

Everyone In: Where are they now?

The need for a roadmap out of street homelessness in England

In February 2021, we submitted Freedom of Information (FOI) requests to every local authority in England to get more detailed information about where the people that had been in emergency accommodation as part of Everyone In are now. We found that:

- More than three-quarters (77%) of those initially accommodated had not moved into settled accommodation, equating to an estimated 29,000 people.
- 23% of the total – and almost 1 in 3 (30%) of those not moved into settled accommodation – were no longer accommodated. This equates to an estimated 8,800 people.
- Over a fifth (22%) of people supported by Everyone In were still in emergency accommodation, including hostels and B&Bs.

To protect lives, both during the on-going pandemic and beyond, Government must learn lessons from 'Everyone In', including a thorough review of outcomes for those helped. They must set out a roadmap to end rough sleeping – to **protect** everyone at risk of the streets, **prevent** homelessness by tackling COVID-arrears and inadequate benefits, and **build** a new generation of social housing aimed at preventing homelessness.

The ambition to get 'everyone in' during the pandemic showed us just how much can be achieved with the right political will and investment. According to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), **37,000 people have been helped** under the scheme.

Though not perfect, Everyone In represents a watershed moment in this country's history. It has shown us that we have the power to end rough sleeping for good and we have an opportunity like never before. We can't afford to squander it by failing to move people into permanent accommodation.

As the latest round of COVID-19 restrictions lift, it's crucial that everyone supported under the emergency measures are helped into suitable permanent accommodation. It's also vital that people newly facing the streets are helped.

How many people have been helped into a settled home?

According to our February 2021 FOI, **fewer than 1 in 4 (23%) people had been moved into settled accommodation** of at least six months.

This means that **more than three-quarters (77%) of those initially accommodated have not moved into settled accommodation**, equating to an estimated 29,000 people. This included:



Almost 1 in 5 (18%) people moved into ‘supported accommodation’. This equates to an estimated 6,600 people. While this can include settled accommodation (like Housing First), it can mean an insecure licence to occupy a room in a supported hostel (effectively temporary accommodation with no right to move on).

1 in 20 (5%) re-connected with friends or family. This usually means they’re sofa surfing, with no right to stay or move on.

Almost 1 in 4 (23%) of the total – and 1 in 3 (30%) of those not moved into settled accommodation – were no longer accommodated, either having left accommodation without move on accommodation or with no destination recorded. This equates to an estimated 8,800 people. Some of these people are likely to have returned to the streets.

The remaining people were **still in emergency accommodation (22% of the total),** including hostels and B&Bs.

Outcomes of Everyone In	Percentage of people	Estimated number of people ¹
No longer accommodated ²	23%	8,795
Settled accommodation	23%	8,579
Emergency accommodation	22%	8,316
Supported accommodated	18%	6,634
Reconnected with friends/family	5%	1,719
Other/not known	9%	3,387
Total not moved into settled accommodation ³	77%	28,851

Table 1 The outcomes of Everyone In, Protect and Protect Plus, Source: Shelter analysis of FOI results and MHCLG data, Base: 234 (74%) local authorities who provided a substantive response to our Feb 2021 FOI

These figures are particularly shocking in the context of the finding that **three-quarters (75%) of people supported by Everyone In were owed a homelessness duty.** This means that the local authority had a duty to help secure accommodation of at least six months for these

¹ We calculated the estimated number of people by applying the percentages to the total number of people accommodated by Everyone In as at January 2021. MHCLG, Ad hoc analyses and statistics, [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) emergency accommodation survey data: January 2021](#)

² This includes people who were no longer accommodated due to having left accommodation without move on accommodation or with no destination recorded.

³ This combines those who were still in emergency accommodation, those who have moved into supported accommodation (which can be short-term), those who have reconnected with friends or family, those who are no longer being accommodated and those whose outcome is not known. We have assumed that all those with unknown outcomes are not in settled accommodation.



people. However, we know that local authorities are already struggling to relieve homelessness with **51% of homeless households not being helped to secure a home**.⁴

Invest in suitable, settled homes for street homeless people

Homelessness can only be ended if people have access to suitable, settled homes, which they can sustain. Without a settled, self-contained home it is very difficult for people to start to address physical and mental health problems, including addictions. Having a settled home makes it much easier to register for a GP and be referred to specialist health services, including vaccinations, and support services.

We applaud MHCLG's recognition of this in the £433m Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme. But the ambition should be to deliver new permanent and affordable homes, rather than transitional two-year tenancies, which leave people with a sense of continued insecurity. The road back from street homelessness can be very tough and take a long time. For people with on-going support needs, the new homes delivered must be designed to meet these.

A roadmap to end rough sleeping by 2024

We're pleased that MHCLG is currently working on its strategy to meet the Government's manifesto pledge to end rough sleeping by 2024. **We stand in support of their commitment.**

To protect lives, both during the on-going pandemic and beyond, this strategy must learn lessons from 'Everyone In', including a thorough review of outcomes for those helped. They must set out a roadmap to end rough sleeping and include the following points:

Protect: MHCLG must issue robust guidance to local authorities that they should offer emergency accommodation and adequate support to everyone at risk of the streets and provide local authorities with adequate, dedicated funding to continue to procure emergency accommodation and support for people at risk of the streets.

Prevent: MHCLG must make a dedicated COVID-arrears fund available to prevent homelessness. Local Housing Allowance (LHA) must no longer be frozen and the current rates reviewed given the sharp increase in private renters now claiming. The benefit cap must also be scrapped. People under 35 who need to move on from homeless accommodation, must more easily be able to apply for their right to an exemption from the Shared Accommodation Rate of LHA.

Build: MHCLG should continue to fund Housing First pilots, with a view to the roll-out of capital funding for new-build Housing First schemes. The Government should invest in a new generation of social housing aimed at preventing homelessness.

We hope our research will help inform the Government's new homelessness strategy.

⁴ This refers to the percentage of households who have not been helped to find a settled home of at least six months at the end of the relief duty. We have included households for whom the 56 days have elapsed, households the council have lost contact with and households who refused the final accommodation. MHCLG, Live tables on homelessness, [Statutory homelessness live tables](#), Table R1.

