



Information Governance

Postal address:
Coventry City Council
PO Box 15
Coventry
CV1 5RR

www.coventry.gov.uk

E-mail: Phone: 024 7697 5408

Date: 01 April 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: FOI311801087

Thank you for your request for information relating to Accommodation under the 'Everyone In', 'Protect' and 'Protect Plus' initiatives.

Your request and our responses are shown below:

We write to request certain information from your authority's housing department in relation to your authority's accommodation of homeless people under the 'Everyone In', 'Protect' and 'Protect Plus' initiatives since March 2020, as set out in more detail below, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

1. How many people in total has your authority accommodated (for at least one night) under the 'Everyone In', 'Protect' or 'Protect Plus' initiatives since March 2020?

301

2. Of the total number set out in (1) above, how many people are:

(a) in emergency accommodation;

48

(b) in settled accommodation;

61

(c) in supported accommodation;

149

(d) reconnected with family or friends;

8

(e) no longer accommodated, having left accommodation without move on accommodation; 0 or

(f) no longer accommodated, (no destination recorded)?

8

3. Of the total number set out in (1) above, how many people have also been recorded by the authority on the H-CLIC recording system as being owed a prevention or relief duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017?

None owed a prevention duty, 16 owed a relief duty.

4. Regarding those not eligible for housing support under the Housing Act 1996, Part 7:

(a) Following the announcement of Everyone In on 26 March 2020, did your authority accommodate people who were ineligible for housing support under that initiative? If so, how many?

Yes - 90 had NRPF at the point of placement.

(b) Does your authority continue to accommodate people who are ineligible for housing support? If so, how many?

Yes, 16

(c) How many people judged to be, or at risk of, sleeping rough have been turned down for housing support since 26th March 2020 because they were judged to be ineligible for housing support?

No one found sleeping rough with NRPF status has been refused housing support since March 2020.

(d) If your authority no longer, as a matter of policy, accommodates people who are ineligible for housing support, when was that policy decision made and for what reason? Please provide a copy of the decision.

N/A

5. Please provide a copy of your authority's most recent rough sleeping 'move on' plan. This is the plan that was requested to be updated by the end of 2020 by the Secretary of State for Housing and Communities in his announcement of 5 November 2020.

Please see the attached document.

The supply of information in response to a freedom of information request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

Should you wish to make any further requests for information, you may find what you are looking for is already published on the [Council's web site](#) and in particular its FOI/EIR [Disclosure log](#), [Council's Publication Scheme](#), [Open Data](#) and [Facts about Coventry](#).

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance

Annex A

Published Local Authority Rough Sleeping Delivery Plan

Local Authority:	Coventry City Council
Total NSAP Funding Allocated (short-term immediate move on)	£ 782,000
Total RSI Funding Allocated	£ 545,286
Total Cold Weather Funding Allocated	£ 90,000
Total RSAP Funding Allocated (long-term capital and/or revenue for homes)	£ 2,307,543
Total Rough Sleeping Funding Allocated 2020/21	£ 3,724,829

Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy

What is your local area target for reducing rough sleeping during this year, and subsequent years?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To reduce numbers of rough sleepers in hotel accommodation that have been accommodated as part of everyone in (reductions from 80, to 50 to 30 by end of March 2021)• To reduce Rough sleeping year on year• To eliminate rough sleeping in 2022 – Key aim of Coventry's Rough Sleeping Strategy (2019-2024)
Do you have a published Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy? If so, please provide a link
https://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/download/5771/rough_sleeping_strategy

Key Objectives

End rough sleeping

What is the overall plan for ending rough sleeping in your local authority?
<p><i>Please provide a brief strategic overview of your ambitions for achieving a reduction in rough sleeping in your local authority and demonstrate how the NSAP work links to this.</i></p> <p><i>This may include, but is not limited to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Plans for continued delivery of other rough sleeping programmes (e.g. RSI, Housing First etc.),</i>• <i>Specific measures to target key vulnerable groups (care leavers, young people, those with substance misuse problems).</i>• <i>Efforts to combat flow to the streets</i>• <i>The issue of wider rough sleeping in your area</i>

Our current RSI provision has allowed us to support large numbers of rough sleepers using a case management approach, working with partners to find pathways away from homelessness into accommodation for many, including some of our long-term rough sleepers.

This has included Housing First, Rapid Rehousing, Homelessness Reduction Act duties, hostel/supported accommodation provision and utilising the private rental sector.

Everyone In, and subsequent working practices have resulted in us accommodating a total of 268 individuals since Everyone In in March 2020. Of these we have secured longer term accommodation for 150 individuals by housing them in a range of different accommodation providers across the city.

We are currently accommodating 73 individuals, who all have clear plans regarding what is required in order to get them, moved onto alternative accommodation. 37 of these people currently have no recourse to public funds and therefore securing immigration status is a key piece of work that is being undertaken, when appropriate.

We have some specialist roles within our Outreach Team including a specialist substance misuse worker, a complex women navigator and a NRPF navigator. We have successfully rehomed under 25's in specialist units with St Basils, with Housing First or in private rentals and supported 20 people to gain and maintain opiate substitute scripts.

We will:

- Continue existing delivery, including outreach responding to Streetlink reports so that we can manage flow and engage with those coming on to the streets
- Continue to assess those who are found and accommodate when necessary
- Allocate to a worker to manage their case and find a pathway into new settled accommodation
- Continue targeting the small number of long-term entrenched rough sleepers who have never engaged or accepted support, particularly through the Winter months
- Create more 'assessment rooms' with The Salvation Army to provide more opportunities for rough sleepers to engage with us and find solutions to their homelessness
- Provide new assessment units/ pods providing a safe space that isn't a hostel and allows the team to engage and support those rough sleeping

We continue to see a new flow of individuals onto the streets for a variety of reasons and this includes new rough sleepers but also some former rough sleepers who have returned to rough sleeping. A number of actions with-in our strategy are focussed on prevention and stemming the flow onto the streets.

Entrenched Rough Sleeping Cohort (Target Priority Group/Target Thousand Group)

How do you plan to move your long-term and repeat rough sleepers into sustainable accommodation with support?

With our rough sleepers under one roof currently we can engage with them in a space and at a time that suits them and are therefore able to better engage with them and understand the barriers.

We will:

- Continue this work, while reducing the numbers supported each quarter through to April 2021, to understand what type of accommodation will best suit them and work with them to prepare them for this; seeking the right place for them and continually seeking opportunities from our partners who manage
- Work holistically, with specialist navigators supporting more entrenched or repeat rough sleepers to manage other areas of their life, like substance misuse, poor health, mental health, etc.
- Use the new opportunities to target the very hard to engage and do what we can to understand their barriers and encourage them to try a night indoors in one of the new pods, for example.
- Continue to actively seek bed spaces in supported settings so that our more complex individuals are living somewhere with the necessary support that allows them to make positive changes in their life
- Outreach to engage new or repeat rough sleepers and give them an emergency placement and focussed support to move on

Shorter-term/Interim Accommodation & Immediate Support Plan

How do you plan to move people currently in Emergency Accommodation into longer term provision to prevent a return to rough sleeping?

- By actively seeking placements with hostels and agencies providing supported accommodation we have been able to move people into accommodation that best meets their need.
- By providing more of these bed spaces we will be able to support more individuals into their own supported accommodation.
- Working closely with partners to help them move those who are less complex out of supported and into private rentals, freeing up opportunities and beds for those with more complex needs in hostels and supported environments.
- Supporting those who are eligible through the Housing Options assessment process to gain accommodation and to continue to support the most complex once housed.
- Supporting all individuals who have NRPF to seek suitable solutions, alongside specialist partners offering legal advice
- Implement short term measures funded through NSAP
 - Reconfigure Salvation Army rough sleeper beds
 - Develop Pods through Langar Aid
 - Implemented hotel provision

Longer-term Move-on Accommodation Plan

How do you plan to deliver and design longer term accommodation and support options to tackle rough sleeping?

Rough Sleeper flats

Purchase through partner (Citizen) 20 bed flats for use for rough sleepers – rents to be social rents – Funding for purchasing properties provided via capital investment programme

Outcome/ Justification

Our target for Housing First in Coventry is to accommodate up to 92 rough sleepers – we have been working with RSLs to achieve this however due to stock availability and locations it has been difficult to secure accommodation in areas people want to live.

By purchasing up to 20 units we would have a guaranteed supply of properties for those on the Housing First programme as well as new RS in areas they want to live.

Winter Planning

What are the current winter plans for your local authority?

This may include

- *How you will bring forward Covid secure accommodation this winter and what is the possible role of night shelters in your plans?*
- *How do you plan to utilise your Cold Weather Fund Allocation (if applicable)?*

With no dormitory style shelters this year we will:

- Continue to provide hotel accommodation for rough sleepers so we can engage them in meaningful work to help them move on
- Provide up to 8 rooms at the local Salvation Army for SWEP; meeting and assessing individuals the next morning to engage them into opportunities and emergency or supported accommodation
- Utilise the hotel capacity in the hotel that we are using for Everyone In
- We are finalising our plans for our cold weather fund application currently

Please delete as appropriate: DRAFT

- *Please indicate whether this is a draft of your published LA Rough Sleeping Delivery Plan or the final version.*