

Homelessness Update

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Main Points for consideration



Rough Sleepers:

Southeast England has seen a 19% increase of rough sleepers between 2023/24. The 2024 autumn physical count across the NFDC area reported 1 rough sleeper, who was known and has since been housed.

Rough sleeping across NFDC area continues to reduce from a high in 2019 with year-on-year reductions:

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
22	17	6	4	2	1

NFDC area currently has 1 verified rough sleeper who is being supported and checked on.

Rough Sleeping Initiative extended for a further 12 months from March 2025 with the team refocussed and refreshed as an agile, experienced team of Homelessness Navigators.

Emergency Accommodation:

Considerable demand on our Homelessness Services remains due to family evictions and private landlords issuing S.21 notices. People in Emergency Accommodation:

26 single & 34 families as at 07/03/2025. This fluctuates daily.

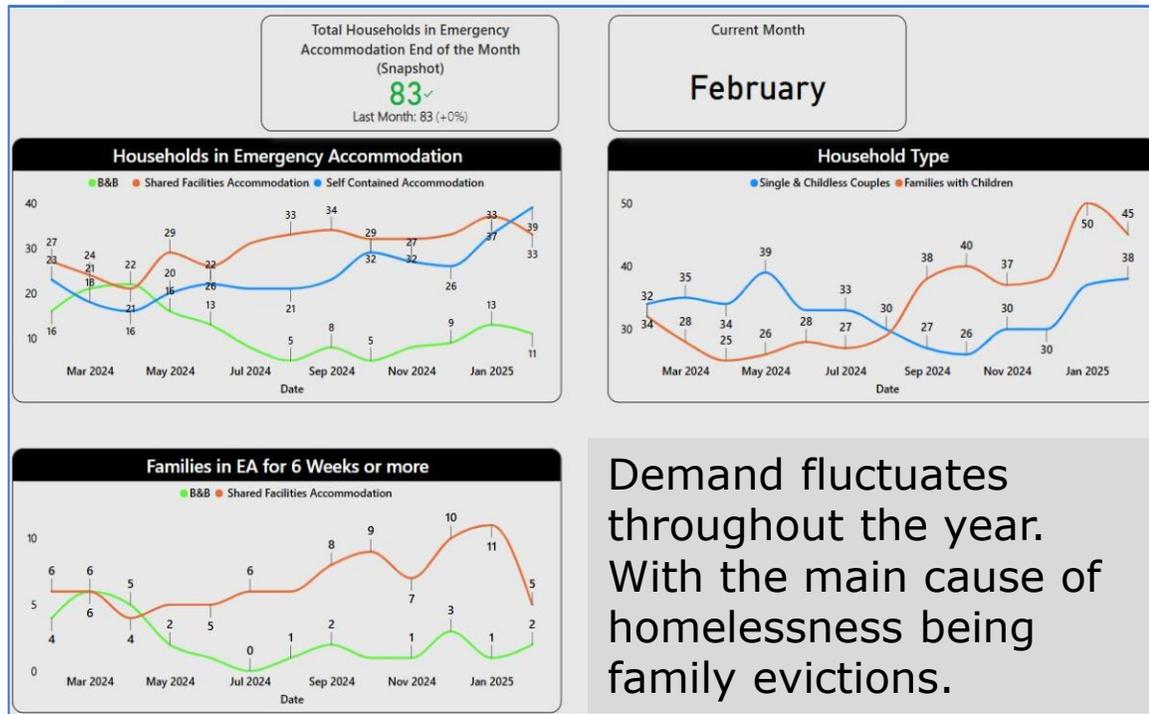
Budget:

Pressure remains on our spending but currently within expected profile budget at around £1.2 million.

Implications/Issues to Consider



Emergency Accommodation



Ukraine and Afghan families

- 66 households in private rented sector
- LAHF x 10 properties = 31 guests
- 53 Hosts with 94 guests.
- We have a trickle of new people coming through.

Implications/Issues to Consider



Rising Rents in Private sector

- When facing homelessness residents can experience affordability issues when accessing new landlords. The average monthly private rent in New Forest in January was £1,195, which is a 7.4% increase from the previous year. Many people claim Universal Credit to assist in rent payments and this support is vital:
- *Local Housing Allowance rates:*
- Shared rate: £425.01 per month
- One bedroom: £700.02 per month
- Two bedrooms: £875.00 per month
- Three bedrooms: £1,075.01 per month

Ukraine and Afghan families

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Implications/Issues to Consider



Housing Register Demand



General updates

- Renewed Homelessness Strategy work to begin in the next month with an external consultant being used to research and identify gaps in services and develop our priorities.
- Homesearch application renewals in place to ensure accurate information and ensure correct banding.