

# Exeter's rough sleeping services — overview and progress update

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## Objectives for this session

- Overview of Rough Sleeping in Exeter and the main challenges
- Grant funding for rough sleeping services
- New services – Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI)
- New services – Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme (RSAP)
- Future plans

## Rough Sleeping Definition

Rough sleepers are defined as follows:

*People sleeping rough, about to bed down (sitting on/in or standing next to their bedding) or actually bedded down in the open air (such as on the street, in tents, doorways, parks, bus shelters or encampments). People in buildings or other places not designed for habitation (such as stairwells, barns, sheds, car parks, cars, derelict boats, stations or "bashes" which are makeshift shelters often comprised of cardboard boxes).*

The definition does **not** include:

- people in hostels or shelters
- people in campsites or other sites used for recreational purposes or organised protest
- squatters
- travellers

## Regular Mainstream Services

- **Julian House** - Assertive Homelessness Outreach Team; Prison Resettlement Service
- **Bournemouth Churches Housing Association (BCHA)** – Accommodation - Gabriel House (45); Morwenna (13); Move-on Accommodation (6); The Junction (5). Housing First support
- **Exeter City Community Trust (ECCT)** – Womens only move-on accommodation and 55 units of supported accommodation
- **St Petrocks** – Support, advice & survival services; private rental & support scheme; supported housing
- **Sanctuary Supported Living** – DCC Funded Support – Accommodation – Howell Road (11); Support – The Crescent; Floating Support
- **Young Devon** – Accommodation & support
- **Colab** – Vol & Stat services hub
- **YMCA**, Westward, SAHA, Keychange, Foyer & other RSLs
- Soup Kitchens & faith group network

## Role of the Outreach Service

- Small team of outreach workers with a Senior Caseworker and a Service Development Manager delivered by Julian House
- Team based out of Exeter CoLab so access with GP service and other key partners
- The team carry out 3 sessions of Early Morning Outreach each week; City Centre; Out skirts and Targeted
- Key activities of the outreach service include:-
  - Verifying and Engagement with Rough Sleepers where they are bedded down
  - Following up Streetlink reports
  - Signposting to key services
  - Support to access Health Care Services
  - Initial assessment – why people are on the streets, where are they from, what do they need
  - Support to reconnect for Rough Sleepers with accommodation in other areas
  - Assessment and referrals into accommodation projects
- Key intel to assist completion of weekly/monthly/annual returns to the MHCLG
- Assertive approach – not to give up and never allow someone to make the street their home
- Help to identify gaps in service provision

## Rough Sleeping and Single Homelessness in Exeter (29<sup>th</sup> November 2022)

- Rough sleepers (verified) = **22**
- Rough sleepers (& at risk of RS) in short term emergency placements = **19**
- No. additional Single Homeless in ECC temporary accommodation = **87**
- No in Adult 18+ homelessness supported housing = **255**
- No in Young Persons homelessness supported housing = **134**

**517 individuals needing medium / longer term housing offers\***

\*DOESN'T INCLUDE SOFA SURFER OR OTHER HIDDEN HOMELESS

## Rough Sleeping in Exeter

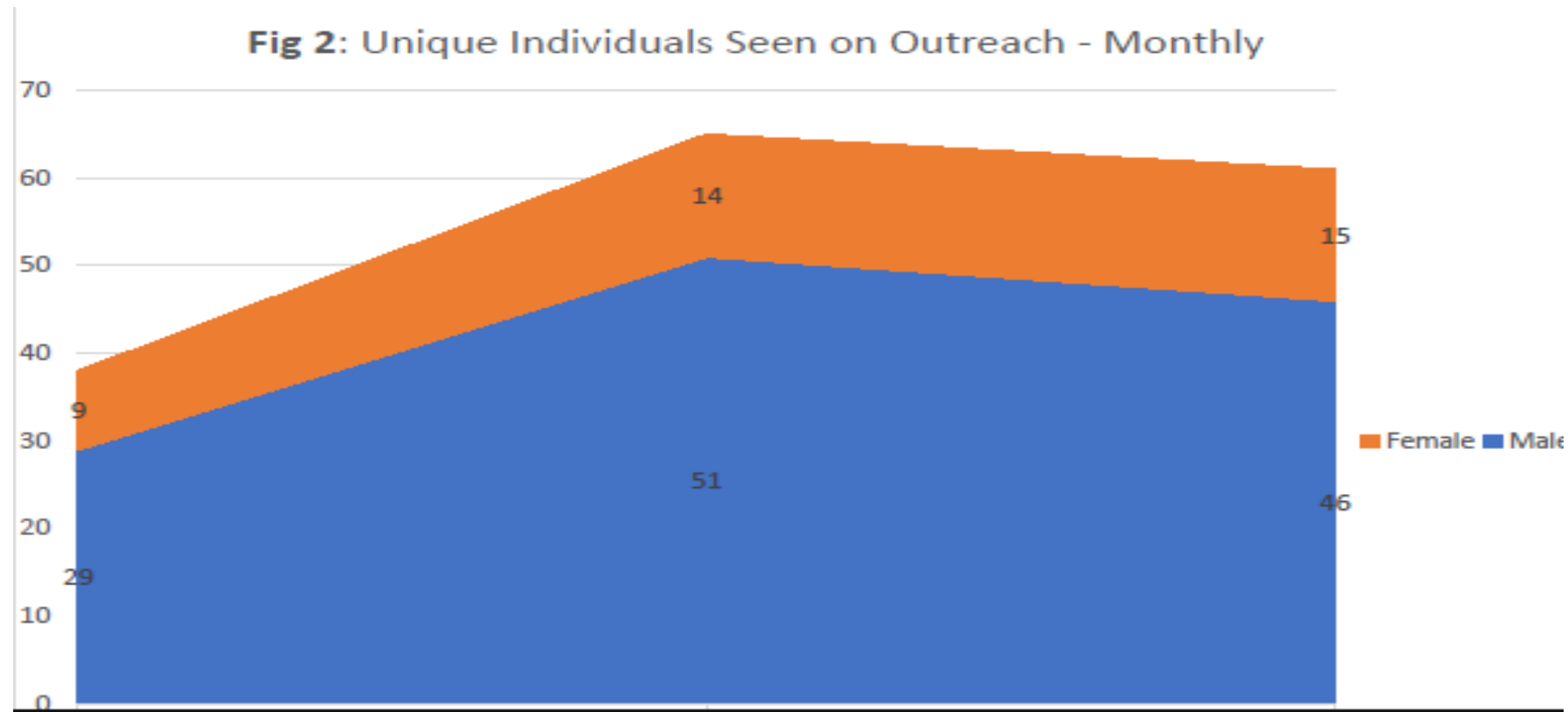
### (April 2021 – Mar 2022)

- From April 2021 until March 2022 the Outreach service came into contact with **250** episodes of rough sleeping from **176** individual clients.
- **38** Females and **138** Males.
- **13** Clients had **3** episodes of rough sleeping.

### (July 2022 – Sept 2022)

- Over the last quarter the outreach team have come into contact with **118** individual rough sleepers.
- **94** Males and **24** Females

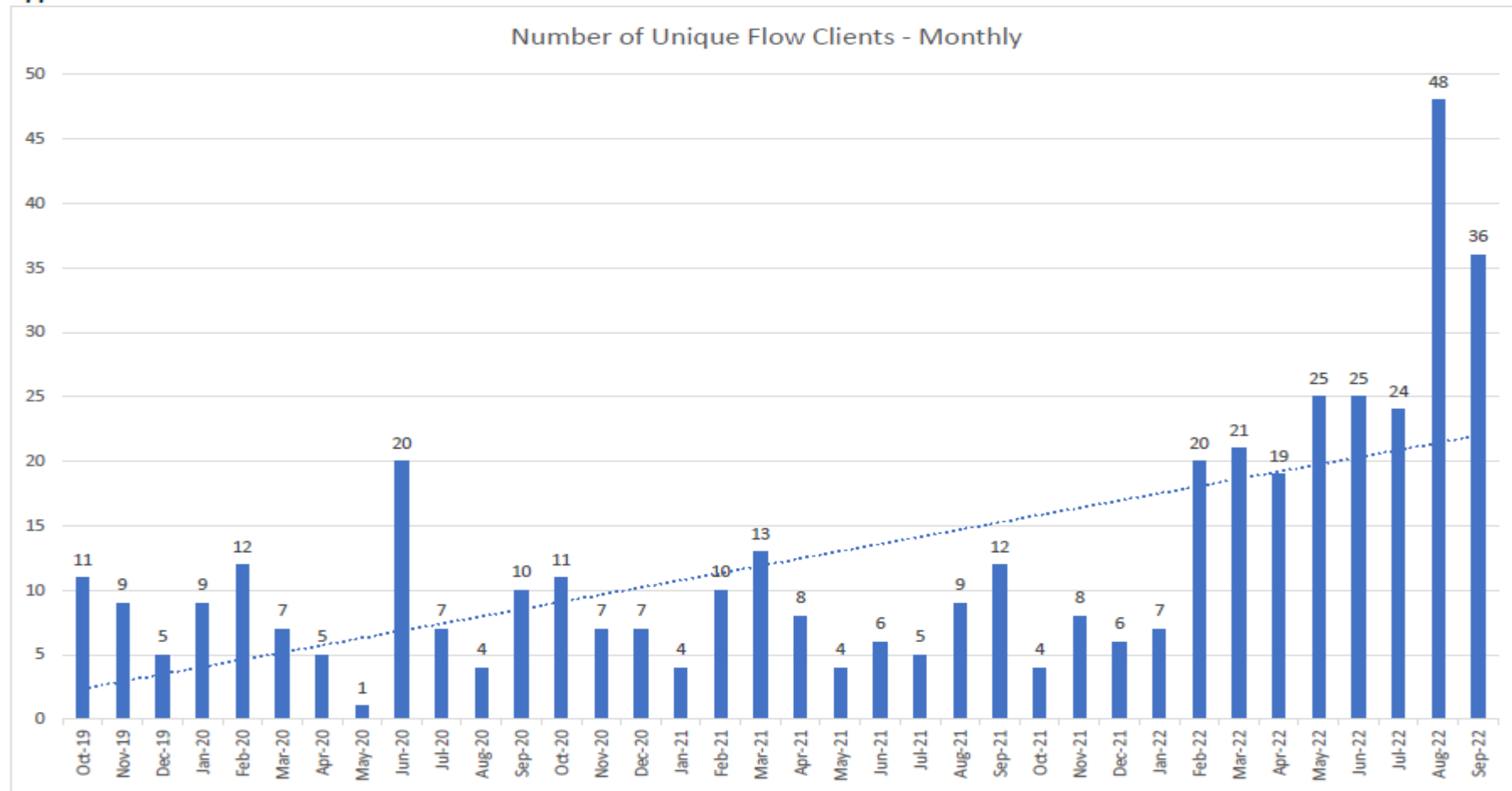
## Unique Individuals: July 2022 – Sept 2022





## Unique Flow – Oct 19 – Sep 22

Appendix D:



## Autumn Rough Sleeping Return to DLUHC

Year	Number	Estimate/Count	No. in Night shelter
2010	21	Count	N/A
2011	29	Count	N/A
2012	30	Count	N/A
2013	23	Count	N/A
2014	34	Count	N/A
2015	27	Estimate	N/A
2016	41	Estimate	N/A (Dec16 – Mar17)
2017	35	Estimate	N/A
2018	17	Count	28 (Nov18 – Mar19)
2019	31	Count	17 (Oct19 – Mar20)
2020	37	Estimate	5 (Unable to use shared sleeping spaces due to Covid)
2021	14	Count	6

## Challenges to ending Rough Sleeping...

1. Exeter is a net importer of rough sleepers – the city has good transport links and is a gateway into Devon and Cornwall. Also has a concentration of support services in the city plus an affluent day & night time economy.
2. Limited supported housing – especially high / complex needs. Trying to address capacity building e.g. NSAP / RSAP & repurposing / remapping existing pathway.
3. Active illicit drug market including spice supplies and County Lines activity.
4. Limited cohesive support offers across health, housing and social care.
5. Lack of alternative / diversionary offers – recreation, education, training, volunteering, employment.
6. Small number not interested in what we are able to offer – need a different solution that isn't Traditional 'Bricks and Mortar'
7. Small number of repeat homelessness who are running out of viable options due to behaviour and addiction
8. Housing Market Pressures – The median private rent for a One Bed (**£770**) is **30%** over the LHA Rate (**£570.01**)
9. Currently **1,623** on Housing Register with One Bedroom need of which **295** are in the highest bands (Band A – **2** and Band B **293**)



## Rough Sleeper Grant Funding 2022

Funding stream	Total
Homelessness Prevention Grant	£170,000
Total RSI Funding Allocated	£ 1,134,044
Total NSAP Revenue Funding	£114,000
Total RSAP Funding Allocated (long-term capital and/or revenue for homes)	£ 1,852,448 (Capital) £ 236,009 (Revenue)
<b>Total Rough Sleeping Funding Allocated 2022/23</b>	<b><u>£ 3,506,501</u></b>

## Rough Sleeping Initiatives (RSI) – Funded Services

- **Off the Streets Placements** – Support and management of The Junction, 6 Bed Property
- **High Support Accommodation** – Support for 13 Bed Tier 2 Project at Morwenna (BCHA)
- **Housing First** – 15 Council tenancies with dedicated support
- **Prison Resettlement Project** – 6 beds in Exeter
- **Howell Road** – Support for 11 beds of Tier 2 Accommodation
- **Women only Accommodation** – 10 units
- **Rough Sleeping and Pathway Co-ordinator** – 1 x FTE
- **Rough Sleeping Programme Manager** – 1 x FTE
- **Psychological support** (Real Life Psychology) – support for clients as well as staff
- **Navigator Project – multi-disciplinary complex needs** - made up of Mental Health Navigator (DPT); 3 x Housing Navigator (ECC); Substance Misuse Navigator (Together Devon)
- **GP Outreach** – 15 hours per week in the “field”
- **Crisis Prevention Service** – Upstream support to those at risk of rough sleeping and living in more stable housing
- **Support to improve access into Education, Training and Employment** – Improve access into ETE
- **Experts by Experience** – improved understanding of what people need to end homelessness
- **Creative Solutions for Rough Sleepers** – Innovative solutions that aren't traditional 'Bricks n Mortar'

## Rough Sleeping Accommodation Pathway (RSAP)

- 3 Year Programme – 2021-2024 – Total Funding: **£2,375,918**
- **81** Additional units of accommodation – ECC (**20**), ECCT (**55**), Julian House (**6**)
- Capital Funding of **£1,669,500** to purchase **20** One Bedroom ex-council properties
- ECC match funding of **£1,590,500** using S106 Funding





## Future Plans

- Awarding of new RSI Funded services inc Education, Training and Employment Service, 'Off the Streets' Placements Service and Experts by Experience
- Publish tender for Rough Sleeping Prevention Team – start date Jan 2023
- New rough sleeping strategy launched by Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
- New Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy for Exeter
- Updated Rough Sleeping Self Assessment
- Completion of the RSAP Project
- Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme (SHAP) – potential new funding opportunity

## Ending Rough Sleeping – new definition

Ending rough sleeping means **preventing** it wherever possible where it cannot be prevented, making it a **rare, brief, and non-recurrent** experience.

For rough sleeping this means:

### **PREVENTION**

- Stop people from being forced to sleep out in the first place

### **RARE**

- Reduce numbers to a measurable indicator which is as close to zero as possible.

### **BRIEF**

- If a person sleeps rough, the episode should be as short as possible.

### **NON-RECURRING**

- No one should experience multiple episodes of rough sleeping.

## Rough Sleeping Prevention Team

The Core Service will be to provide flexible services to meet the needs of rough sleepers in the city and to provide preventative support to people at risk of homelessness and early intervention to those who are at risk of recurring episodes of rough sleeping. The service will need to operate 6 days a week with a flexible approach to delivering a service outside of core hours.

**PREVENTION** (Preventing homelessness and rough sleeping for the first time)

**INTERVENTION** (Providing support for rough sleepers and assertively assist to move away from the streets)

**RECOVERY** (Supporting rough sleepers in accommodation to maintain their housing and reduce episodes of repeat rough sleeping)

**SYSTEM** (To work with the City Council and other partners to co-produce principles that are Trauma-Informed and strengths based that can be adopted across the Homeless Sector)

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[Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme](#)

[Ending Rough Sleeping For Good](#)

[Housing First](#)