



CHAIN

Data Analysis

January–March 2016

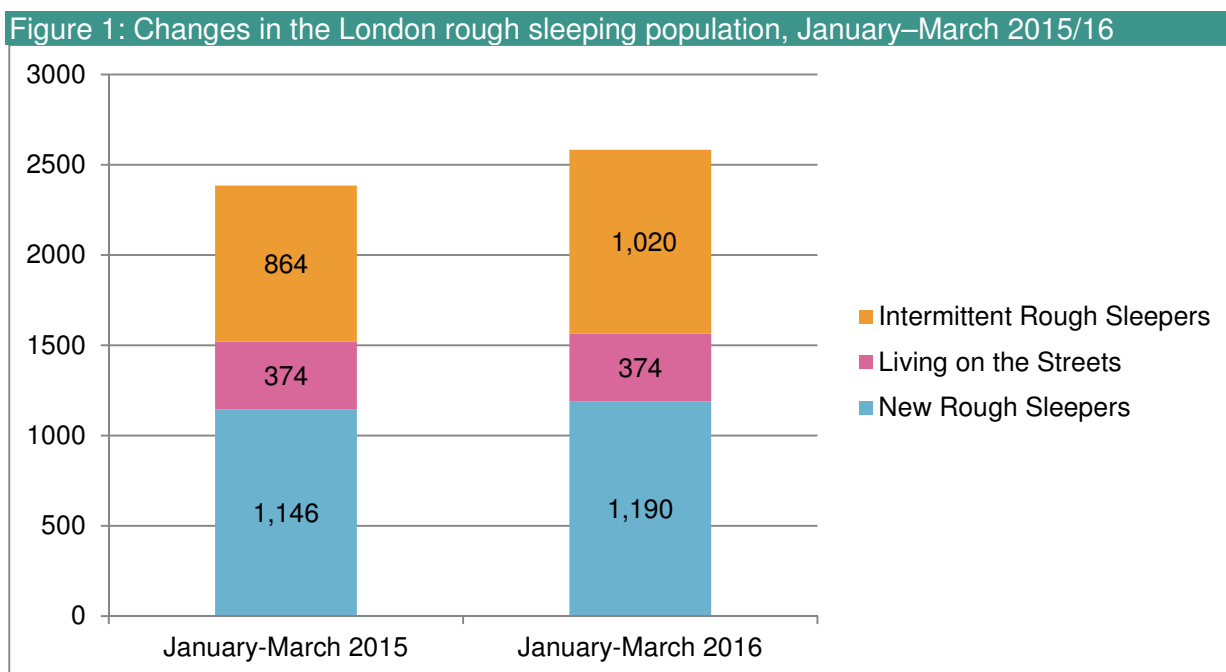
Headline figures

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 January–March 2016 **2,561** people were recorded as sleeping rough. This was an increase of **9%** 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 **+9%**
- New rough sleepers¹ **+4%**
- Living on the streets² **+0%**
- Intermittent rough sleepers³ **+18%**



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 (1,043), (Table 1⁴).

- For *all* rough sleepers, Brent had the largest proportional decrease (-26%) and Ealing had the largest proportional increase (67%).
- For *new* rough sleepers, Brent had the largest proportional decrease (-35%) and Ealing had the highest proportional increase (133%).
- Cells highlighted in grey show an increase on the same period the previous year.

Table 1: Total rough sleepers by London borough, January–March 2016

	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	39	-35%	4	-50%	21	5%	64	-26%
Camden	73	0%	38	6%	72	14%	182	8%
City of London	62	9%	50	4%	56	37%	166	17%
Ealing	42	133%	15	25%	41	46%	97	67%
Hammersmith & Fulham	37	95%	4	-60%	19	19%	60	33%
Islington	19	6%	4	-64%	13	-19%	35	-19%
Kensington & Chelsea	31	82%	22	69%	32	7%	83	38%
Lambeth	61	39%	14	-39%	36	-31%	110	-8%
Southwark	32	-11%	22	69%	49	0%	103	6%
Tower Hamlets	32	-27%	14	-18%	43	87%	89	9%
Westminster	422	8%	222	8%	416	18%	1,043	13%
Outer Boroughs	360	-9%	23	-28%	252	19%	633	0%

Source: CHAIN

The NSNO target

Across London, the proportion of new rough sleepers spending one night only on the streets was slightly higher than during the same period the previous year at 74% (Table 2).

Table 2: Proportion of new rough sleepers achieving the NSNO target, January–March 2015/16

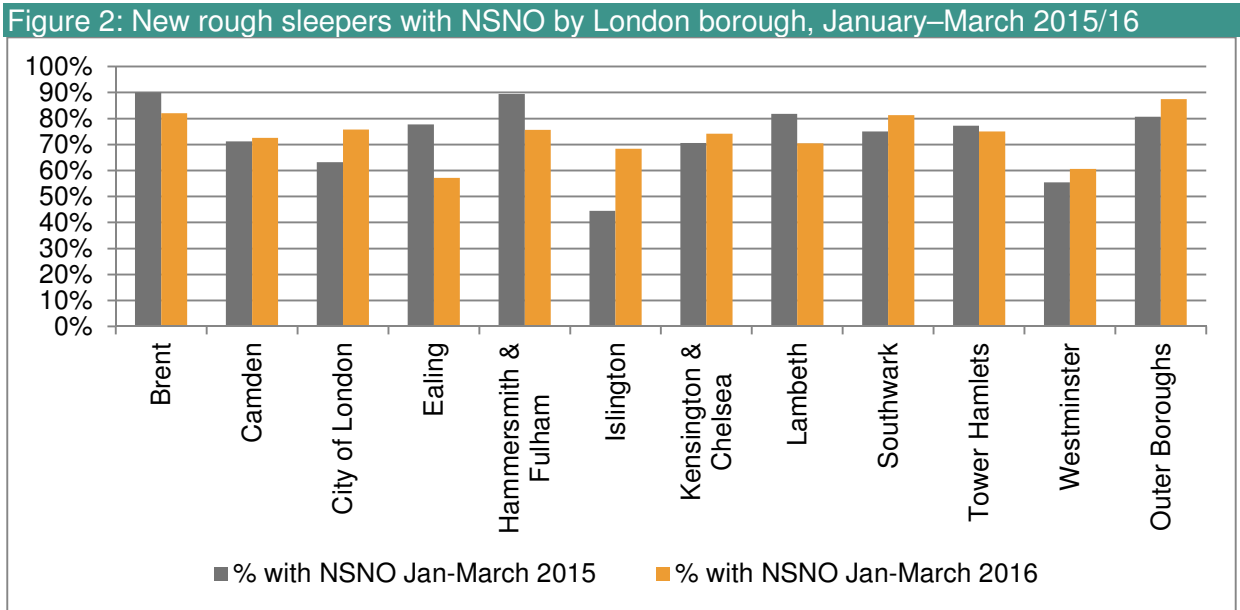
	% new rough sleepers with NSNO	% new rough sleepers with second night out	% new rough sleepers living on the streets
January–March 2015	72%	24%	4%
January–March 2016	74%	24%	2%

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 outer boroughs had the highest proportion of rough sleepers with NSNO (88%) followed by Brent (82%).

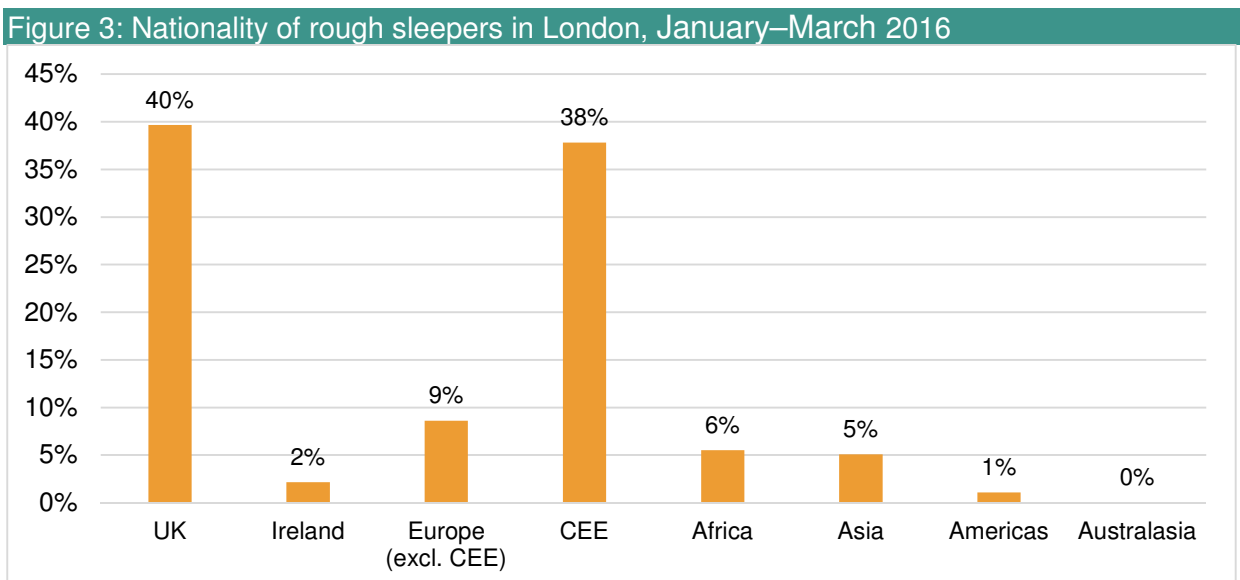
Looking at trends, the proportion achieving NSNO increased the most in Islington (up 24%) and fell the most in Ealing (down 21%), (Figure 2).



Source: CHAIN

Rough sleeping by nationality

Four in ten (40%) rough sleepers in London were of UK origin and 38% were of Central and Eastern European origin (Figure 3).

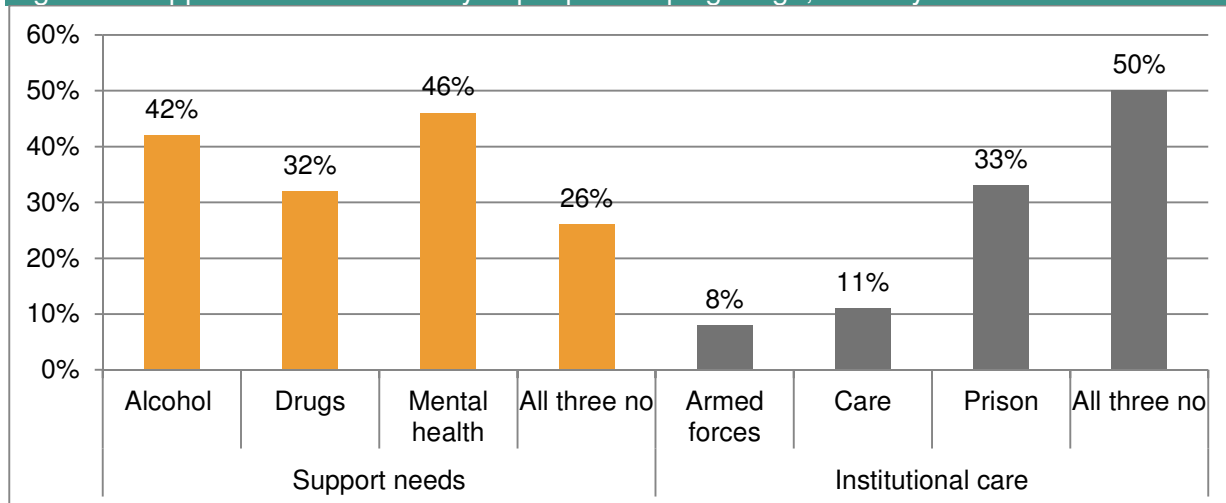


Source: CHAIN

Support needs of rough sleepers

Nearly three quarters (76%) of rough sleepers reported at least one support need (categorised as alcohol use, drug use or mental health problems). Just over one in ten (11%) had been in care and a third (33%) had been in prison, (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Support needs and history of people sleeping rough, January–March 2016



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 (64) and Newham had the highest number of new rough sleepers (35). Havering had the lowest number of rough sleepers (5). Table 3 shows the ten outer boroughs with the highest numbers of rough sleepers.

Table 3: Rough sleeping in outer London boroughs, January–March 2016

Borough	New rough sleepers No.	% with NSNO	Borough	Total number of rough sleepers
Newham	35	100%	Redbridge	64
Redbridge	27	81%	Newham	47
Enfield	25	92%	Richmond	46
Heathrow	25	92%	Heathrow	44
Croydon	24	92%	Hounslow	44
Waltham Forest	23	87%	Croydon	43
Lewisham	21	81%	Hackney	39
Haringey	20	75%	Enfield	38
Hounslow	20	90%	Haringey	38
Greenwich	19	79%	Greenwich	34

Source: CHAIN

Further information

[CHAIN Quarterly Borough Reports: January–March 2016](#)