

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Dated:</b>
Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Sub-Committee	28 June 2021
<b>Subject:</b> Quarter 4 2020/21 Performance Report	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	<b>1, 2, 3, 4, 11</b>
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>If so, how much?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Kirsty Lowe, Rough Sleeping Service Manager	

### Summary

This report presents data and a brief narrative related to rough sleeping in the City of London (CoL) during the Quarter 4 (Q4) period, January to March 2020/21, with some reference to yearly comparisons. This report reflects on a decrease in rough sleeping during the period, returning back to particularly low levels seen during the Q2 period, July to September 2020/21. Overall, there has been a reduction in the number of people seen sleeping rough in Q4 compared to Q3, with a decrease in all key areas: those new to rough sleeping in CoL, the number of long-term Living on the Streets (LOS) clients and fewer returning to rough sleeping in the CoL.

### Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

### Main Report

#### Background

1. There is a general trend of decline in rough sleeping in the Square Mile since Q4 2019/20 (January–March). The table below shows the total number of individuals who slept rough in the CoL each quarter, from 2019/20 Q4 at 172 individuals to the most recent Q4 2020/21 at 102.

<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>			
<b>Q4</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
172	140	105	132	102

2. Accommodation outcomes over the previous nine months have been high, with a particularly increased level of emergency short-term accommodation outcomes in Q1.

## **Current Position**

3. There was a decrease of 23% in those seen sleeping rough during Q4 2020/21, decreasing from 132 to 102. This decrease in numbers is in line with neighbouring boroughs Southwark which saw a decrease of 30% and Tower Hamlets which saw a decrease of 26% from Q3 to Q4.
4. There has been a notable decrease in new rough sleepers being seen in the authority area, decreasing from 39 individuals in Q3 to 29 in Q4. This equates to a 29% decrease. On review of the CoL flow percentage compared with Greater London, CoL's 28.4% is significantly lower than the average of Greater London at 52.2%.
5. There has been a notable decrease in individuals returning to sleep rough in the authority area, decreasing from 52 individuals in Q3 to 40 individuals in Q4. This equates to a 26% decrease. Overall, for the year, CoL recorded 211 intermittent rough sleepers, a decrease of 14% annually compared to a 12% decrease in Greater London from 2019/20 to 2020/21.
6. There has been a notable decrease in long-term LOS individuals seen in the authority area, decreasing from 44 individuals in Q3 to 34 in Q4. This equates to a 26% decrease. However, it is worth noting that the overall percentage of long-term LOS from Q3 to Q4 has remained the same at 33%. The CoL LOS percentage is high in comparison to the overall Greater London figure, which is 11%.
7. The number of new rough sleepers seen within the quarter who refused to engage in support has reduced since Q3. In Q3 the City Outreach team recorded 16 individuals seen for the first time across the quarter as an 'unknown' individual. In Q4 there were only five unknown individuals met for the first time, and only a further five unknown clients who had been met in Q4 and in previous quarters. This means that, overall, the number of unknown individuals rough sleeping in the CoL has fallen in Q4. This reduction can be attributed to the persistence of the various outreach services working in the CoL to identify individuals.
8. The same can be said for the LOS figures. In Q4 only one individual moved from the new to rough sleeping group to LOS. However, the long-term LOS figure in Q4 reduced by 10, from 44 in Q3 to 34 in Q4. Each month saw positive outcomes for well-known clients, some of which had multiple agencies involved in providing support and input to their general wellbeing and care.
9. A total of 94 accommodation outcomes are recorded on the Combined Homelessness and Information Network (CHAIN) for Q4. This is an increase on the 72 recorded in the previous quarter.

10. A significant portion of accommodation outcomes in Q4 were recorded as Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) local accommodation. There were 29 SWEP outcomes recorded in Q4 compared to only three in Q3.
11. The remaining Q4 accommodation outcomes were:
- 13 Carter Lane Hostel
  - two Private Rented Scheme
  - four CoL Temporary Accommodation
  - 43 Emergency accommodation (Travelodge)
  - three Pan London Emergency accommodation.
12. Chain data for the year shows that there were almost double the number of accommodation outcomes recorded in 2020/21 at 348 compared to 181 in 2019/20. Of those: 151 stays (43%) were in Local COVID-19 Emergency Accommodation; 68 stays (20%) were in Pan-London COVID-19 Emergency Accommodation; and 42 stays (12%) were in the Assessment Centre.
13. The City Outreach team supported two individuals to be reconnected back to the local authority they have links to.
14. There was an increase in the proportion of UK nationals sleeping rough in the CoL during Q4, from 58% in Q3 to 64% in Q4. The portion of UK nationals has continued to increase each quarter, whereas those from Central & East Europe (CEE) account for 16%, which is 14% less than in the previous quarter. While this may be an indication of a reduction in the number of EU nationals sleeping rough, it is important to note that accommodation outcomes for EU nationals have been high due to the COVID-19 response.
15. Support needs noted within the rough sleeping population has changed slightly from the previous quarter. Last quarter the most prevalent support needs were categorised as dual diagnosis, followed by mental health. Q4 shows that mental health is the most significant support need among the City rough sleeping population, with a 9% increase from last quarter. Further to this, CHAIN data for Q4 shows a lower percentage of individuals with drug, alcohol and dual diagnosis.

## **Proposals**

16. There are no proposals arising from this paper.

## **Options**

17. There are no additional options arising from this paper.

## **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

18. There are no strategic or financial implications directly related to this report
19. Financial implications – N/A

- 20. Resource implications – N/A
- 21. Legal implications – N/A
- 22. Risk implications – N/A
- 23. Equalities implications – N/A
- 24. Climate implications – N/A
- 25. Security implications – N/A
- 26. Climate implications – N/A
- 27. Security implications – N/A

## **Conclusion**

- 28. There was a demonstrable decrease in rough sleeping this past quarter compared to Q3, which is in line with the general trend seen over the past year and in neighbouring boroughs. There has been a marked reduction in unknown and LOS individual rough sleeping in the CoL thanks to the great work being carried out by City Outreach and all other support services in the borough. Accommodation outcomes continue to rise and, annually, this outcome has almost doubled since 2019/20.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – CHAIN reporting dashboard.

## **Kirsty Lowe**

Rough Sleeping Service Manager  
Department of Community and Children's Services

T: 020 7332 3170

E: [kirsty.lowe@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:kirsty.lowe@cityoflondon.gov.uk)