

North Northamptonshire Rough Sleeping Service

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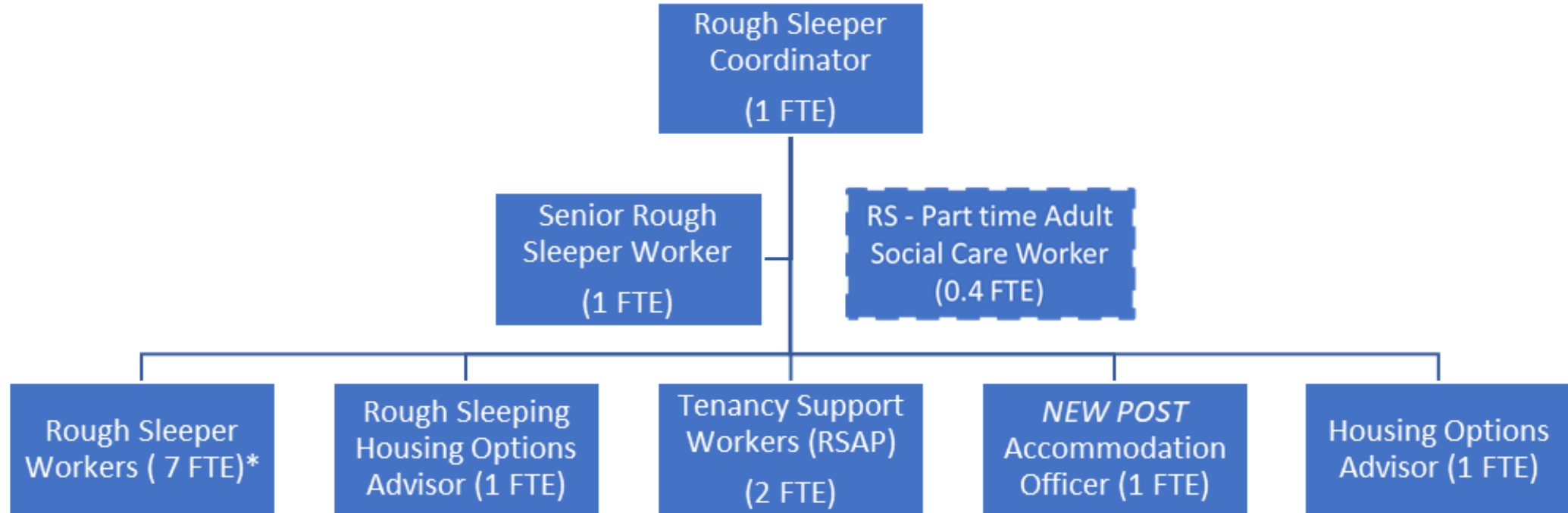


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Rough Sleeping Service

- The Council's Rough Sleeping Service is currently funded via the Department for Levelling up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) Rough Sleeping Initiative Grant (RSI).
- In May 2022, the Council successfully secured just over £2 million worth of grant funding for the Rough Sleeping Service across North Northants for the period of 2022/23 through to 2024/25 **with funding only currently in place up to the end of March 2025.**
- The Rough Sleeping Team offer a seamless single service across North Northamptonshire with a clear approach to tackle, prevent and reduce rough sleeping locally through both assertive outreach and in-reach support to those accommodated in supported housing and discretionary accommodation provisions.
- They have a good presence locally and have built strong relationships with partners to ensure the right treatment and support can be accessed and have a dedicated phone line to receive reports of rough sleeping which are responded to quickly during office hours.

Rough Sleeping Team – RSI funded posts



- *2 Corby based, 2 Kettering based, 2 covering Wellingborough and East Northants area, 1 working across the area to support accommodation placements and move on
- Rough sleeping Accommodation Programme (RSAP) – 10 x 1 bed self-contained accommodation for rough sleepers

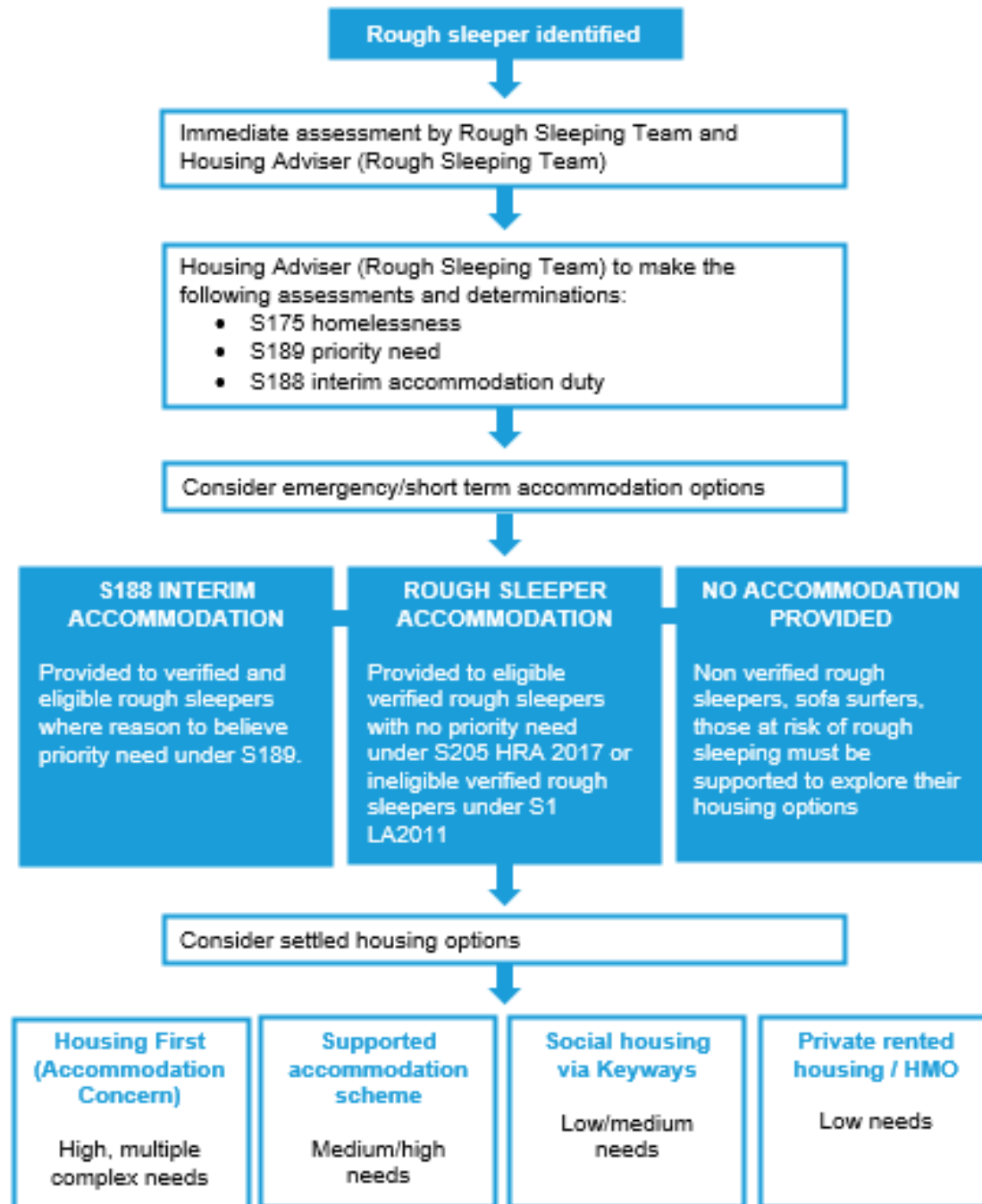
Community presence

Working within the local community is a great opportunity for the team to engage with individuals affected by rough sleeping and provide advice and guidance alongside key partners. The team attend various drop-in sessions across the area including:

- **Daylight Centre, Wellingborough** - Rough sleeping Team surgery – Tuesday and Thursday (10.00am-11.30am) and Street Meals in the evenings
- **St Edward's Soup Kitchen, Kettering** - Rough Sleeping Team attend every Tuesday (3.00pm-5.00pm)
- **Big Blue Bus, Corby** - Rough Sleeping Team attend every Friday (7.00pm-9.00pm)
- **Teen Challenge, Wellingborough** - Drop in for rough sleepers - Rough Sleeping Team attend every Wednesday (1.30pm-3.30pm)
- **HOST day**- Twice a year health event with a range of partners (Change Grow Live, Citizens Advice, Mental Health, Housing Options, Rough Sleeping Team, Hepatitis C and Sexual Health Teams, Stop Smoking service, GP and Supported Accommodation representatives)
- **Wraparound support** – held at CGL Corby – 10.30am-12.30am – S2S, bridge, Rough Sleeping Team

Rough sleeping pathway

- The flow chart provides an overview of the pathway followed for each rough sleeper supported by the team.
- Following this process ensures that everyone is assessed in line with the homelessness legislation and are supported off the streets where possible



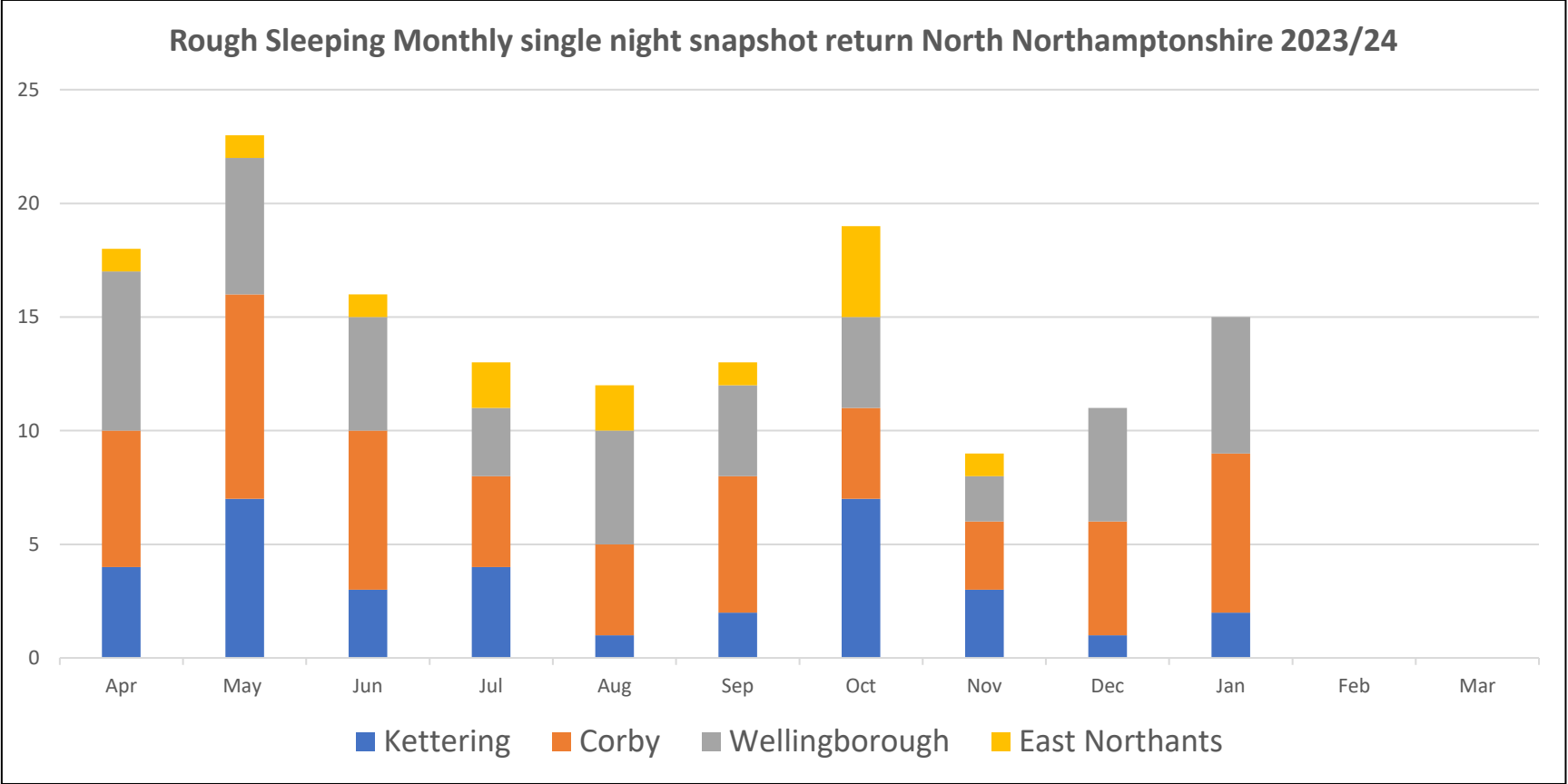
‘Everyone In’ initiative

- In March 2020, the Government asked all local authorities to accommodate all known rough sleepers under the “Everyone In” initiative in self-contained accommodation to help protect them and the wider public from the risks of Covid-19.
- We have continued as part of the local rough sleeping offer to accommodate rough sleepers on a discretionary basis (Rough Sleeper Accommodation), including those who would not normally be entitled to assistance under the homelessness legislation.
- The Rough Sleeping Team provide intensive support to rough sleepers accommodated in Rough Sleeper Accommodation and ensure support plans are created based on the individuals needs and goals that they wish to achieve to help them to move on and prevent a return to rough sleeping.
- The team work in partnership with a variety of services to support individuals including, Bridge, Change Grow Live, Mental Health Services, Adult Social Care, Probation, Home Office, and Department for Work and Pensions.

Supported accommodation

- The support needs of people found sleeping rough are becoming increasingly complex, and the team must ensure that the right move on pathway is secured to meet individuals needs and to prevent a return to rough sleeping.
- Our most entrenched rough sleepers with complex support needs are referred into our RSI funded accommodation managed by Accommodation Concern, and our NGU (Never Give Up) properties which are funded by Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme (RSAP) another grant the Council successfully secured grant funding for to deliver 10 x 1 bed properties and 2 x Tenancy Support Workers.
- These properties are all one bed dispersed units that are led on the Housing First principles. The individuals are provided with up to 7 hours per week support from their dedicated support workers.

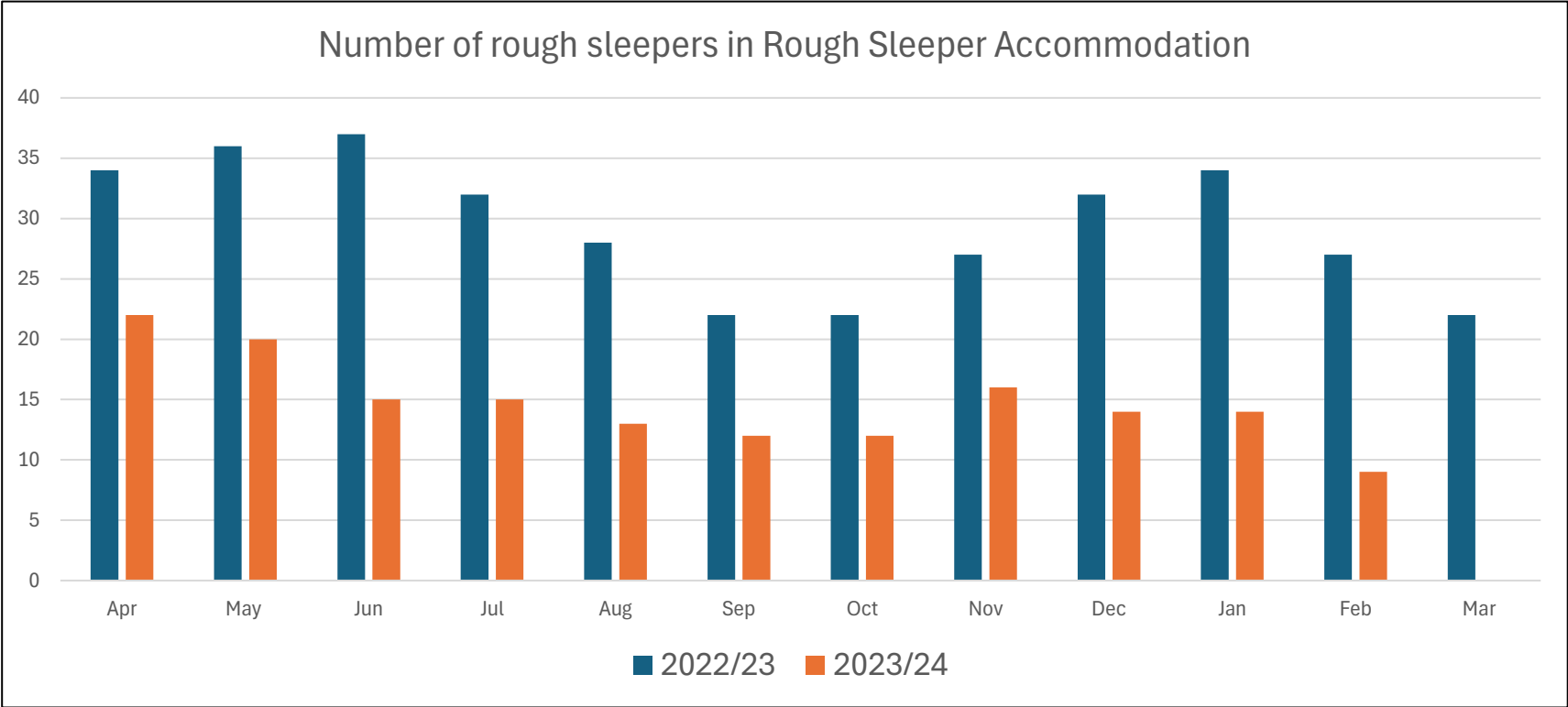
Rough sleeping data – single night



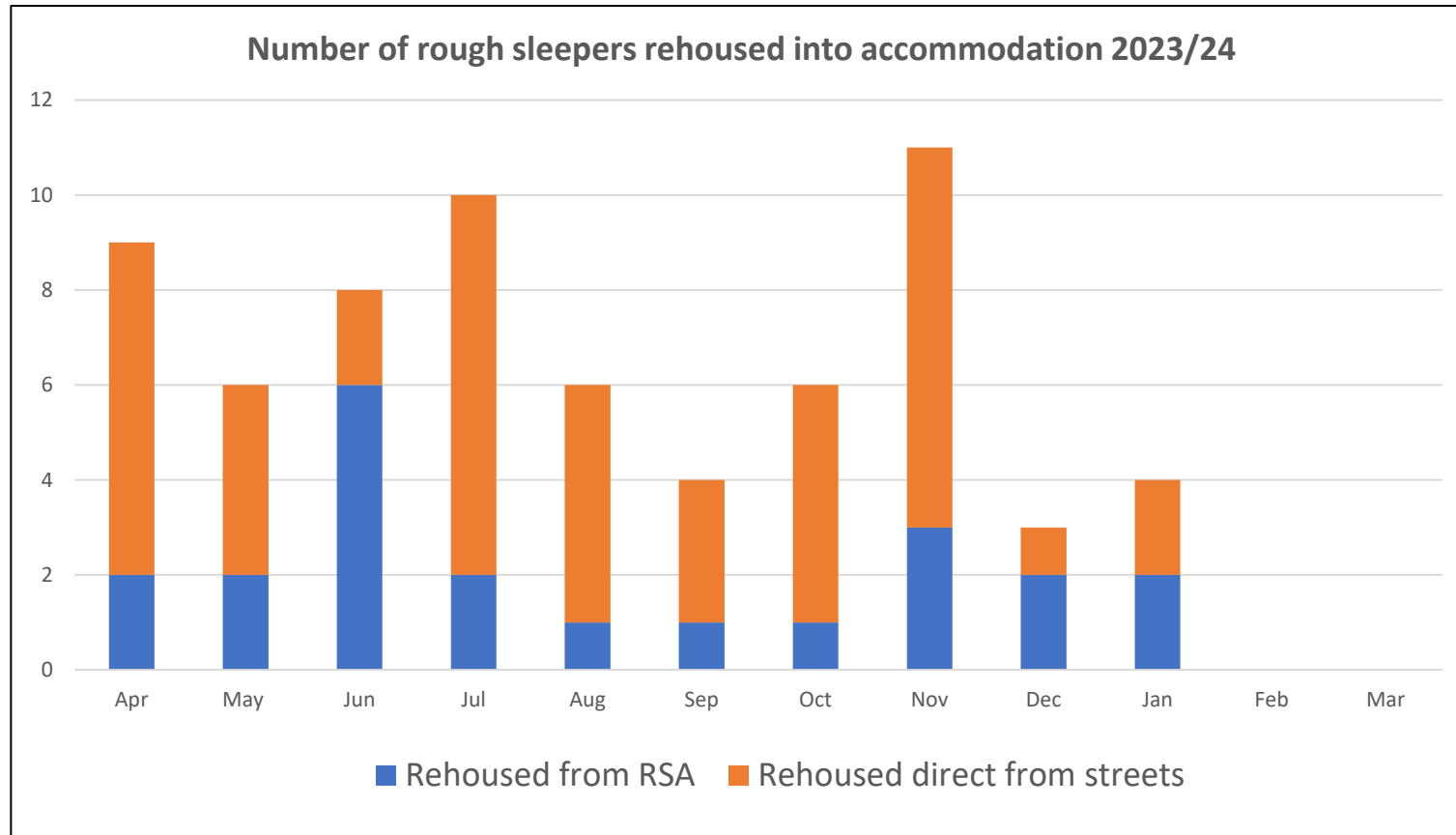
Snapshot at end of month 2023/24	P1b - Number <u>new</u> to sleeping rough on single night in NN
Apr 23	2
May 23	5
Jun 23	2
Jul 23	4
Aug 23	4
Sep 23	7
Oct 23	5
Nov 23	2
Dec 23	2
Jan 24	4
Feb 24	N/A
Mar 24	N/A



Rough sleeping data - accommodated



Rough sleeping data – move on



Snapshot at end of month 2023/24	Cumulative number of rough sleepers rehoused into accommodation
Apr 23	9
May 23	15
Jun 23	23
Jul 23	33
Aug 23	39
Sep 23	43
Oct 23	49
Nov 23	60
Dec 23	63
Jan 24	67

Rough sleeping data – long term and returners

Month 2023/24	B1- Total number of people experiencing long term rough sleeping
Apr 23	13
May 23	15
Jun 23	11
Jul 23	13
Aug 23	11
Sep 23	9
Oct 23	6
Nov 23	5
Dec 23	4
Jan 24	5
Feb 24	N/A
Mar 24	N/A

Month 2023/24	NR1- Total number of people returning to rough sleeping
Apr 23	4
May 23	13
Jun 23	6
Jul 23	5
Aug 23	5
Sep 23	4
Oct 23	8
Nov 23	7
Dec 23	6
Jan 24	10
Feb 24	N/A
Mar 24	N/A



SWEP overview

What is SWEP?

- Severe Weather Emergency Protocol that the Council has in place is a humanitarian obligation (not a legal duty) to prevent deaths on the streets during periods of severe weather
- The policy is available on the website, link provided below for reference
- It provides an extra safety net to those rough sleepers already being supported by or known to the Rough Sleeping Team and allows the team to target resources
- SWEP increases opportunities to engage with entrenched rough sleepers and more difficult to reach groups and provides benefits of extended provision

What is severe weather?

- No single definition, no longer a 3-night rule and is a common-sense approach
- Extreme cold (zero degrees Celsius or below), 'feels like' temperatures, wind chill/speed, snow/ice under foot, heavy rainfall
- Heat – provision of water and sun cream to those known to be sleeping rough and not ready to accept the help and support to leave the streets, and shelter to be made available in extreme heat

Triggering of SWEP

The Rough Sleeping Team coordinate SWEP as they have strong intelligence and support rough sleepers all year round. When triggering SWEP, they will:

1. Circulate SWEP activation email to internal teams and elected members, external partner organisations and services (including voluntary, community and faith groups).
2. Mobilise the Rough Sleeping Team to ensure known rough sleepers are provided with a further opportunity to be provided with accommodation in light of the severe weather spell and additional outreach is conducted by the team along with responding to any referrals from the public or partners
3. Arrange SWEP Accommodation and record placements and undertake daily communication with internal teams including out of hours staff in relation to all intelligence and placements
4. Ensure those placed in SWEP accommodation are helped to access support and a full housing assessment is completed under homelessness legislation and welfare checks are completed
5. Keep the Met Office weather forecast under daily review and cease SWEP when appropriate and notify relevant persons accordingly when the period of severe weather ends and support rough sleepers to move on from SWEP accommodation

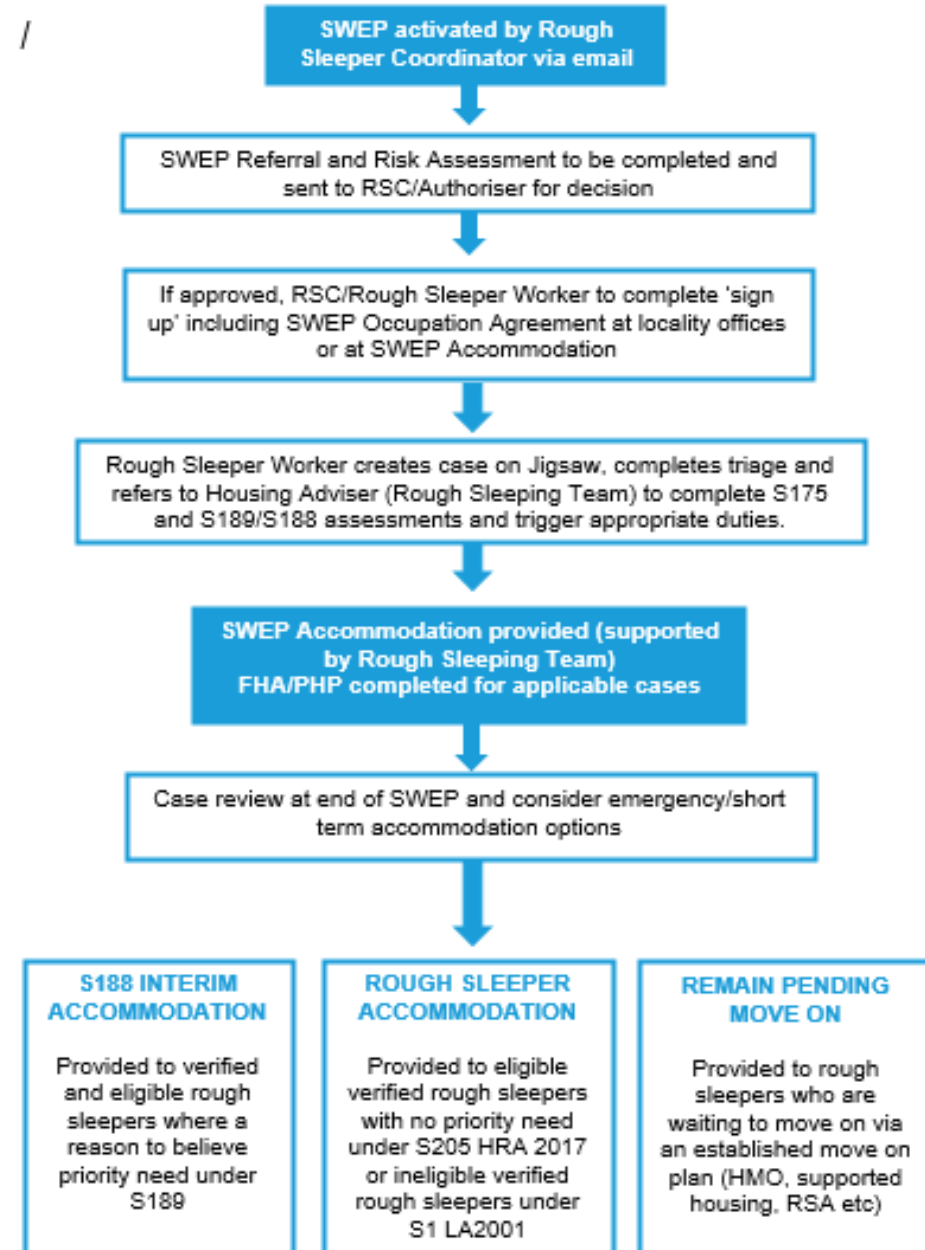
Eligibility for SWEP

- Genuine, verified rough sleepers and not for everyone that has a housing need
- Regardless of eligibility under homelessness legislation, priority need and intentional homelessness (and local connection)
- No access to safe and suitable indoor shelter
- Agree to the assistance offered by the Council and support providers
- Abide by rules of SWEP Accommodation provider
- Not be too high a risk, where that risk cannot be appropriately managed in accommodation



SWEP process

- The flow chart provides an overview of the process followed for each rough sleeper supported by the team during SWEP.
- Risk assessments and occupation agreements must be completed to ensure safety is always maintained.
- SWEP is then used as an opportunity to engage with individuals and identify health welfare and support needs and accommodation solutions.
- DLUHC support the approach taken by NNC and agree the focus should be on who most needs to be safeguarded during this period.



SWEP data

SWEP dates in 2022/23	Number of nights activated	Total number of individuals accommodated	Number not known to Rough Sleeping Team	Number of refusals of SWEP accommodation
7 th December 2022	12 nights	37	17	9
16 th January 2023	9 nights	21	10	7
6 th February 2023	2 nights	11	4	9
7 TH March 2023	6 nights	18	7	7

SWEP dates in 2023/24	Number of nights activated	Total number of individuals accommodated	Number not known to Rough Sleeping Team	Number of refusals of SWEP accommodation
29 th November 2023	5 nights	8	4	8
8 th January 2024	2 nights	12	3	6
15 th January 2024	4 nights	15	5	5



Out of hours

- While the Rough Sleeping Team conduct street outreach sessions late at night, and early in the morning, **they are not contactable out of hours**
- The Council's out of hours service will respond to any reports of rough sleeping (including during SWEP) out side of office hours (evenings and weekends)
- The team's hotline and email address is monitored during office hours only



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Any questions

Rough Sleeping Team contacts:

Phone: 01536 464630

Email: roughsleepingteam@northnorthants.gov.uk

Evenings and weekends – out of hours number 0300 126 3000



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