The number of homeless households in England identified by councils as priority cases because they contain someone who is classed as vulnerable because of their mental illness, has risen from 3,200 in 2010 to 5,470 in 2017.

Of the 83 households registered with the City of London Housing Team in 2018-19 55% are classed as having a disability (11 have a physical disability, 18 have a mental ill health, 4 have learning disabilities and 13 have a long-term illness or condition). There is always a risk that a disability can hinder people from finding and retaining a home.

What is the proposal's impact on the equalities aims? Look for *direct impact* but also evidence of *disproportionate impact* i.e. where a decision affects a protected group more than the general population, including *indirect impact*

A report by the Housing Rights Watch (Homelessness and disabilities: the impact of recent Human Rights developments in Policy and Practice | Housing Rights Watch) identifies that research and data surrounding disability and homelessness as limited, it has been identified that there are substantial overlaps between those

What actions can be taken to avoid or mitigate any negative impact or to better advance equality and foster good relations?

The Homelessness Strategy will need to refer and respond to the findings of the June 2018 report on how to better support rough sleepers. This can be done through considering solutions, such as:

Disability

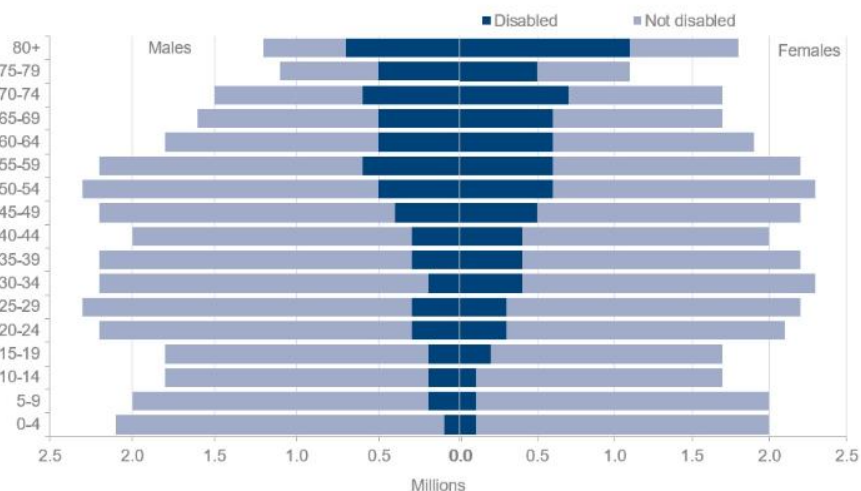
with long-term health conditions and disabilities and those who experience or at high risk of homelessness.

Equality and Human rights report that only 7% of homes offer minimal accessibility features (*housing-and-disabled-people-britains-hidden-crisis-main-report_0.pdf* (equalityhumanrights.com))

Data from the ONS shows that people with disabilities are less likely to own their own home (42.4%), with some specific forms of disability making that much less likely, for example only 4.1% of people with learning disabilities own their own home, and those with mental health conditions and epilepsy also have low proportions of home ownership (17.5% and 25% respectively). Disabled people between the ages on 25-54 years old are more likely to live with their parents, although those between 16-24 years old are less likely to live with their parents. 25% of disabled people between 16 and 64 years old are in rented social housing, compared to 8.2% of non-disabled people.

Issues surrounding disability and homelessness also need to consider the increase in disabilities and long-term health conditions that are associated with older ages.

Population distributions of disabled and non-disabled people by age group.



- New roles like a specialist health professional e.g. nurse practitioner and/or peer worker completes assessments. These will likely be carried out over time, allowing for trust and relationships to form.
- A record that could be shared across organisations, perhaps using technology.
- Partners make a public commitment to a ‘no wrong door’ approach.
- Employ care navigators to co-ordinate care and support around an individual and enable individuals to access, and benefit from health services. Peer advocacy would also be appropriate for some individuals, including those who have moved off the streets but still have high health needs. These roles would follow an individual wherever they go in Greater London to access services.
- Care and support needs should be assessed through a Care Act assessment as it must be assumed that:
 - Physical and/or mental ill-health are associated with rough sleeping, and there are likely needs arising from this ill-health;
 - These needs are likely to prevent an individual sustaining a home and related outcomes e.g., accessing work;
 - The needs and inability to achieve the specified outcomes cause or risk causing a significant impact on their wellbeing.
- ‘Care passport’ for the individual which captures information about experiences, preferences and aspirations (including that gained through the health assessment).
- Enable access to health services (not just health care) in locations in the City of London.
- Learning from the assessment and care navigator approach should inform pathways/transitions between services and across local authority and CCG boundaries.
- Assessments of need should identify needs for mental health and wellbeing services – these should not be limited to the treatment of ill-health but the promotion of good mental health, and opportunities for individuals to benefit from health-promoting activity e.g. physical activity, social interaction etc.
- With Healthwatch, and support from an appropriate organisation e.g. Groundswell, Providence Row, St Mungo’s, complete an exercise with people experiencing rough sleeping/people who have moved on from rough sleeping, to identify what the ideal pathway would be for people experiencing mental ill-health, and enable this work to inform service redesign (including addressing gaps).

Disability

Inappropriate or inadequate accommodations can lead to or exacerbate health conditions, for example damp and mould, heating issues

And research supports that there is a significant tendency for those experiencing homelessness and rough sleeping to have increased incidents of mental health issues.

Issues surround the suitability of accommodations, housing adaptations and access to community support services must be at the forefront of considerations for those with disabilities and health issues.

Rough Sleepers

Research by Action for Children suggests that compared to the general population, individuals who are rough sleeping are far more likely to report mental health issues. A report for the City of London on healthcare for rough sleepers (Revolving Doors Agency, Health care provision for people sleeping rough in the City of London, June 2018) identified the following challenges:

Health needs and preferences of people experiencing rough sleeping are not known or shared between services working with them.

People experiencing rough sleeping in the City of London are likely to be accessing health services elsewhere in Greater London. Although little is known about the circumstances, experiences and effectiveness of treatment received, evidence suggests that experiences and outcomes are unlikely to be positive. It is also unclear if care and support services on offer to housed residents in City of London are accessible to people sleeping rough e.g. those accessed through a Care Act assessment.

- Mental ill-health is a significant issue for people experiencing rough sleeping.

There is no clear pathway to services, and gaps in services, across the spectrum of need, for people in this situation, and those who have moved off the streets e.g., living in the Lodge, who may need continued support to sustain their homes.

- There are many services working across sectors that engage with people experiencing rough sleeping in the City of London, albeit to achieve different and potentially conflicting outcomes. Provision is weighted towards reactive and crisis management rather than planned and preventative. There is more than one meeting of partners to discuss individual cases and it is unclear how they relate, who is accountable for what, or how learning is applied.

- Provide a spot-purchase fund to enable individual's needs to be met in a timely manner, and to buy-in services that are not otherwise available in the City of London. This would include mental health services that are not time-bound.
- The Homelessness strategy secures a shared ambition, better understanding of collective resources, roles and responsibilities, and agreement over how to achieve the best possible outcomes for individuals.
- Implement a single multi-disciplinary team approach to people experiencing rough sleeping.
- Consider how the findings from the three integration work streams (planned care; unplanned care; prevention) apply to people with experience of rough sleeping and chronic homelessness to ensure these factors inform redesign.

As part of the prevention work it is vital that services are able to flag those at risk of potential homelessness, so they receive timely support. For example, if someone is not coping with a mental health illness the health practitioner needs to be well informed as to how that individual can be supported. This could include advocacy between the individual and their work place, or with a private landlord.

Disability

The Housing Act (1996) prioritises housing for disabled people and those with health conditions.
The United Nations Convention on the rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD) has introduced a new benchmark for the provision of adequate housing to disabled people.

Pregnancy and Maternity [Double click here to add impact / Hide](#)

Check box if NOT applicable

Key borough statistics:

Under the theme of population, the [ONS website](#) has a large number of data collections grouped under:

- [Conception and Fertility Rates](#)
- [Live Births and Still Births](#)
- [Maternities](#)

NB: These statistics provide general data for these protected characteristics. You need to ensure you have sufficient data about those affected by the proposals – see below under “additional equalities data”.

[Double click here to show borough wide statistics / hide statistics](#)

Pregnancy and Maternity

Additional Equalities Data (Service level or Corporate) *Include data analysis of the impact of the proposals.*

CHAIN data for rough sleepers in the City of London only identifies a small population of female rough sleeps (10.3%) and no data recorded for pregnancy or women rough sleeping with children.

20% of households owed a prevention duty within the City of London were single parent households of women with children, and a further 20% were single parent households of men with children. Of those owed a relief duty 15% were single parent families, and all of these were households of single women.

The number of homeless families in London has increased by 51% since 2011 and nationally by 15% since 2012. Within the homeless population, the number of couples with dependent children has increased by 73%, and lone parents by 50% (42 000 households). Crisis reports that there has been a 22% drop in the numbers threatened with homelessness of households with families in 2019/2020. It is likely however that this reduction is in some part due to the measures put in place to protect households from homelessness during the Covid-19 pandemic ([the-homelessness-monitor-england-2022_report.pdf \(crisis.org.uk\)](#)). This report also estimates that in April-May 2021 approximately 7% of households in England in the Private Rented Sector were in rent arrears, and that a rise of 4% of temporary accommodation placements is continuing a steady increase which has seen the number of temporary accommodation placements double since 2010.

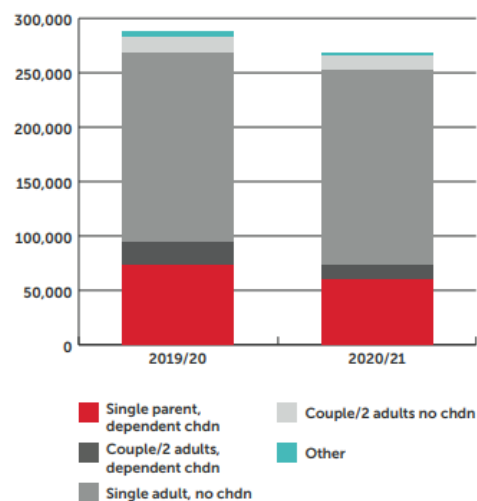
Pregnancy and Maternity

What is the proposal's impact on the equalities aims? Look for *direct impact* but also evidence of *disproportionate impact* i.e. where a decision affects a protected group more than the general population, including *indirect impact*

The limited research on the specific impact of homelessness on babies shows that homeless infants experience a significant decline in general developmental function between 4 and 30 months. Evidence also shows that homelessness and temporary accommodation during pregnancy are associated with an increased risk of preterm birth, low birth weight, poor mental health in infants and children, and developmental delay, and there is anecdotal evidence that the increase stressed experienced during pregnancy and early maternity on those at risk of or experiencing homelessness may also have an adverse effect on foetal and early child development.

Families with children are generally prioritised as they are identified as needing statutory support. The highest reason for households to be accepted as in priority need is due to have dependants (across England there were 38,370 cases accepted due to this reason in 2017). Due to individuals faced with homelessness often fail to be recognised as vulnerable, despite being in danger, particularly single males who are identified as being at the lowest priority need.

(b) All prevention and relief duty applicants: 2020/21 compared with 2019/20



What actions can be taken to avoid or mitigate any negative impact or to better advance equality and foster good relations?

Despite the City of London having low numbers of women with dependants or pregnant, services must still be capable of responding to their needs in a timely manner.

However, as this demographic are generally prioritised as in priority need, the strategy and on-going actions must look at how individuals are also supported. This will be done by ensuring that the duties under the Homelessness Reduction Act (HRA) 2017 are fully undertaken by the City Corporation. The HRA provisions require local housing authorities to provide homelessness advice services to all residents in their area and expands the categories of people who they have to help to find accommodation. Individuals will be better supported through:

- A strengthened duty to provide advisory services.
- An extension to the period during which an applicant considered 'threatened with homelessness' from 28 to 56 days.
- New duties to assess all applicants (**now including those who are not in priority need**) and to take reasonable steps to prevent and relieve homelessness.
- These steps will be set out in a personalised housing plan that, wherever possible, must be agreed between the local authority and the applicant.

Pregnancy and Maternity

Reports from St. Mungo's show that socially excluded and vulnerable women are less likely to engage with services, and have an increased risk of maternal death. Pregnancy is also a period where an individual is more vulnerable from a variety of factors, including an increase risk of abuse and exploitation. Pregnancy has also been shown to either start or escalate domestic abuse. (*Saving Mothers Lives – Reviewing maternal deaths to make motherhood safer: 2006-2008 (2011) British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, vol 118, S.1.*)

A survey of people accessing St Mungo's services found that over 50% of women are mothers and of those 79% have had children taken into care (*St Mungo's. (2014). Rebuilding Shattered Lives. London: St Mungo'*)

Access to health care is frequently cited as a barrier to those homeless and rough sleeping, and therefore during periods of pregnancy and maternity, when access to health care is important, and this should also be in consideration.

Race [Double click here to add impact / Hide](#)

[Check box if NOT applicable](#)

Key Borough Statistics:

Our resident population is predominantly white. The largest minority ethnic groups of children and young people in the area are Asian/Bangladeshi and Mixed – Asian and White. The City has a relatively small Black population, less than London and England and Wales. Children and young people from minority ethnic groups account for 41.71% of all children living in the area, compared with 21.11% nationally. White British residents comprise 57.5% of the total population, followed by White – Other at 19%.

The second largest ethnic group in the resident population is Asian, which totals 12.7% - this group is fairly evenly divided between Asian/Indian at 2.9%; Asian/Bangladeshi at 3.1%; Asian/Chinese at 3.6% and Asian/Other at 2.9%. The City of London has the highest percentage of Chinese people of any local authority in London and the second highest percentage in England and Wales. The City of London has a relatively small Black population comprising 2.6% of residents. This is considerably lower than the Greater London wide percentage of 13.3% and also smaller than the percentage for England and Wales of 3.3%.

[See ONS Census information](#) or [Greater London Authority projections](#)

NB: These statistics provide general data for these protected characteristics. You need to ensure you have sufficient data about those affected by the proposals – see below

[Double click here to show borough wide statistics / hide statistics](#)

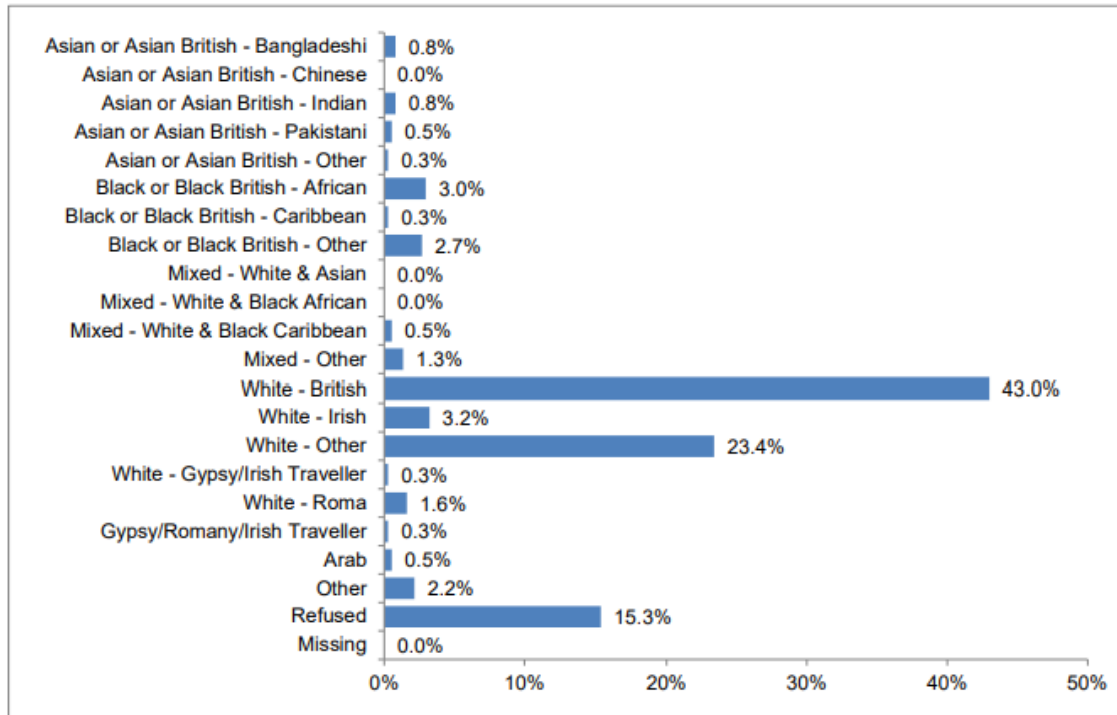
Race

Additional Equalities Data (Service level or Corporate) *Include data analysis of the impact of the proposals*

Rough Sleepers

The majority of the rough sleepers recorded in the Square mile in the 2021/22 CHAIN report were white (69% in total with the largest proportion being White British – 43%)

Race



Base: 372

Statutory Homelessness

The Ethnicity of applicants to statutory relief duties follows a similar pattern to those rough sleeping. (although the data collected is less detailed). Figures from DLUHC state that 60% of applicants for prevention or relief duty were white, 16% other ethnicities and 8% were black, Asian or multiple ethnicities respectively.

What is the proposal's impact on the equalities aims? Look for *direct impact* but also evidence of *disproportionate impact* i.e. where a decision affects a protected group more than the general population, including *indirect impact*

A report from Crisis shows that there is clear evidence that ethnic minority and global majority groups are disproportionately affected by homelessness. Compounded with this is the increased likelihood for working adults from these communities to be in less affordable housing.

What actions can be taken to avoid or mitigate any negative impact or to better advance equality and foster good relations?

The Homelessness Strategy and on-going actions must ensure the awareness and understanding of race issues are factored in to full wrap around support – from prevention to ensuring that no one needs to return to homelessness.

This could be done through:

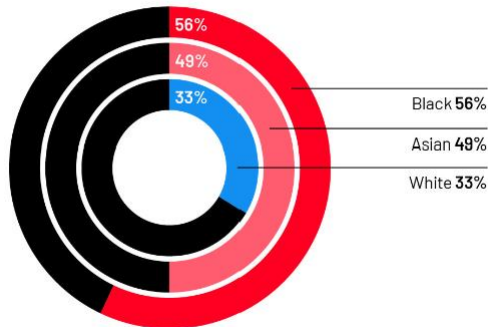
Race

10% of applications for prevent and relief duty in 2020-21 were from black led applicants, which when considered that in England black people make up 3.5% of the population indicates the disproportionality of the risks to homelessness. According to research conducted by Shelter Bangladeshi households are also twice as likely to claim housing benefits than white households. (*The fight for home is a fight against racism - Shelter England*)

The Joseph Rountree Foundation found that disparities in the labour market and inequalities, and wider discrimination, from landlords and services was disproportionately affecting global majority communities.

Anecdotal studies have found that abuse, threats and assaults as hate crimes in hostels also lead to many global majority individuals preferring to rough sleep or sofa-surf than go into hostels, and very little research has been carried out in this arena. Crisis is currently scoping research into race homelessness and housing

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Immigration policies and controls also have an influence in this area, and for those with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) it is even more challenging to access support. Those with NRPF are more likely to skip meals, rely on food banks and face increased debt (*Why are people of colour disproportionately impacted by the housing crisis? | Shelter*). And even research from the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (JCWI) in 2017 found that over half of landlords (51%) were less likely to consider renting to foreign nationals from outside of the EU because of the Right to Rent scheme

- Training for all front-line staff on the challenges faced by different population groups, including prejudice from the private rent market.
- Training for staff on how to support non-UK nationals, including ensuring they access the full range of support they are entitled to.
- Commissioning work into how services can tailor their support to meet the different needs of the population based on nationalities and cultural responses.

Through the national homelessness strategy, a cross-government working group has been set up around supporting non-UK nationals off the streets. There has also been a commitment of £5 million new funding to support non-UK nationals who sleep rough, with an increased focus on rough sleeping in the Controlling Migration Fund.

Race

According to Shelter's report, Shut out: The barriers low-income households face in private renting, racial prejudice within the lettings market is likely to be a factor. Private landlords are able to cherry-pick who they let to and research undertaken by Shelter shows that a high proportion (40% of those making some letting decisions) admit that it is 'natural for prejudices and stereotypes to come into letting decisions'.

The Right to Rent checks, which criminalise landlords who let to people without regularised immigration status, is likely to lead to landlords being wary of letting to anyone who they might perceive as an immigrant. This might be because of their race, name or accent, especially if they are among the 14% of English people without a passport.

Despite the population of City of London rough sleepers and statutory homeless being predominately UK nationals and white, awareness and training of the challenges facing the BAME and non-UK population are essential.

Research has also shown that a multi-agency multi-disciplinary approach is key to responding to issues raised in these communities.

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Religion or Belief [Double click here to add impact / Hide](#)

Check box if NOT applicable

Key borough statistics – sources include:

The ONS website has a number of data collections on [religion and belief](#), grouped under the theme of religion and identity.
[Religion in England and Wales provides a summary of the Census 2011 by ward level](#)

NB: These statistics provide general data for these protected characteristics. You need to ensure you have sufficient data about those affected by the proposals – see below under “additional equalities data”.

Religion or Belief

Additional Equalities Data (Service level or Corporate) *Include data analysis of the impact of the proposals*

Data is not collected on the religion or belief of rough sleepers, those at risk of homelessness or those applying to the City of London for prevention or relief duties. Despite this there are faith groups that provide support for rough sleeper in the City of London

Religion or Belief

What is the proposal's impact on the equalities aims? Look for *direct impact* but also evidence of *disproportionate impact* i.e. where a decision affects a protected group more than the general population, including *indirect impact*

There is little to no research available in the United Kingdom for the direct or indirect impacts of spirituality and belief on incidents or individuals. The Department of Health (2011) identifies belief and spirituality as a broader way in which individuals understand and live their lives, through their core beliefs and values (*Department of Health. 2011. Spiritual Care at the End of Life: a systematic review of the literature.*)

There are anecdotal reports that religion and belief may lead to incidents of homelessness and rough sleeping, for example where differences in family beliefs may lead to family breakdown and tensions leading to homelessness and exclusions.

Also linked to this is the Hate Crime that may be experienced by an individual through perception of faith based on race

In the USA there is wider research into religion, belief and spirituality, as is also the case in the Republic of Ireland. For Ireland research suggested that there was an identifiable need to assess the faith and spirituality of those experience homelessness and rough sleeping, particularly with older people (*Walsh K. 2013. Homelessness, Ageing and Dying*).

Some research also argues that the trauma experienced by those who are homeless and/or rough sleeping may be supported by additional spiritual support (*Hudson B, Flemming K, Shulman C, Candy B. 2016. Challenges to access and provision of palliative care for people who are homeless: a systematic review of qualitative research*). A report from Faith Action makes the recommendation that faith groups are recognised as a source of support for those suffering relationship breakdown or bereavement which may be a driver of homelessness and also identify that faith groups may be more appropriately placed to support immigration issues (*Homelessness AW.indd (faithaction.net)*),

Consideration should be made that faith groups commissioned or providing services are not excluding individuals of different faiths.

What actions can be taken to avoid or mitigate any negative impact or to better advance equality and foster good relations?

The Homelessness Strategy and on-going actions must ensure the awareness and understanding of faith issues are factored in to full wrap around support – from prevention to ensuring that no one needs to return to homelessness.

This could be done through:

- Consideration to training for all front-line staff on the challenges faced by different faith groups, including prejudice that may exist within the faith
- Training for staff on how to support non-UK nationals, including ensuring they access the full range of support they are entitled to.
- Commissioning work that ensures that no individual is excluded on the basis of faith.

Key borough statistics:

At the time of the [2011 Census the usual resident population of the City of London](#) could be broken up into:

- 4,091 males (55.5%)
- 3,284 females (44.5%)

A number of demographics and projections for demographics can be found on the [Greater London Authority website in the London DataStore](#). The site details statistics for the City of London and other London authorities at a ward level:

- [Population projections](#)

NB: These statistics provide general data for these protected characteristics. You need to ensure you have sufficient data about those affected by the proposals – see below under “additional equalities data”.

Double click here to show borough wide statistics / hide statistics

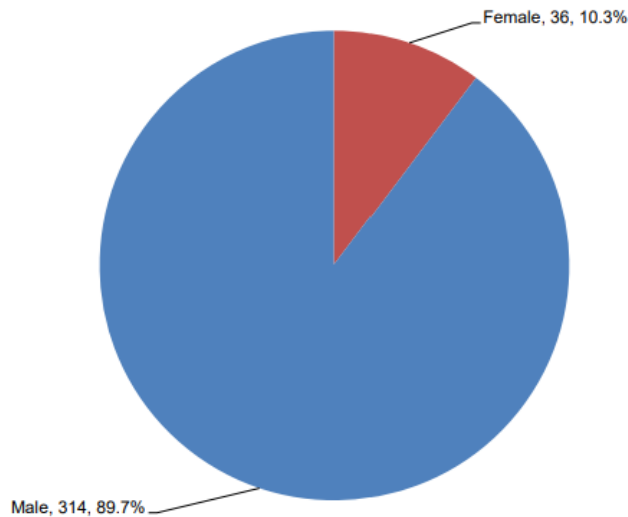
Sex

Additional Equalities Data (Service level or Corporate) *Include data analysis of the impact of the proposals*

Rough Sleepers

The 2021/22 Annual CHAIN report showed that the overwhelming majority of Rough Sleepers in the City were male- 90%. Only 10% of all recorded rough sleepers that year had been female. A spot count carried out across the City of London Identified 4 women sleeping rough.

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Statutory Homelessness

Within the City of London, 60% of households owed a prevention duty were female, with 30% of those owed a relief duty being female.

Sex

What is the proposal's impact on the equalities aims? Look for *direct impact* but also evidence of *disproportionate impact* i.e. where a decision affects a protected group more than the general population, including *indirect impact*

2021 saw a shift in focus for many organisations to identify and create work specifically to support women who experience homelessness and rough sleeping. Especially as it is well known that women are likely to be much harder to identify. There is growing evidence that men and women experience homelessness differently, and the results of gender-neutral services can often lead to women avoiding seeking support.

Women's homelessness makes up the majority of all recorded homelessness in the UK when taking into account families in temporary accommodation, sofa surfing, rough sleeping and 'hidden' forms of homelessness. Women comprise 67% of statutory homeless people, and single mothers make up two-thirds (66%) of all statutory homeless families with children (*Women's Budget Group (2018) Housing and Gender: Briefing from the UK Women's Budget Group on the gender impact of changes in housing policy since 2010. London: Women's Budget Group*)

Women who are homeless are especially vulnerable to violence and experience risk differently to men, subject to stigma, sexual abuse and harassment, robbery, and severe stress, in addition to violence, with the serious impact on physical and mental health that this has, as well as on self-esteem (*Groundswell (2020) Women, homelessness and health: A peer research project. London: Groundswell*).

Research from St Mungo's found that one-third of the women involved said that domestic abuse had contributed to their becoming homeless (*Hutchinson, S., Page, A. and Sample, E. (2014) Rebuilding Shattered Lives. London: St Mungo's*) Furthermore, this research found that many women experiencing homelessness are mothers, although they may not have their children with them currently due to their circumstances, and the high degree of shame and cultural judgement this carries cannot be underestimated.

Homelessness is frequently viewed through the perspective of rough sleeping, yet studies have found that women will turn to sleeping on the streets as a last resort, as they would be at such risk, opting for other precarious and potentially unsafe arrangements, such as long-term sofasurfing, remaining with or returning to

What actions can be taken to avoid or mitigate any negative impact or to better advance equality and foster good relations?

Even if few, actions to support women sleeping rough in the City of London will be part of the strategy and on-going action plan. This can be done through:

- Training for all front-line staff that may come into contact with females suffering from domestic abuse that need help.
- Training for all outreach workers on how to best support any females found sleeping rough in the City of London.

Mitigation of disadvantage among the statutory homeless can be done by ensuring that the duties under the Homelessness Reduction Act (HRA) 2017 are fully undertaken by the City Corporation. The HRA provisions require local housing authorities to provide homelessness advice services to all residents in their area and expands the categories of people who they have to help to find accommodation. Individuals will be better supported through:

- A strengthened duty to provide advisory services.
- An extension to the period during which an applicant considered 'threatened with homelessness' from 28 to 56 days.
- New duties to assess all applicants (**now including those who are not in priority need**) and to take reasonable steps to prevent and relieve homelessness.
- These steps will be set out in a personalised housing plan that, wherever possible, must be agreed between the local authority and the applicant.
- Strengthen understanding of VAWG and the direct and indirect impacts on women.

Sex

dangerous partners, or sexual exploitation in exchange for accommodation
(Bretherton, J. and Maycock, P. (2021) *Women's Homelessness: European Evidence Review*. Brussels: FEANTSA.).

Whilst the majority of people known to the City of London Housing Team are male, this should not prevent further mitigation to ensure that individual males in need are not disadvantaged.

St Martin's have produced a specific report on ending Homelessness for women in London (*Womens-Development-Unit_Womens_Homelessness_Evidence_Report.pdf* (connection-at-stmartins.org.uk))

Sexual Orientation and Gender Reassignment [Double click here to add impact / Hide](#)

[Check box if NOT applicable](#)

Key borough statistics – suggested sources include:

[Sexual Identity in the UK – ONS 2014](#)

[Measuring Sexual Identity – ONS](#)

NB: These statistics provide general data for these protected characteristics. You need to ensure you have sufficient data about those affected by the proposals – see below under “additional equalities data”.

[Double click here to show borough wide statistics / hide statistics](#)

Sexual Orientation and Gender Reassignment

Additional Equalities Data (Service level or Corporate) *Include data analysis of the impact of the proposals*

Rough Sleepers

No data is collected on the sexual orientation of rough sleepers as part of the regular CHAIN reporting.

Statutory Homelessness

48% of the City of London statutory homeless population owed a duty identified as heterosexual. 24% identified as homosexual and the remaining 28% were either characterised as other or preferred not to say.

Sexual Orientation and Gender Reassignment

What is the proposal's impact on the equalities aims? Look for *direct impact* but also evidence of *disproportionate impact* i.e. where a decision affects a protected group more than the general population, including *indirect impact*

Gender identity is not identified in English homelessness statistics, even though AKT's research suggests that within the LGBTQ+ community, it is trans young people who are currently suffering the most. DLUHC confirms to *Inside Housing* that local authorities are instructed to collect data on gender identity. The official question asks people to identify as "male", "female" or "transgender". But most trans people would be unlikely to tick that last option

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, and Queer (LGBTIQ+) people's experiences of homelessness is an under-explored area of housing and homelessness studies, despite this group making up 20–40% of homeless population (Fraser B, Pierse N, Chisholm E, Cook H. *LGBTIQ+ Homelessness: A Review of the Literature. Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2019 Jul 26;16(15):2677*)

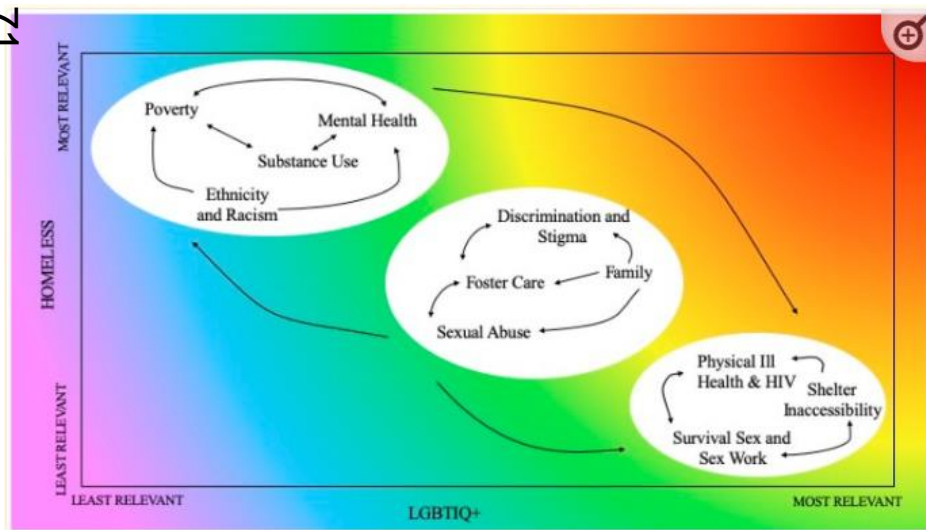
Action for children estimate that 24% of all homeless young people are LGBTQ+

What actions can be taken to avoid or mitigate any negative impact or to better advance equality and foster good relations?

The Homelessness Strategy and on-going actions must ensure that training and awareness is incorporated across all service front line staff on how to effectively support LGBTQ+ people.

Given that it is unclear how many LGBTQ+ people are among the City of London homeless population, it is critical that all front-line staff are aware of specific LGBTQ+ services and that signposting to these services makes up part of the standard package offered.

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Many people in the LGBTQ+ community, do not feel comfortable disclosing their sexual orientation or gender identity when rough sleeping

Sexual Orientation and Gender Reassignment

LGBTIQ+ homeless people have higher rates of substance use when compared to non-LGBTIQ+ homeless people (*Van Leeuwen J.M., Boyle S., Salomonsen-Sautel S., Baker N.D., Garcia T.J., Hoffman A., Hopfer C.J. Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Homeless Youth: An Eight-City Public Health Perspective. Child Welfare. 2005;85:151–170*)

Once in a service, abuse and homophobia, biphobia and/or transphobia can be perpetrated by services themselves, which means some individuals may disengage and leave the service before they are able to start recovery. It is important for projects to understand the needs of LGBTQ+ groups so that they can tailor their provision and ensure their service remains inclusive for those who identify as LGBTQ+. It is also important not to assume that there are no LGBTQ+ services users in a particular service simply because they are not 'out' about their gender identity or sexuality. Given the lack of data across all forms of homelessness in the City of London this is of particular importance.

Young people identifying as LGBTQ+ are more likely to find themselves homeless than their non-LGBTQ+ peers, comprising of 24% of the youth homelessness population across England. Approximately 4% of individuals using services for people experiencing homelessness identify as being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT). In contrast to the evidence for the general cohort of homeless individuals, young people that identify as LGBTQ+ reported that the top three reasons for their homelessness were parental rejection, abuse within the family, and aggression/violence in the family. Prior to entering homelessness services, LGBTQ+ people may have issues relating to substance misuse as well as a higher incidence of mental health needs.

While young LGBTQ+ people are generally able to move on and exit the cycle of homelessness permanently, a 2018/19 study by Shelter found that trans people are at risk of homelessness and housing precarity throughout their lifespan.⁵⁶ Common themes for young trans people are becoming trapped in unsafe relationships upon which their housing is dependent and with no family to turn to, sofa surfing, and experiences of hate crime, domestic abuse and sexual exploitation. The research also indicated that trans people had an overwhelmingly negative view of mainstream services and thus were unlikely to seek out services that could support them. This was due to a perception that they would not have anything to offer them that met their needs

Key borough statistics - sources include:

- [The 2011 Census contain data broken up by local authority, Homelessness statistics - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\) and CHAIN data](#)

NB: These statistics provide general data for these protected characteristics. You need to ensure you have sufficient data about those affected by the proposals – see below under “additional equalities data”.

[Double click here to show borough wide statistics / hide statistics](#)

Marriage and Civil Partnership

Additional Equalities Data (Service level or Corporate) *Include data analysis of the impact of the proposals*

Rough Sleepers

No data is collected on the marital or civil partnership status of rough sleepers as part of the regular CHAIN reporting. Some commissioned service partners have reported challenges when working with couples who are homeless and being able to provide them with appropriate support and accommodation

Statutory Homelessness

DLUHC data on the status of households owed a prevention duty identifies that 40% were single male applicants, and 60% of applications owed a relief duty were also single men. No couples were owed a prevention duty and only 2 couples with dependent children were owed a relief duty

Page 78

In 2016, government figures reported that relationship breakdown was responsible for 1 in every 6 cases of homelessness in England, making it the third most common cause of homelessness in the country. Over the quarter ending March 2018, a violent breakdown of a relationship involving a partner accounted for 12% of homelessness across England and non-violent breakdown of a relationship with a partner accounted for 6% of homelessness- totalling at 18% of the overall homelessness figure.

What is the proposal’s impact on the equalities aims? *Look for **direct impact** but also evidence of **disproportionate impact** i.e. where a decision affects a protected group more than the general population, including **indirect impact***

Rough Sleeping

Rough sleeping couples have become a familiar sight on the streets of many English towns and cities. The BWC report shows that most of these relationships develop among those already homeless, fuelled by a belief among highly vulnerable women that they are safer on the street in a couple, even where a relationship might be controlling, abusive or harmful. (*Brighton Women’s Centre, Couples first? Understanding the needs of rough sleeping couples, October 2018*)

Fewer than 10% of services in England will accept couples together, meaning that the couple may choose not to access support at all rather than be housed separately (*St Mungo’s (2020) Homeless Couples and Relationships Toolkit. London: St Mungo’s*)

What actions can be taken to avoid or mitigate any negative impact or to better advance equality and foster good relations?

The Homelessness strategy and on-going action will support those who are impacted negatively by not being married or in a civil partnership due to the increase in duties through the HRA 2017. The HRA provisions require local housing authorities to provide homelessness advice services to all residents in their area and expands the categories of people who they have to help to find accommodation. Individuals will be better supported through:

- A strengthened duty to provide advisory services.
- An extension to the period during which an applicant considered ‘threatened with homelessness’ from 28 to 56 days.
- New duties to assess all applicants (**now including those who are not in priority need**) and to take reasonable steps to prevent and relieve homelessness.

Marriage and Civil Partnership

In addition much of the support available to women experiencing homelessness who are in an abusive relationship does not take into account the complexities of street-based relationships and instead are focused on her leaving the perpetrator, rather than tackling the other issues she may face. For example, MARACs (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences), focus on a victim of abuse leaving their partner. Yet it can be extremely challenging for her to leave an abusive partner when homeless and may not even be desirable for her.

The existing research on homeless couples has highlighted the need to identify and celebrate more positive relationships using a strengths-based approach in an appropriate and safe way, despite the assumptions and fear that there is domestic abuse occurring in homeless peoples relationships, or that a couple refusing to be seen separately is a sign of controlling and coercive behaviours.

Statutory homelessness

The law on the housing rights of separating couples is complicated. It is based on a mix of housing and family law. It is important to seek advice as every case is different and this can mean that relationship breakdowns account for a high number of people approaching local authorities for help. If the couple were never married or in a civil partnership the options available become more limited.

According to a report by HomelessLink (*Exploring Womens Homelessness Final VA_- Copy.docx*) Statutory homelessness is more gender-balanced. Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996 (alongside subsequent amendments) assigns priority need to households with dependent children. As a result, statutory homelessness is made up of a large number of families most of which include a woman or are female-headed households. Agenda reported that 56% of statutorily homeless households in 2019 were women with dependent children or lone women (*Agenda (2020) Women and girls who are homeless https://weareagenda.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Women-and-girls-who-are-homeless_2020-Agenda-Briefing-2.pdf*). In 2021-22, families with children represented 62.5% of households owed a main housing duty as well as 38% of those owed a prevention duty (*MHCLG (2021) Statutory homelessness Annual Report, England 2020-2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/statutory-homelessness-in-england-financial-year-2020-2>*). Despite sharing information on

- These steps will be set out in a personalised housing plan that, wherever possible, must be agreed between the local authority and the applicant.

However, an outcome of the strategy and on-going actions is to better the prevention package on offer to those who may find themselves homeless. Therefore, it may be necessary to investigate what services the City has on offer to couples, both married and in civil partnerships, that may be dealing with a relationship breakdown. This would also need to be extended to what services are offered people fleeing violent relationships (whether married or in a civil partnership).

Though there may be few couples sleeping rough in the City of London it will be part of the strategy and on-going action plan to support these people through:

- Training for all front-line staff that may come into contact with couples sleeping rough. Such training should include being able to support couples into accommodation should they wish to stay together and also being able to identify whether there is any abuse.
- Ensuring the rough sleeping services commissioned by the City of London are supportive of couples that wish to remain together in seeking accommodation.

Marriage and Civil Partnership

ethnicity and disability, there is no breakdown of households with children by sex in statutory homelessness statistical releases

Domestic abuse services such as refuges are often left out of homelessness statistics but are almost exclusively for adult women and their children. This form of homelessness is therefore often missing from discussions on homelessness
(Bretherton, J. (2017) *Reconsidering Gender in Homelessness*, *European Journal of Homelessness* (11) pp 1-2)

St Mungo's have developed a specific toolkit for working with couples, supported by the City of London Corporation and other local authorities -
StMungos_Homeless_Couples_Toolkit.pdf

Intersectionality [Double click here to add impact / Hide](#)

Check box if NOT applicable

Intersectionality

Additional Equalities Data (Service level or Corporate) *Include data analysis of the impact of the proposals*

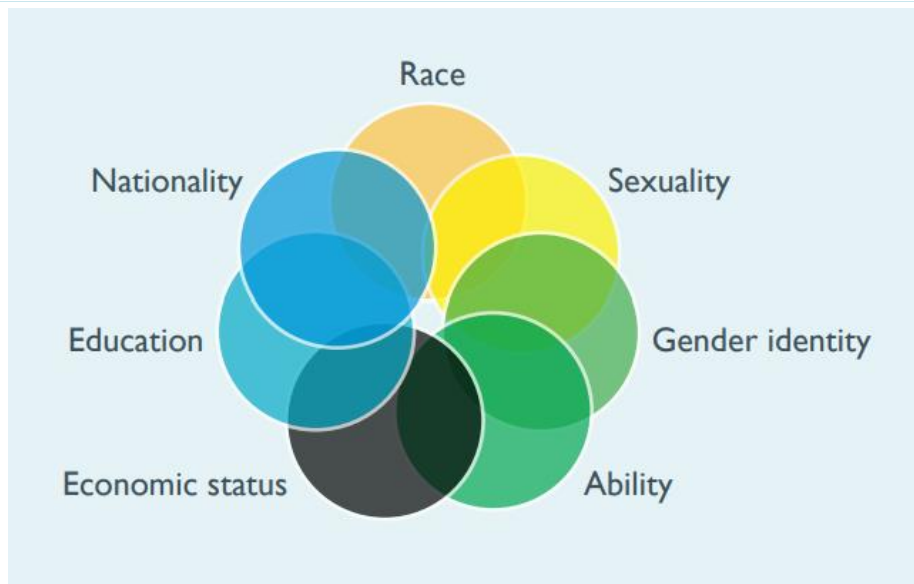
What is the proposal's impact on the equalities aims? *Look for **direct impact** but also evidence of **disproportionate impact** i.e. where a decision affects a protected group more than the general population, including **indirect impact***

Intersectionality of equality should also be considered, as most individuals do not only fall within one protected characteristic.

Viewing homelessness through an intersectional lens needs to occur at all levels, throughout every stage of someone's journey, from data disaggregation and co-production to ensuring a service is truly accessible to all, with policies in place to reduce barriers to access – whether those are physical barriers, language barriers, or by making someone feel unwelcome or unrepresented

What actions can be taken to avoid or mitigate any negative impact or to better advance equality and foster good relations?

Intersectionality



Page 76

65% of LGBTQ+ homeless young people supported by Akt were also people of colour. And research by this organisation also found that a third of LGBTQ+ young people of colour facing homelessness were not aware of any support available to them, compared with 21% of white LGBTQ+

For LGBTQ+ ethnic minorities, the intersection of minority identities increases the odds of adverse experiences through the greater likelihood they will also suffer poverty, discrimination, and victimisation (*Page M. Forgotten Youth: Homeless LGBT Youth of Color and the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act. Northwest. J. Law Soc. Policy. 2017;12:17–45*)

One study on the experiences of Black and minoritised women fleeing abuse in London found that they experienced cycles of victimisation when they tried to seek support and safe accommodation, and discrimination based on their race, immigration status, language skills, class and disability (*Lopes Heimer, R. (2019) A roof, not a home: The housing experiences of Black and minoritised women survivors of gender-based violence in London. London: Latin American Women's Aid*)

Male violence and abuse is an almost universal experience among women experiencing homelessness, either as a direct cause or result of homelessness, and

Intersectionality

there is strong evidence for a considerable connection between experiences of abuse and mental ill-health either as a result of the abuse, or a result of it, leading to increased vulnerability, and potentially further abuse.

Migrant women may also face further vulnerabilities due to insecure immigration status, language barriers or unfamiliarity with UK systems

Additional Impacts on Advancing Equality & Fostering Good Relations [Double click here to add impact / Hide](#)

Check box if NOT applicable

This section seeks to identify what additional steps can be taken to promote these aims or to mitigate any adverse impact. Analysis should be based on the data you have collected above for the protected characteristics covered by these aims. In addition to the sources of information highlighted above – you may also want to consider using:

- Equality monitoring data in relation to take-up and satisfaction of the service

- Equality related employment data where relevant
- Generic or targeted consultation results or research that is available locally, London-wide or nationally
- Complaints and feedback from different groups.

Conclusion and Reporting Guidance

Set out your conclusions below using the EA of the protected characteristics and submit to your Director for approval.

If you have identified any negative impacts, please attach your action plan to the EA which addresses any negative impacts identified when submitting for approval.

If you have identified any positive impacts for any equality groups, please explain how these are in line with the equality aims.

Review your EA and action plan as necessary through the development and at the end of your proposal/project and beyond.

Retain your EA as it may be requested by Members or as an FOI request. As a minimum, refer to any completed EA in background papers on reports, but also include any appropriate references to the EA in the body of the report or as an appendix.

This analysis has concluded that...

The analysis has indicated that the Homelessness Strategy 2023-27 will have a positive impact on vulnerable groups, such as single males without dependants threatened with homelessness, due to the new duties under the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.

The analysis has highlighted that professionals and other front-line staff across health, housing, homelessness and rough sleeping need to understand that age, disability, race, sex, sexual orientation, marital status and intersectionality can all add challenges and nuances to accessing and accepting support services. Following the approval of the Homelessness Strategy 2023-27 an action plan will be developed that takes into consideration equality impact issues throughout. This will be supported by an Implementation Group that will provide scrutiny through the role of the Equalities Manager.

Outcome of analysis - check the one that applies

Outcome 1

No change required where the assessment has not identified any potential for discrimination or adverse impact and all opportunities to advance equality have been taken.

Outcome 2

Adjustments to remove barriers identified by the assessment or to better advance equality. Are you satisfied that the proposed adjustments will remove the barriers identified?

Outcome 3

Continue despite having identified some potential adverse impacts or missed opportunities to advance equality. In this case, the justification should be included in the assessment and should in line with the duty have 'due regard'. For the most important relevant policies, compelling reasons will be needed. You should consider whether there are sufficient plans to reduce the negative impact and/or plans to monitor the actual impact.

Outcome 4

Stop and rethink when an assessment shows actual or potential unlawful discrimination.

Signed off by Director: Clare
Chamberlain, Interim Director

Name: Scott Myers, Strategy & Projects Officer

Date: 17/04/23

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Agenda Item 7

Committee: Community and Children’s Services Committee	Dated: 01/11/2023
Subject: City of London Primary Academy Islington (COLPAI) Residential Building Name	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	9, 10,
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: Judith Finlay, Executive Director of Community and Children’s Services	For Decision
Report authors: Michael Gwyther-Jones, Head of New Developments and Special Projects; and Jack Nuttall, Apprentice Project Manager, Housing and Property Services, Department of Community and Children’s Services	

Summary

The City of London Primary Academy Islington (COLPAI) residential development is a pioneer of the City’s 2019–23 Housing Strategy, delivering 66 much-needed homes for social rent, and three commercial units.

Several submissions and ballots for the building name have been held with residents of the Golden Lane Estate. The most successful eligible name is “Black Raven Court”, derived from the historical Black Raven Court street name which existed in the area during the 1700s.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Endorse the building name “Black Raven Court” to enable the project team to register the building with London Borough of Islington and procure the signage.

Main Report

Background

In May 2022 a naming exercise for the new COLPAI residential development was launched with the help of the project's communications consultant CommComm UK. A letter seeking name suggestions from residents of Golden Lane Estate was issued on 30 May 2022, with the ballot opening from 6 July 2022 until 27 July 2022.

The outcome of this initial ballot was the name "Domingo House" derived from the local Domingo Passage. However, this name was subsequently deemed to be invalid by London Borough of Islington's Naming and Addresses department, due to duplicate name concerns from emergency services.

In September 2022 a second ballot was held for name suggestions. In November 2022 the outcome of the second ballot identified the name "Green Cat Court" as the preferred name put forward by one of the residents of Golden Lane Estate. However, following further consideration it was decided to launch a third ballot, which started on 24 July 2023 and closed on 8 August 2023.

Current Position

1. Following the third ballot, the name "Gabrielle Court" was the most popular name. This derived from Gabrielle Cooper, an esteemed stick maker and member of the Worshipful Company of Fan Makers who it was understood lived in the Golden Lane area during the 1700s.
2. However, following further investigation and scrutiny by the Worshipful Company of Fan Makers, it has been established that the name was Gabriel Cooper and not Gabrielle Cooper.
3. Similar to Domingo House, the name Gabriel was also rejected by London Borough of Islington on the grounds of duplicate names.
4. To move forward with the naming process, it is recommended that the second placed name "Black Raven Court", derived from the historical Black Raven Court street be adopted.
5. The name Black Raven Court has been verified by London Borough of Islington and is acceptable to emergency services.
6. It is also recommended that, for any subsequent ballots with residents for naming of residential buildings, delegated authority be given to the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Community and Children's Services Committee to determine whether the outcome of the ballot can be implemented.

Key Data

7. The results of the third ballot were as follows:
 - Gabrielle Court (Invalid) – 20 votes
 - Black Raven Court – 14 votes
 - Nina Bawden Court – 4 votes

Corporate & Strategic Implications

8. There are no strategic implications directly related to this report.

- Financial implications – N/A
- Resource implications – N/A
- Legal implications – N/A
- Risk implications – N/A
- Equalities implications – Name proposals derived from all backgrounds were considered and, if appropriate, put to ballot with City of London and London Borough of Islington naming constraints.
- Climate implications – N/A
- Security implications – N/A

Conclusion

9. Following consultation and subsequent ballots for the building name, it is recommended that the name Black Raven Court be adopted for the COLPAI residential development.

Appendices

- None

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Agenda Item 8

Committee(s): Police Authority Board – For Decision Community & Children Services – For Decision	Dated: 25 October 2023 1 November 2023
Subject: Educational Campaign Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N/A
If so, how much?	£
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: Judith Finlay, Director of Communities and Children’s Services	For Decision
Report author: Valeria Cadena, Community Safety Manager, Department of Communities and Children’s Services	

Summary

The purpose of this report is to ask member support to launch a Violence Against Women and Girls campaign developed by the City of London Corporation Community Safety Team, alongside London Borough of Hackney and London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

The three local authorities would like to create a long-lasting educational campaign focused on perpetrator negative behaviours and misconceptions that affect women and girls and lead to gender-based violence. The campaign is directed at 18–30-year-old men as well as core consumers of the night-time economy, including both residents and visitors. The campaign aims to spread key messages through a series of communication channels, including digital advertising opportunities and social media.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- Note this report.
- Approve the commissioning of the campaign proposed.

Main Report

Background

1. In May 2023, the City of London Corporation, alongside the London Borough of Hackney and London Borough of Tower Hamlets, identified a need for doing something different to prevent and tackle Violence Against Women and girls (VAWG) in the entertainment/Night Time Economy (NTE) in public spaces. As reports and incidents of VAWG have been on the rise, the three local authorities would like to work together to develop a campaign to tackle misogynistic behaviours and raise awareness of misogynistic unwanted behaviours which can ultimately lead to sexual crimes/incidents.
2. The main objectives and measurables of the campaign are to educate and reduce the range of sexual harassment - from low level incidents to severe crimes; to send a message of a 'Zero tolerance' across the three local authorities in terms of sexual harassment and misogynistic behaviours in the nighttime economy; and to influence positive behaviour change over time.
3. While the campaign aims to directly reach a primary audience of 18-30 year old men and be perpetrator focused, it has a secondary audience, including businesses in and around the nighttime economy, as well as the general public across the local authority (LA) areas, where the LA partners want to increase awareness of what is not acceptable behaviour and how to report incidents.
4. The Mayor of London Sadiq Khan in 2022 Launched the campaign 'Have A Word' calling on men to reflect on our own attitudes and to say something when our friends behave inappropriately towards women. Then again try to expand and reinforce the message in 2023 in his 'Mate' campaign [Say Maaate to a Mate | London City Hall](#).
5. VAWG campaigns in the past have been victim focused, and around support rather than actually name and describe perpetrator behaviours that are not acceptable. That's why the LA partners want to change the message into something they hope it will be more effective and will highlight what behaviours are not acceptable.
6. In September 2023 the new Protection from Sex-based Harassment in Public Act has become a new law, this is a step forward in our journey to make the streets safer for women and girls.

Current Position

7. Engagement has been led by the London Borough of Hackney, which held two working groups with the target audience, groups of males aged 18-30 to identify key messages. These sessions highlighted a lack of understanding of which behaviours are and are not criminal, as well as the meaning of the term 'misogyny'.

8. The campaign will aim to focus on identifying and calling out the behaviours which are and can lead to sexual harassment. This strongly ties into the insight received from our target audience which outlines that many don't actually know these behaviours are a crime and that you can be arrested for them. Consequently, a text-based approach for the artwork will be used which lists these behaviours alongside the campaign.
9. Hackney has started phase 1 of the campaign by advertising the messages tackling themes identified with the tagline #DontCrossTheLine (see appendix). This is proposed to be the title of the wider campaign and the results of the trial in September will feed into the future messaging to be shared with the public in the City and Tower Hamlets in time for the Christmas parties that start in November.
10. The three local authorities wish to ensure longevity for the campaign, so that the digital and physical assets produced can be used beyond the initial launch month. Licensed premises will be requested to continue using and promoting the merchandise and campaign pieces throughout the year, for example using social media assets, posters, beer mats, napkins and entry stamps and in Hackney the enforcement officers will have campaign branding on their uniform.
11. After the initial launch by London Borough of Hackney, it is proposed that the three respective Communication representatives of the partner LAs will come together to evaluate the success and impact of the initial launch before the City of London and London Borough of Tower Hamlets. As the campaign evolves, the messaging will be monitored to understand what is going well and what is not and where there should be changes made.
12. The drive for the City Corporation to work with the two other local authorities reflects an increase in incidents. A tactical assessment by City of London Police in May 2023 identified an increase in the number of Rape offences, Sexual offences, and Domestic Abuse offences.
13. By tackling misogynistic behaviours displayed on a day-to-day basis that are often presumed as normal, we can prevent these developing into sexual crimes and violence against women and girls.

Proposal

14. A campaign to raise awareness of inappropriate behaviours and prevent such behaviours is proposed as set out above. If approved, the City Corporation will work with its LA partners in Hackney and Tower Hamlets to commission the design and delivery of the campaign. The delivery of a campaign in partnership, increases the reach and value that can be achieved by acting in isolation.
15. The campaign will complement the work to deliver advice and services to support victims and reduce the incidence of domestic abuse and violence against women and girls.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

This campaign aims to contribute to our corporate aim to 'contribute to a flourishing society where people are safe and feel safe'. It's also in Line with the City of London Safer City partnership strategic aim to Reduce and prevent Violence against Women and Girls.

Financial implications

The three Local Authorities are contributing £5k towards this campaign, as an initial contribution to start with the design an message. The City of London Community and Childrens services will contribute further £5k to commission the design of the message. The Aldgate Business Crime Reduction Partnership has offered to contribute towards the message to be distributed in their area. If further financial resources are necessary, the Community and Childrens department will be asking for funding resources to the SCP POCA funding.

Resource implications

We are working closely with the City Police and other interested parties such as the Business improvement Districts to amplify the distribution of the message and resources.

Legal implications - none

Risk implications - none

Equalities implications – none

Climate implications - none

Security implications - none

Conclusion

16. VAWG is an ongoing problem. Addressing the underlying behaviours that can lead to offences is part of the wider commitment to eliminate gender based violence.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Hackney Campaign (Phase 1)

Valeria Cadena

Community Safety Manager, Department for Children and Communities.
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Appendix 1

Hackney Campaigning (Phase 1)

Primary messaging: calling out behaviour (QR codes on everything)

Variation 1: General Design

REJECTION IS NORMAL, HARASSMENT IS NOT

UNWANTED

Touching
Kissing
Groping
Grabbing
Following
Verbal aggression

Is a CRIME

Any act that violates dignity or creates an intimidating, hostile, degrading or humiliating environment is an offence.

#dontcrosstheline

Variation 2: Touching Version

REJECTION IS NORMAL, HARASSMENT IS NOT

UNWANTED

Touching, groping or grabbing

Is a CRIME

Touching women anywhere, like their waist, hips, buttock or breast, while they are out enjoying themselves in a club or bar or anywhere without their consent is a crime.

#DONTCROSSTHELINE

Variation 3: Kissing

REJECTION IS NORMAL, HARASSMENT IS NOT

UNWANTED

Kissing
Is a CRIME

When a person has made it clear they are not interested, forcing a kiss or hug on them is a crime.

#DONTCROSSTHELINE

Variation 4: Following

REJECTION IS NORMAL, HARASSMENT IS NOT

UNWANTED

Following

Is a CRIME

To follow someone, when they have made it clear they are not interested, is an offence.

#DONTCROSSTHELINE

Variation 5: Verbal aggression

REJECTION IS NORMAL, HARASSMENT IS NOT

UNWANTED

Verbal aggression

Is a CRIME

Sexual comments, jokes or gestures, using names like 'slut' or 'whore' or pressuring someone to do sexual things or offering them something in exchange for sex is sexual harassment.

#DONTCROSSTHELINE

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