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Update from MHCLG

Kent Housing Options Group

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Overview

- **Funding**
- **RSI Year 3**
- **Cold Weather**
- **What is the data telling us about the Act so far**
- **Events**



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Funding announcement

- 2020-21 funding allocations for the Homelessness Reduction Grant (which provides an uplift on new burdens funding provided to implement the Homelessness Reduction Act), and the Flexible Homelessness Support
- For LAs that had been successful for PRS Access funding last year, this has also been rolled in to this total (amount dependant on outcomes for 19/20)
- LAs received confirmation of their allocation at the beginning of January
- Grant will be processed at the beginning of the new financial year. Local Authorities can expect to receive this payment by the end of April 2020.
- The Homeless Prevention Grant is received through the overall LA Financial Settlement



Kent's Allocations

2020/21				
LA	FHSG	New Burdens	HPG	Total
Ashford	283,309	159,320	50,142	492,771
Canterbury	327,653	183,675	325,050	836,378
Dartford	362,679	137,140	106,169	605,988
Dover	231,902	172,245	166,200	570,347
Folkestone & Hythe	256,190	180,650	113,150	549,990
Gravesham	104,964	151,379	99,189	355,532
Maidstone	407,496	186,373	101,981	695,850
Medway	894,843	441,932	150,543	1,487,318
Sevenoaks	264,630	99,413	92,209	456,252
Swale	280,201	267,210	92,209	639,620
Thanet	415,641	295,093	127,110	837,844
Tonbridge and Malling	189,227	115,625	57,380	362,232
Tunbridge Wells	246,373	88,722	88,021	423,116



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RSI Year 3 Funding

- This new fund, to cover the 2020/21 financial year, combines the **Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI)** and **Rapid Rehousing Pathway (RRP)** into a single, streamlined funding programme.
- All proposals coproduced with the RSI team, HAST or both
- We were seeking proposals that take an ambitious approach to;
 - Prevention
 - Recovery
 - Specialist roles & provision
 - Partnership & cross regional bids
- Deadline was 6th and almost 250 proposals received.
- Currently going through the moderation process
- Announcement on successful proposals expected in the next month.



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Cold Weather Funding

- In September, we announced £10m for the Cold Weather Fund to enhance provision for rough sleepers during the winter period.
- Government has now committed an extra £3 million to the fund to support as many people as possible this winter. In order to maximise impact, Cold Weather Fund resources should be targeted at those clients who are currently unlikely to take up interventions this winter.
- Applications remain open until 31 March 2020 for all local authorities in England. For an application form please contact roughsleepinginitiative@communities.gov.uk and liaise with
- Your HAST/RSI Adviser will be happy to discuss your bid.
- Please note, in order to facilitate rapid mobilisation, we are providing funding on an underwritten basis. Authorities will be able to implement programmes as soon as the funding amount has been approved, and invoice MHCLG for amounts spent within the agreed envelope.
- This is not to fund SWEP activities – but if you are adding to SWEP e.g. by providing accommodation irrespective of the temperature over winter then that could be considered



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The first year of data



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<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-homelessness>



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Initial assessments

England, April 2018 to March 2019

Select local authority by clicking on the box below and using the drop-down button below:

ENGLAND

	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Total number of households assessed ^{1,2}	68,260	74,330	68,960	74,860
Total households assessed as owed a duty	61,630	68,040	63,620	70,430

Households assessed and duty owed:	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Threatened with homelessness - Prevention duty owed	35,150	37,990	34,190	37,690
Of which: due to service of valid Section 21 Notice	5,140	4,970	4,040	4,840
Homeless - Relief duty owed	26,480	30,050	29,430	32,740
Not threatened with homelessness within 56 days - no duty owed	6,640	6,290	5,340	4,430

Reason for loss of last settled home for households owed duty:	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate	13,820	17,170	15,620	18,150
End of private rented tenancy - assured shorthold	14,910	14,890	12,900	14,700
Domestic abuse	4,820	6,210	5,560	6,000
Non-violent relationship breakdown with partner	4,350	5,640	5,170	5,770
End of social rented tenancy	2,480	3,040	3,380	3,580
Eviction from supported housing	1,650	1,970	2,180	2,400
End of private rented tenancy - not assured shorthold	1,300	1,530	1,420	1,550
Other violence or harassment	1,150	1,520	1,350	1,380
Left institution with no accommodation available	690	1,180	1,280	1,310
Required to leave accommodation provided by Home Office as asylum support	630	920	850	880
Other reasons / not known ⁶	15,830	13,970	13,910	14,710

Accommodation at time of application for those owed duty:	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Private rented sector	18,490	19,060	16,780	18,820
Living with family	14,380	16,490	14,740	16,910
No fixed abode ³	6,770	7,470	7,540	8,360
Social rented sector	5,690	6,660	6,950	7,660
Living with friends	5,920	6,640	6,210	6,850

Total households with support need(s) owed a duty

Total number of support needs for those owed a duty⁵

Support needs of households owed a prevention or relief duty⁷:

- History of mental health problems
- Physical ill health and disability
- At risk of / has experienced domestic abuse
- Offending history
- History of repeat homelessness
- Drug dependency needs
- History of rough sleeping
- Alcohol dependency needs
- Learning disability
- Young person aged 18-25 years requiring support to manage independently
- Access to education, employment or training
- At risk of / has experienced abuse (non-domestic abuse)
- At risk of / has experienced sexual abuse / exploitation
- Old age
- Care leaver aged 21+ years
- Care leaver aged 18-20 years
- Young person aged 16-17 years
- Young parent requiring support to manage independently
- Former asylum seeker
- Served in HM Forces

Age of main applicants owed a prevention or relief duty⁷:

- 16-17
- 18-24



Homelessness Reduction Act: Early Indications

We have published H-Clic experimental data for April 2018 to March 2019. The data indicates positive changes have already been achieved through implementation of the Act

In the first year of the HRA local authorities accepted a new duty to 263,720 households



58% (58,290) of prevention duties ended due to accommodation being secured for 6 months or more – 35% of these households were helped to retain existing accommodation

20% (19,790) of prevention duties ended because the household became homeless



43% (40,010) of relief duties ended due to accommodation being secured for 6 months or more

32% (30,040) of relief duties ended after 56 days in which homelessness had not been relieved. These households would be assessed under a main duty.

Main duty acceptances were 29,530 - less than half of acceptances during the year preceding the introduction of the HRA

Non-priority homeless made on 9,440 applications – also a big reduction on the same preceding period (18,460)



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Homelessness Reduction Act: Who is Getting Help

Households accepted for a homelessness prevention or relief duty

Lone parent & children	26%
Couple & children	8%
3+ adults & children	1%
Single male	36%
Single female	23%
Couple	5%
3+ adults no children	1%
Families	35%
Single people	65%

Single people at risk of rough sleeping are now accessing support. By embedding HRA, duty to refer and early intervention we can reduce future rough sleeping

Historically single men have had least access to homelessness support - but since HRA commencement 36% of households owed a duty are single men.

Amongst all accepted households the most reported support needs are

- History of mental health problems – 55,640
- Physical ill health and disability – 34,720
- At risk of/have experienced domestic abuse –23,430
- Offending history –18,790



- The latest HCLIC statistics have been published for April to June 2019. Some of the headlines:
- Between April to June 2019 68,170 households were initially assessed as threatened with homelessness or homeless and owed a prevention or relief duty. Nearly two thirds of these were single households.
- For the 33,800 households whose prevention duty ended during the quarter 57% were successfully prevented from homelessness, whereas 40% of relief duties ended with accommodation being secured for 6 months or more.
- The number of households in temporary accommodation was up 4.5% compared to June 2018, but a lower proportion were families with children.
- Families with children in B&B reduced by 18.8%, and the number in B&B beyond the statutory 6-week limit reduced by 19.8%.



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Events – HAST Roadshow

- HAST roadshow events - in response to enthusiasm for events we've held to share information on experiences around work on homelessness since the HRA, we are planning to hold a series of such events over the spring.
- We have spaced these out across the country and over a roughly 6-week period, to try to ensure that as many of you can attend as possible
- We hope to see representatives from each local authority during the course of the events, as it will be a great opportunity to share learning and expertise.
- You will be receiving a separate invitation but the link to the booking form was sent out in the HAST update email



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Events – HAST Roadshow

- For quick reference, the locations and dates are as follows:

Oxford - 22nd January

Cambridge - 4th February

London (Camden) - 11th February

London (Camden) - 25th February

London (Southwark) - 4th March

Exeter - 5th March

York – TBC

Sheffield – TBC

Preston – TBC

Coventry - TBC



Events – St Basils

- MHCLG and the Department for Education have funded St Basils to update their 3 young people's housing and support pathway documents during 2019:
 - The Positive Pathway
 - The Care Leaver Accommodation and Support Framework
 - The Youth Justice Accommodation Pathway
- The events are free of charge to local authorities and open to Housing Options lead officers as well as those in Children's Services
- Please make your colleagues in Children's Services aware of these events - the events are aimed at assessment and safeguarding leads, leaving care managers, Youth Offending Service leads, Early Help leads and also commissioners of supported housing



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Thank you!

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