



CHAIN

Data Analysis

October–December 2015

Headline figures

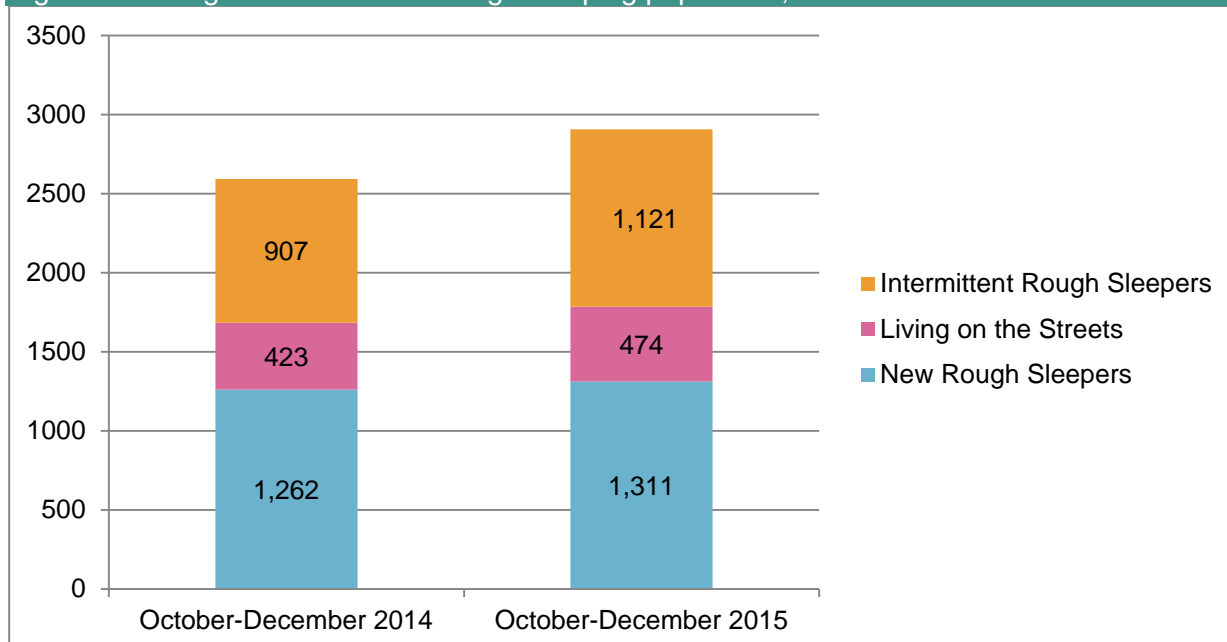
The CHAIN database, managed by St Mungo's Broadway, contains information about rough sleepers in London. Data is published on a quarterly basis.

Rough sleeping across London

During the period October–December 2015 **2,862** people were recorded as sleeping rough. This was an increase of **12%** on the same period last year. By category, rough sleeping increased for intermittent rough sleepers, people living on the streets, and new rough sleepers (Figure 1):

- All rough sleepers **+12%**
- New rough sleepers¹ **+4%**
- Living on the streets² **+12%**
- Intermittent rough sleepers³ **+24%**

Figure 1: Changes in the London rough sleeping population, October–December 2014/15



Source: CHAIN

Note: some rough sleepers are listed under both 'new rough sleepers' and 'living on the streets', but are only counted once towards the total.

¹ Those who had not been contacted by outreach teams rough sleeping before the period

² Those who have had a high number of contacts over three weeks or more which suggests they are living on the streets

³ People who were seen rough sleeping before the period began at some point, and contacted in the period – but not regularly enough to be 'living on the streets'

Rough sleeping by borough

Consistent with previous reports, Westminster had the highest overall number of people sleeping rough (979), (Table 1).

- For *all* rough sleepers, Lambeth had the largest proportional decrease (-19%) and City of London had the largest proportional increase (31%).
- For *new* rough sleepers, Brent had the largest proportional decrease (-26%) and City of London had the highest proportional increase (79%).⁴
- Cells highlighted in grey show an increase on the same period the previous year.

Table 1: Total rough sleepers by London borough, October–December 2015

	New rough sleepers		Living on the streets		Intermittent rough sleepers		Total rough sleepers	
	No.	% change on last year	No.	% change on last year	No.	% change on last year	No.	% change on last year
Brent	45	-26%	7	-30%	22	57%	73	-12%
Camden	92	21%	58	18%	100	11%	244	17%
City of London	70	79%	70	32%	45	-6%	177	31%
Ealing	50	2%	17	55%	46	53%	111	25%
Hammersmith & Fulham	41	37%	5	-17%	20	5%	66	20%
Islington	24	14%	12	-33%	21	0%	55	-7%
Kensington & Chelsea	32	10%	14	-36%	38	-22%	83	-17%
Lambeth	49	-4%	21	-34%	54	-24%	124	-19%
Southwark	60	54%	25	0%	50	22%	134	29%
Tower Hamlets	56	0%	28	75%	41	21%	122	16%
Westminster	359	1%	213	0%	425	30%	979	11%
Outer Boroughs	470	-4%	66	69%	303	44%	831	14%

Source: CHAIN

The NSNO target

Across London, the proportion of new rough sleepers spending one night only on the streets was slightly lower than during the same period last year at 70% (Table 2).

Table 2: Proportion of new rough sleepers achieving the NSNO target, October–December 2014/15

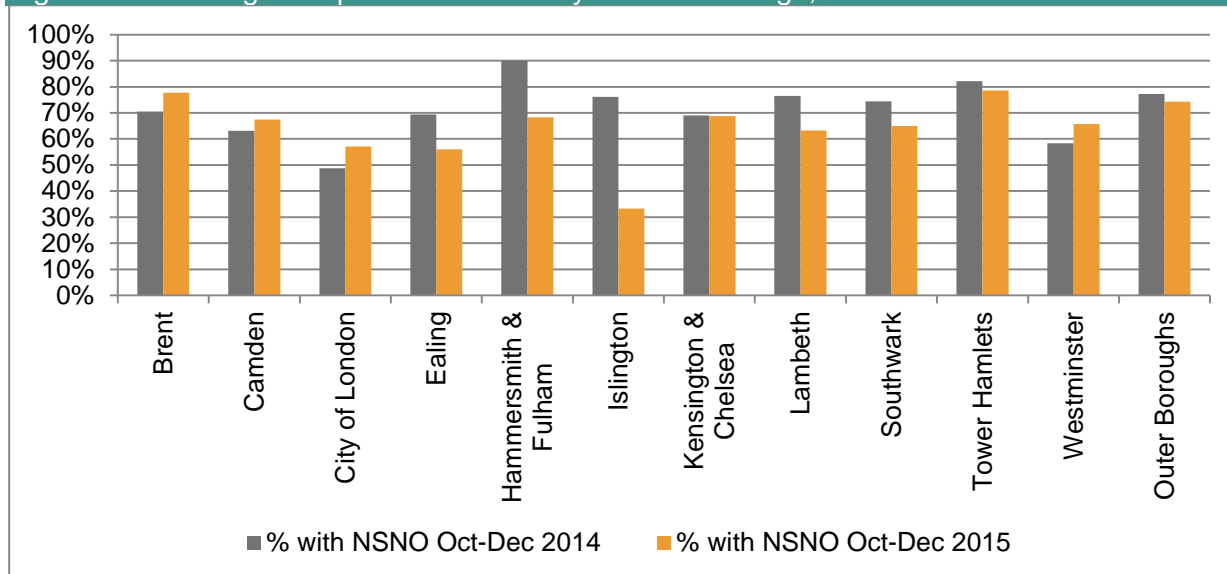
	% new rough sleepers with NSNO	% new rough sleepers with second night out	% new rough sleepers living on the streets
Oct–Dec 2014	72%	26%	2%
Oct–Dec 2015	70%	26%	3%

Source: CHAIN

⁴ Please note that people who have been seen rough sleeping in more than one borough during the period are counted towards the figures for each relevant borough, meaning that the overall total for London will not be the same as the sum of all the boroughs.

By borough, the proportion achieving NSNO increased the most in City of London (up 8%) and fell the most in Islington (down 43%), (Figure 2).

Figure 2: New rough sleepers with NSNO by London borough, October–December 2014/15

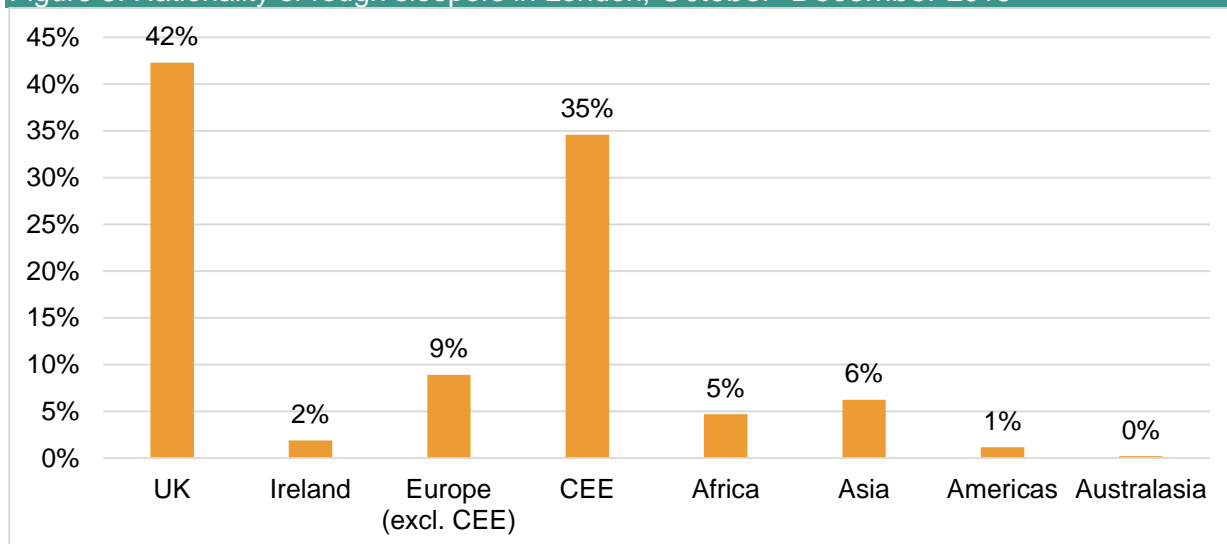


Source: CHAIN

Rough sleeping by nationality

More than four in ten (42%) rough sleepers in London were of UK origin and 35% were of Central and Eastern European origin (Figure 3).

Figure 3: Nationality of rough sleepers in London, October–December 2015

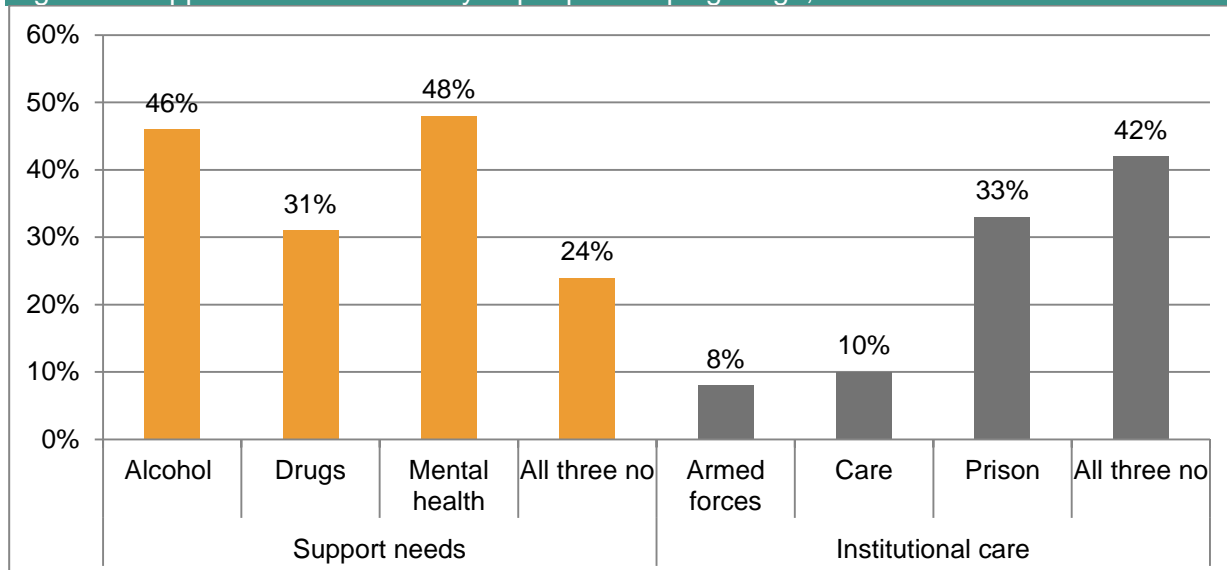


Source: CHAIN

Support needs of rough sleepers

More than three quarters (76%) of rough sleepers reported at least one support need (categorised as alcohol use, drug use or mental health problems). One in ten had been in care and a third had been in prison (33%), (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Support needs and history of people sleeping rough, October–December 2015



Source: CHAIN

Please note: the figure for armed forces includes people of all ethnicities, not UK only, and is self-reported

Outer London boroughs with the highest number of rough sleepers

Among the outer London boroughs, Redbridge had the highest total number of rough sleepers and Newham had the highest number of new rough sleepers. Havering and Bexley had the lowest number of rough sleepers (4 each). Table 3 shows the ten outer boroughs with the highest numbers of rough sleepers.

Table 3: Rough sleeping in outer London boroughs, October–December 2015

Borough	New rough sleepers No.	% with NSNO	Borough	Total number of rough sleepers
Newham	60	80%	Redbridge	97
Haringey	45	73%	Newham	92
Redbridge	38	53%	Hounslow	65
Hounslow	33	48%	Haringey	64
Enfield	30	67%	Heathrow	63
Greenwich	29	59%	Croydon	52
Heathrow	29	79%	Richmond	48
Croydon	23	87%	Enfield	43
Lewisham	23	78%	Greenwich	42
Barnet	21	95%	Wandsworth	42

Source: CHAIN

Further information

[CHAIN Quarterly Borough Reports: October–December 2015](#)