

Under Performing Indicator Recovery Plan

2022/23 Quarter Two

Indicator Name

Households in temporary accommodation.

Current Performance

Target: 70

Performance: 72

Historic Performance

| Column1 | 16/17 | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | 20/21 | 21/22 | 22/23 |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Q1 | | 41 | 47 | 52 | 54 | 105 | 67 |
| Q2 | 42 | 47 | 67 | 53 | 97 | 91 | |
| Q3 | 35 | 41 | 57 | 73 | 94 | 79 | |
| Q4 | 43 | 47 | 52 | 53 | 95 | 71 | |

Reasons for Current Under Performance

The Council has a statutory duty to provide interim accommodation to any person and their household, where there is a reason to believe they are eligible, homeless and priority need, pending enquiries and whilst reason able steps are taken to relieve the applicant and their household of homelessness.

The Council also has a statutory duty to provide temporary accommodation to any person who at the end of their 56-day Relief Duty is found to be eligible, homelessness, in priority need and not intentionally homeless.

The number of households provided with interim and temporary accommodation can be influenced by the ability to both prevent and relieve homelessness, and critically the

ability to offer both private rented sector and social housing accommodation to applicants.

There are significant demands on social housing within the borough with lengthy waiting times for applicants to receive any offer of social housing. Access to the private rented sector is extremely challenging on both an affordability level and supply level to applicants who have sought housing assistance. Both these factors have a major impact on the number of households provided with interim and temporary accommodation.

There is presently a national and regional increase in the usage of temporary accommodation. This is also as a result of a number of factors including:

- Covid recovery, in particular the Courts catching up on possession claims following the ban on evictions and ending of financial support schemes
- Cost of living crisis, energy crisis and significant rises to inflation
- Additional pressures as a result of the resettlement programmes to assist nationals of Afghanistan and the Ukraine

It should also be noted that there is a significant difference between the types of interim & temporary accommodation provision. Accommodation owned or leased by the Council has a minimal cost to the Council, however the usage of B&B style and nightly paid accommodation is at a significant cost to the Council. The breakdown of this accommodation is:

| Accommodation Type | Number of households accommodated |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Accommodation owned/leased by the Council | 64 |
| B&B style/Nightly paid accommodation | 8 |

Of the 8 households accommodated in B&B style or nightly paid accommodation, this includes 3 verified rough sleepers. The cost of these placements is covered through specific grant funding from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to support rough sleepers away from the streets into accommodation, as part of the commitment to eliminate rough sleeping.

A further 2 of the households in B&B style/nightly paid accommodation are homeless households who have fled their homes as a result of domestic abuse or violence, and are not safe to remain in the borough.

Actions to Improve Under Performance

(or reasons why this is not necessary)

There are no actions required to improve under performance. Of the 72 households provided with temporary accommodation, 15 of these are rough sleepers in temporary accommodation provided under discretionary powers, as part of the Rough Sleeper Initiative and commitment to ending rough sleeping, for which they is specific grant funding to provide emergency accommodation.

Rough Sleepers accommodated under discretionary powers have only been recorded in the measure of temporary accommodation since March 2020. Therefore, excluding these placements as a more correct comparator to historic performance, would mean the performance is well within the target, with only 57 households provided with temporary accommodation under homelessness duties.