

Trafford Council

Homelessness Strategy 2019-2024

Annual Statement 2023



Contents

Introduction	2
Annual Review 2023	3
Policy and Strategic Context	3
National Context	3
Regional Context	4
Local Context	5
Achievements 2022/23	7
Housing & Homelessness Performance in Trafford.....	8
Homelessness in Trafford 2022/23.....	11
Delivery of the Homelessness Strategy Action Plan	19
Homelessness Strategy Action Plan Update 2023.....	19
What have we achieved?	19
What are we underway with?.....	21
Appendix 1	25
Homelessness Strategy Action Plan 2019-2024.....	25

Introduction

Trafford Homelessness Strategy 2019-2024 was launched in March 2019. The Strategy set out the priorities for Trafford over the next 5 years. It is a statutory requirement, as contained in the Homelessness Act 2002 (as amended by the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017), for every local authority to produce a Homelessness Strategy outlining the main causes of homelessness and the strategic plan and operational actions for the Council and partners to undertake to tackle homelessness in Trafford. The Strategy underpins the Council’s Corporate Priorities and Housing Strategy 2018-2023.

The six Strategic Priorities of the Homelessness Strategy are to:

1. Prevent homelessness in Trafford.
2. Improve access to permanent affordable accommodation and supported homes, primarily through the increased supply of social housing.
3. Aim to eradicate the use of B&B and increase the provision of good quality temporary accommodation for homeless people in Trafford.
4. Work towards ending rough sleeping in Trafford.
5. Improve access to employment, education, and training for homeless people in Trafford.
6. Improve health & wellbeing for homeless people in Trafford.

Annual Review 2023

It is crucial that the Trafford Homelessness Strategy 2019-2024 is reviewed on a regular basis to ensure effective delivery. This annual review provides an update on the following:

- Changes to the national and sub-regional homelessness initiatives, policies, and strategies.
- A Review of Homelessness in Trafford 2022/23.
- Delivery of the Homelessness Strategy.
- The Homelessness Strategy Action Plan Update:
 - What have we achieved?
 - What are we working towards?
 - What do we still have to do?

Policy and Strategic Context

National Context

Cost of living crisis

The cost-of-living crisis and increasing interest rates continues to have a huge impact on the housing sector in England.

According to government statistics, UK rental prices increased by an average of 4.2% from January 2022 to December 2022¹ while house prices increased by 9.8% during the same period². In addition, the annual rate of inflation reached a 41-year high of 11.1% in October 2022 and the energy price cap continues to rise.

The combination of the above factors means an increasing number of households are struggling financially and facing the possibility of homelessness.

Rough Sleeper Strategy³

In August 2018, the government published the Rough Sleeping Strategy which committed to halving rough sleeping by 2022 and eradicating it by 2027. The vision is that by 2027 all parts of central and local government, in partnership with businesses, the public and wider society; are working together to ensure that no-one has to experience rough sleeping again. Linked to the delivery of this Strategy, a range of cross-government initiatives were announced which will see the start of new joint working; including a health provision for people who sleep rough and work in prisons to prevent people from sleeping rough in the first place.

Ending Rough Sleeping for good⁴

In September 2022, the government published the 'Ending Rough Sleeping for Good' policy paper. This is a cross-government strategy which sets out how the government and its partners will work together to deliver on the government's manifesto commitment to end rough sleeping in this Parliament. It also lays the foundations for long-term style change to end rough sleeping sustainably and for good. Importantly, the strategy lays out a clear and defined vision for ending

¹ [Index of Private Housing Rental Prices, UK - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/housing/rental-prices)

² [UK House Price Index for December 2022 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-house-price-index-for-december-2022)

³ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/733421/Rough-Sleeping-Strategy_WEB.pdf

⁴ [Ending Rough Sleeping for Good \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/733421/Ending-Rough-Sleeping-for-Good.pdf)

rough sleeping in that it is “prevented wherever possible, and where it does occur it is rare, brief, and non-recurrent”.

The Strategy promises an investment of £500 million into the Rough Sleeping Initiative over three years and a £12 million Test and Learn Programme to trial innovative approaches and test what works to reduce homelessness and rough sleeping.

A new £200 million Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme will be launched to deliver up to 2,400 homes and wrap-around support by March 2025. This will provide new supported housing and Housing First accommodation, including for young people at risk of homelessness and rough sleeping.

Domestic Abuse Act 2021⁵

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 was introduced in April 2021. It aims to raise awareness and understanding of domestic abuse and its impacts on victims and their families, improve effectiveness of the justice system in providing protection for victims and bringing perpetrators to justice, and strengthen the support for victims of abuse and their children by statutory agencies.

The Act places a duty on local authorities in England to provide support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in refuges and other safe accommodation. It amends Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996 to provide that all eligible homeless victims of domestic abuse automatically have priority need for homelessness assistance and requires that local authorities grant a new lifetime tenancy to social tenants leaving existing lifetime tenancies for reasons connected to domestic abuse.

Following the introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act, the government also updated the Homelessness Code of Guidance⁶.

Regional Context

Greater Manchester Housing Strategy 2019-2024⁷

Greater Manchester (GM) identified decent and affordable housing as a priority in their Housing Strategy. The Strategy details how the Mayor of Greater Manchester, GM Combined Authority (GMCA) and the ten Greater Manchester authorities will maximise the resources available to them. Also, GMCA has agreed to invest surpluses from the £300m GM Housing Investment Loan Fund to help support the delivery of truly affordable housing, tackle empty homes, and issues in the private rented sector including rogue landlords as contained within the GM Housing Strategy.

Since the launch of the Strategy, GMCA has developed an Implementation Plan to steer and track progress in the delivery of the agenda set out in the Strategy. It captures activity already underway as well as new lines of work to be commenced in the coming months. The Implementation Plan is updated on a six-monthly reporting cycle, with updates taken to the Greater Manchester Planning and Housing Commission.

A Bed Every Night (ABEN)

The GM initiative A Bed Every Night (ABEN) is a commitment to meet the needs of those who are rough sleeping or at imminent risk of rough sleeping in GM and cannot access other accommodation.

⁵ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/17/contents/enacted>

⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homelessness-code-of-guidance-for-local-authorities>

⁷ <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/media/2257/gm-housing-strategy-2019-2024.pdf>

The programme was launched on 1st November 2018 with the aim to offer a GM response to acute need when other resources are unavailable.

In February 2023, government statistics showed that rough sleeping has risen 26% nationally, 34% in London and 29% in the West Midlands. However, ABEN has played a key role in Greater Manchester only seeing an increase of 9%⁸.

Greater Manchester leaders have agreed a new three-year plan for ABEN with funding set out until 2025⁹.

Greater Manchester Housing First Pilot

Housing First is an evidence-based approach which uses housing as a platform to enable individuals with multiple and complex needs to begin recovery and move away from homelessness. The GM Housing First (GMHF) pilot was commissioned for three years by the GMCA with funding from the then Ministry of Housing, Communities, and Local Government (now the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC)). The pilot launched in April 2019 with the aim of rehousing 373 people, over the three years, who are homeless or at risk of homelessness within GM.

The Government has since announced that funding for The Housing First pilot in Greater Manchester will be extended until March 2025¹⁰.

Greater Manchester Homelessness Prevention Strategy 2021-2026¹¹

GMCA launched the Homelessness Prevention strategy in July 2021. The Strategy was co-produced by GMCA, people with lived experiences of homelessness and those who work with them and takes a person-centred and trauma-informed approach to understanding and responding to issues around homelessness. An Action Plan was launched alongside the Strategy and will be reviewed every 6 months to identify progress.

The Strategy outlines 5 missions:

1. Everyone can access and sustain a home that is safe, decent, accessible and affordable.
2. Everyone leaves our places of care with a safe place to go.
3. Everyone can access quality advice, advocacy and support to prevent homelessness.
4. People experiencing homelessness have respite, recovery and re-connection to support.
5. Homelessness is never an entrenched or repeat experience.

Local Context

Trafford Supported Housing Strategy 2022-2027¹²

Trafford's Supported Housing Strategy was launched in 2023 and identifies the key priorities in relation to supported housing within the borough. The aim of the Strategy is to deliver an integrated approach to the housing requirements of those with support needs, with a focus on enabling people with support needs to live as independently as possible within the borough.

The strategic vision is: *“Work collaboratively to provide a range of quality supported housing, and housing related support, to enable those with support needs to live independently in Trafford”*

The strategic priorities are:

1. Enable people with support needs to live as independently as possible within Trafford.

⁸ [Greater Manchester's expansion of 'A Bed Every Night' prevents major rise in rough sleeping - Greater Manchester Combined Authority \(greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/greater-manchesters-expansion-of-a-bed-every-night-prevents-major-rise-in-rough-sleeping)

⁹ [11 ABEN 2022 25.PART Adocx.pdf \(greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk\)](#)

¹⁰ [Housing First Pilots 2 year extensions: funding allocations 2022/23 and 2023/24 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/housing-first-pilots-2-year-extensions-funding-allocations-2022-23-and-2023-24)

¹¹ [GM Homelessness Prevention Strategy 21-26 \(greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/gm-homelessness-prevention-strategy-21-26)

¹² [Supported Housing Strategy 2023-2028 \(trafford.gov.uk\)](https://trafford.gov.uk/supporting-housing-strategy-2023-2028)

2. Ensure an adequate supply of quality, accessible and affordable supported housing, and move-on accommodation, is in place.
3. Establish closer working relationships with external services, organisations, and charitable bodies to ensure appropriate support is available and easily accessible.
4. Ensure housing advice is promoted and easily accessible to those with support needs in Trafford.
5. Explore and review good practice in other Local Authority areas in relation to supported accommodation and support services and implement within Trafford where possible.

Trafford Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022-2025¹³

This Strategy sets out Trafford's vision of enabling our residents, their families, and communities to live a healthy life, free from abuse and violence. The Strategy outlines that this vision will be supported by reducing the impact of domestic abuse on the population of Trafford by developing and implementing a sustainable system wide approach to prevention, early intervention, response, and support.

The Strategy outlines four priorities that will enable Trafford to work towards a long-term response that meets the needs of victims, their children, and perpetrators across the borough. These are:

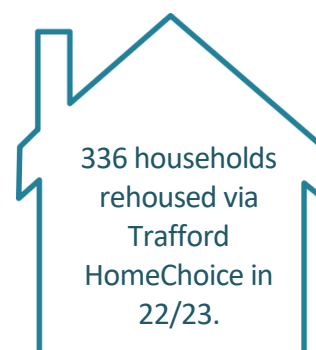
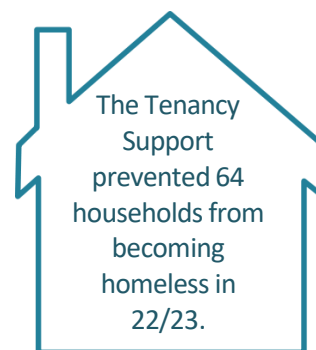
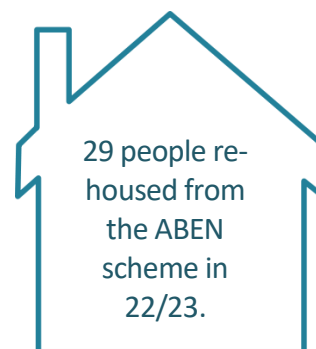
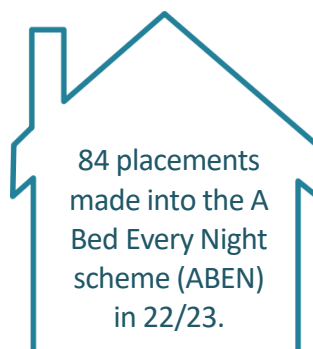
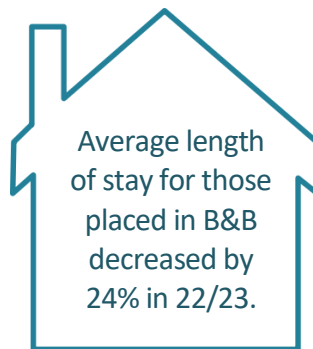
1. Ensure that every victim is identified early and has access to the support they need.
2. Ensure the support for families is co-ordinated.
3. Ensure that communities are able to spot the signs of abuse and know where to get help.
4. Ensure multi-agency system is joined up so that individuals, families and communities who seek support can find it, and access it.

The Strategy also sets out thirteen objectives which will be used to work towards delivering the strategies priorities. The objectives will be delivered by the Domestic Abuse Partnership through an implementation plan which is contained within the Strategy's appendix. An report will be produced annually outlining achievements and providing a refreshed implementation plan.

In line with Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, Trafford Council established a Domestic Abuse Partnership Board in July 2021. The Board is made up of representatives from Community Safety, Public Health, Commissioning, Adult and Children's Social Care, Housing, Education, Emergency Services, Probation, TDAS, Women MATTA, LGBT Foundation, and Talk Listen Change. The Board is responsible for providing advice to the Council about the exercise of the functions under section 57 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, and the provision of other local authority support in the authority's area.

¹³ [Domestic Abuse Strategy 2021.pdf \(trafford.gov.uk\)](https://trafford.gov.uk/domestic-abuse-strategy-2021)

Achievements 2022/23



Housing & Homelessness Performance in Trafford

Housing Options Service Trafford (HOST) delivers the Council’s statutory homelessness service.

The figures in the table below are taken from the HOST Performance Monitoring Workbook for 2022/23 compared to the previous year 2021/22.

Category	2021/22	2022/23	% Change
Applications	3289	3713	+13%
Number of homeless households seeking advice only	2307	2770	+20%
Actual Homeless Cases/Applications	982	943	-4%
Number of Personal Housing Plans (PHPs) opened	1137	962	-15%
Number of PHPs closed	1199	1055	-12%
Number of visits undertaken	25	19	-24%
Number of Prison Visits undertaken	3	10	+233%
Number of Hospital Visits undertaken	0	0	-
Number of RP evictions	Not recorded	4	-
Number of PRS evictions	Not recorded	4	-
Number of applicants within the Prevention Duty (as at year end)	103	98	-5%
Number of applicants prevented from becoming homeless within the year	311	347	+12%
Number of applicants within the Relief Duty (as at year end)	106	109	+3%
Number of applicants in the Main Duty (as at year end)	135	161	+19%
Main Duty Decisions made in year	257	284	+11%
Eligible, unintentional and in priority need	203	198	-2%
Eligible, homeless but not in priority need	48	74	+54%
Eligible but not homeless	2	5	+150%
Ineligible	0	0	-
Intentionally homeless	4	5	+25%
Total number of applicants where any duty ceased due to an offer of accommodation in the Private Rented Sector	60	51	-15%
Total number of applicants where any duty ceased due to an offer of accommodation in the Social Rented Sector	237	177	-25%
Number of Ukraine households presenting to HOST as homeless	Not recorded	19	-
Number of Ukraine households presenting to HOST for advice	Not recorded	59	-
Number of Afghan households presenting to HOST as homeless	Not recorded	0	-
Number of Afghan households presenting to HOST for advice	Not recorded	0	-

There was an increase in the number of homeless applications made in 2022/23 compared to 2021/22. However, despite this, the number of actual homelessness cases in 2022/23 decreased by 4% from the previous year. This demonstrates that although there was an increase in people approaching HOST in 2022/23, more of them required advice rather than intensive casework than in 2021/22. This is likely due to the cost-of-living crisis prompting households to seek advice who have never required it before.

The number of applicants that were prevented from becoming homeless in 2022/23 has increased by 12%. This, in part, is due to additional government funding which was utilised by HOST to assist households struggling with living costs and rent arrears which prevented their eviction.

The number of applicants within the Relief Duty has remained steady since 2020/21. This is a great achievement given the Covid-19 pandemic and current cost-of-living crisis, both of which caused more households to struggle with threats of eviction. This demonstrates that HOST's efforts to prevent homelessness prior to the customer reaching crisis point are effective.

There was a 25% decrease in the number of applicants whose Relief Duty and Main Duty ended with an offer of social rented accommodation in 2022/23. This is because fewer social rented properties were available this year. The number of applicants whose Relief Duty and Main Duty ended following an offer of private rented sector accommodation also decreased in 2022/23. This is due to increasing private rents making it challenging for most households to secure affordable private rented accommodation.

The number of applicants owed a Main Duty has increased by 19% from 2021/22 to 2022/23. This is due fewer Relief Duty applicants securing accommodation to bring their Relief Duty to an end before a Main Duty decision was required. This also led to an increase of applicants who received a negative Main Duty decision in 2022/23, with more applicants being found to be non-priority need, not homeless, and intentionally homeless than in 2021/22.

Housing Advice Enquiries

	2021/22	2022/23	% Change
Advice Enquires (Reception, email, and telephone)	71,766	81,908	+14%
Number of cases relating to Domestic Abuse	206	177	-14%
Number of cases presented to MARAC	Not recorded	761	-
Number of cases relating to affordability/ benefit issues	262	278	+6%

The number of advice enquires received by HOST increased by 14% in 2022/23. This is reflective of the cost-of-living crisis which has prompted more households to seek advice and support. This is evidenced further by the 9.5% increase in number of cases relating to affordability/benefit issues in 2022/23.

There was a 14% decrease in approaches to HOST from individuals who were experiencing domestic abuse. This suggests the Trafford Domestic Abuse Strategy launched in 2022 is have a positive effect in reducing the levels of homelessness associated with domestic abuse.

Households in Temporary Accommodation

	2021/22	2022/23	% Change
Total number of applicants in self-contained Temporary Accommodation (as at year end)	97	112	+15%
Total number of applicants in self-contained Temporary Accommodation (Relief Duty – as at year end)	25	23	-8%
Total number of applicants in self-contained Temporary Accommodation (Main Duty – as at year end)	72	89	+24%
Families in self- contained TA (as at year end)	73	78	+7%
Number of children in TA (as at year end)	108	145	+34%
Intentional Households in self-contained TA (as at year end)	0	0	-

HOST currently lease 45 units of temporary accommodation (TA) from L&Q and 47 units from other social and private sector landlords. In addition, HOST have access to 11 units of A Bed Every Night (ABEN) accommodation for non-priority need rough sleepers and 4 units for non-priority need ex-offenders under the CAS-3 scheme.

HOST are proactively working to increase the provision of temporary accommodation in Trafford with an aim to eradicate the use of B&B. There was a 15% increase in the number of people in temporary accommodation at the end of 2022/23 compared to the end of 2021/22. This is due to the increase in number of applicants owed Relief and Main duties. There was a 34% increase in the number of children in temporary accommodation at the end of 2022/23 compared to the previous year. This is linked to the challenges experienced in sourcing temporary accommodation units suitable for larger households.

HOST are continuously exploring options to increase the temporary accommodation portfolio in the borough. Discussions with both private and social landlords are taking place, and funding has been received from Greater Manchester Combined Authority to provide 20 additional units for homeless families within the private rented sector.

Households in Bed and Breakfast accommodation (B&B)

	2021/22	2022/23	% Change
Total number of B&B placements made	166	166	-
Number of families/ pregnant households over 6 weeks throughout the year	0	0	-
Average Length of stay in B&B - Singles & Families (nights)	19.7	14.9	-24%
Average Length of stay in B&B - Singles (nights)	24.6	15.8	-36%
Average Length of stay in B&B - Families (nights)	7.4	15.7	+112%

The number of B&B placements made in 2022/23 has remained the same as 2021/22, which is positive given the increase in Relief and Main duty cases. The average length of stay in B&B for single applicants decreased in 2022/23. However, there was a 112% increase in the average length of stay in B&B for families. This again relates to the lack of larger temporary accommodation units available, meaning it is taking longer for larger families to be moved out of B&B.

Rough Sleepers

	2021/22	2022/23	% Change
Number of rough sleepers reported during the year	143	212	+48%
Number of visits to reports of rough sleepers during the year	235	324	+38%
Number of rough sleepers re-housed in the year	15	4	-73%
Number of actual rough sleepers at the end of the year	2	2	-

The number of rough sleepers reported during 2022/23 increased by 48% from 2021/22, which led to an increase of 38% in visits to reports of rough sleepers. The number of rough sleepers re-housed in 2022/23 has decreased by 73% compared to 2021/22. This is because the rough sleepers receiving support from the Rough Sleeper Team this year were more entrenched and therefore more difficult to engage. In addition, fewer social housing options have been available, and this cohort are largely priced out of the private rented sector.

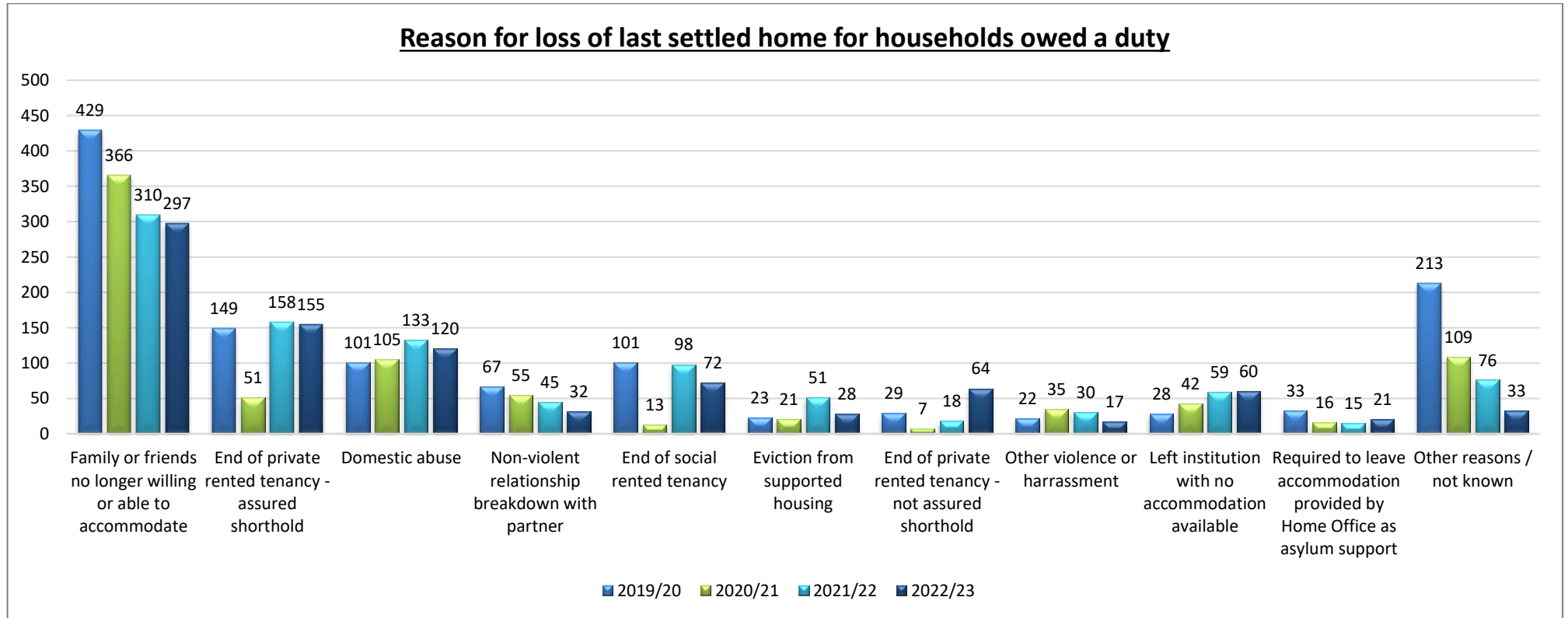
As part of the RSI funding agreement, Trafford must carry out a rough sleeper count every two months. The most recent count was conducted on 25th May 2023 where 5 rough sleepers were identified; three were offered accommodation but refused so were signposted to HOST, one advised he was moving in with friends, and one was referred to the Rough Sleeper Team for ongoing support.

The figure for the number of actual rough sleepers is taken from information provided by the Rough Sleeper Team. There are currently 2 entrenched rough sleepers in Trafford who are all well known to the service, but both have so far refused to accept offers of assistance.

Homelessness in Trafford 2022/23

Since the Homelessness Strategy was launched in March 2019, the data collected by DLUCH has changed and the original P1E form has been replaced with H-CLIC. A summary of the analysis of the H-CLIC data available for Trafford¹⁴ has been undertaken.

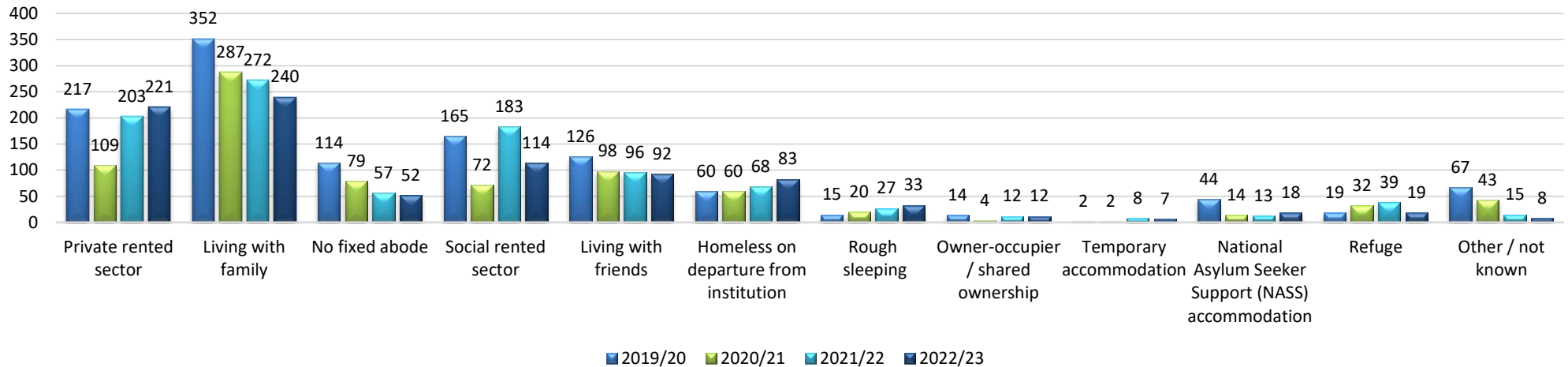
Initial Assessment



The largest majority of homeless applicants in 2022/23 lost their last settled home due to family or friends no longer being willing/able to accommodate them, which has remained the most common reason for homeless applications in Trafford for the last 4 years.

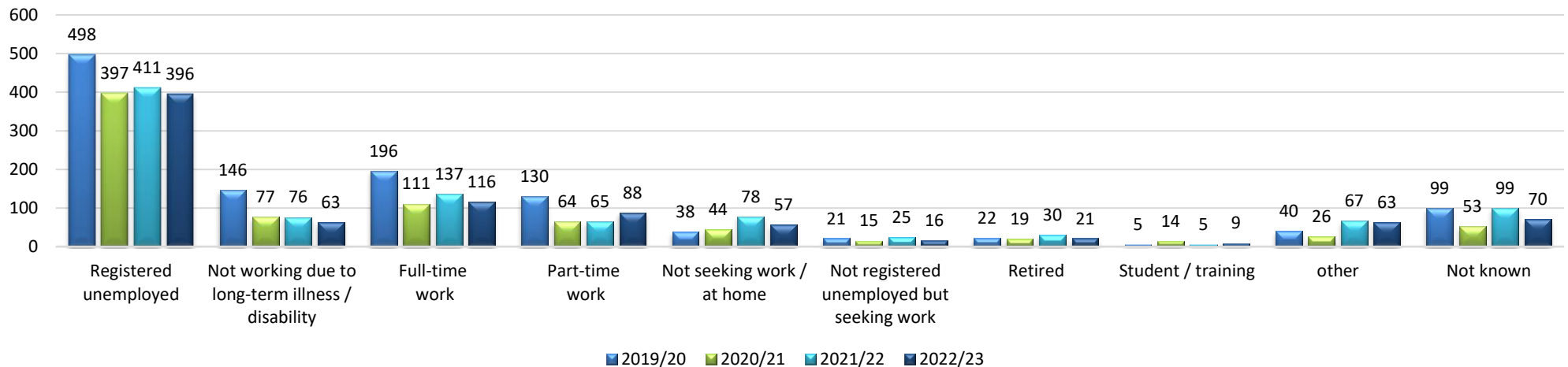
¹⁴ [Tables on homelessness - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Accommodation at time of application for those owed a duty



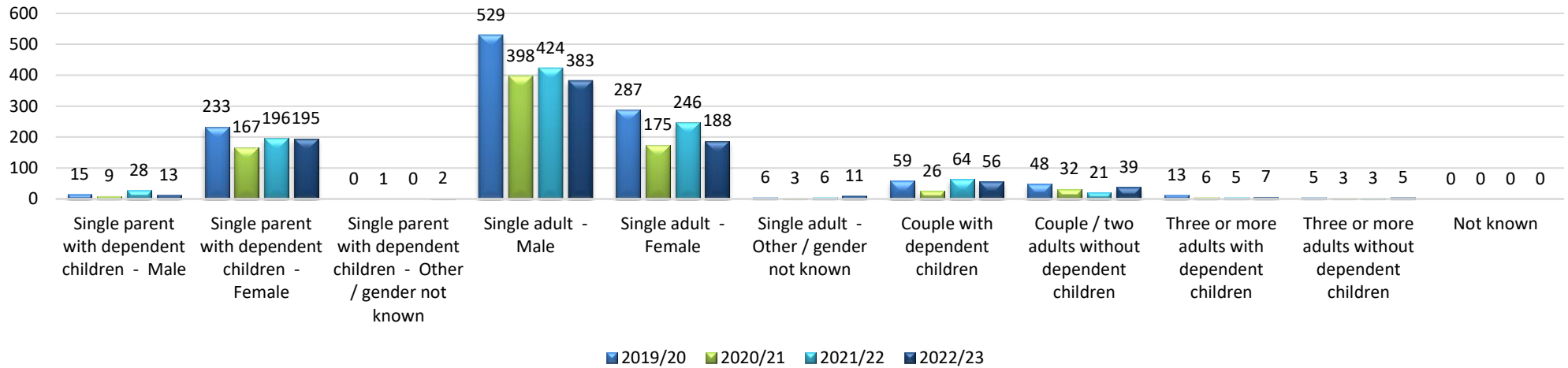
In 2022/23, most homeless applicants were either residing with family or living in private rented accommodation at the point they approached HOST for assistance.

Employment status of main applicants owed a duty



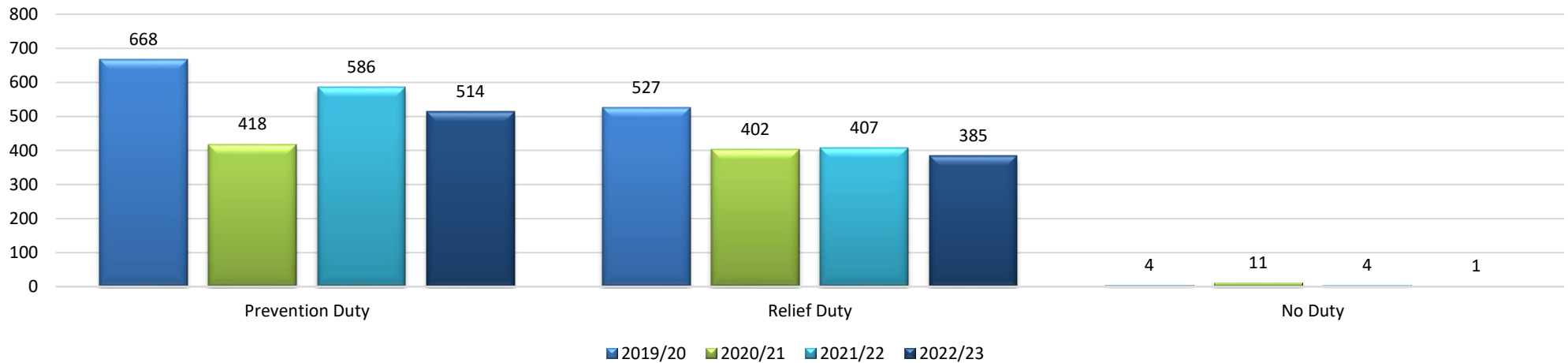
Most applicants owed a homelessness duty by Trafford Council in 2022/23 were registered unemployed. The number of applicants in full-time work reduced in 2022/23 compared to 2021/22, while the number in part-time work increased slightly.

Household type of applicants owed a duty



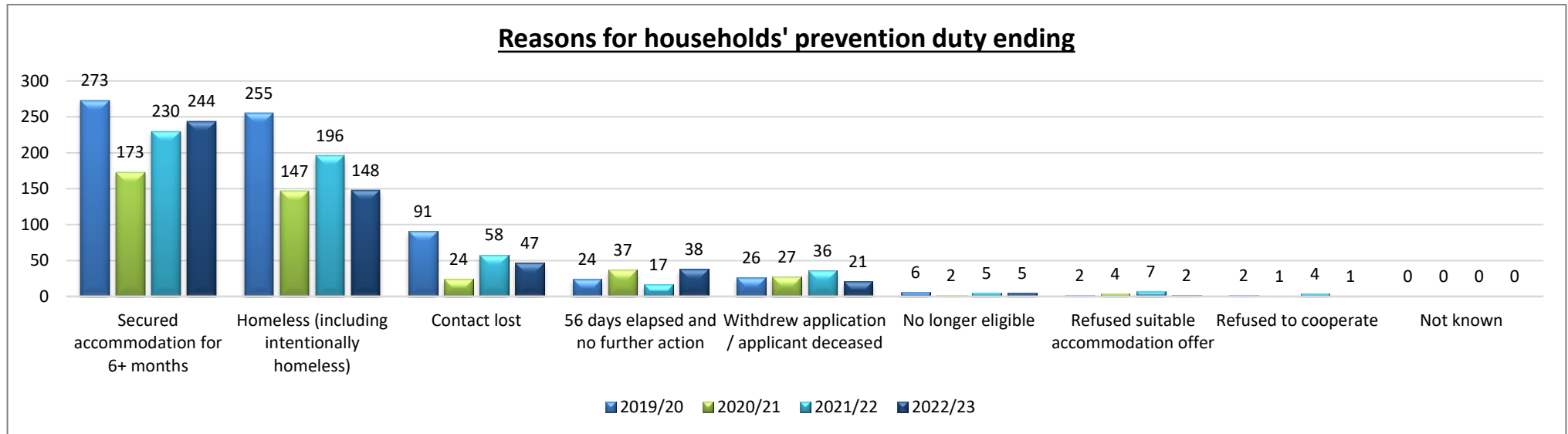
Most homeless applicants owed a duty in 2022/23 were single adults; there were 195 more single male applicants than single female applicants. The number of couples/two adults without dependant children making homeless applications in 2022/23 increased by 86% from 2021/22.

Households assessed and duty owed

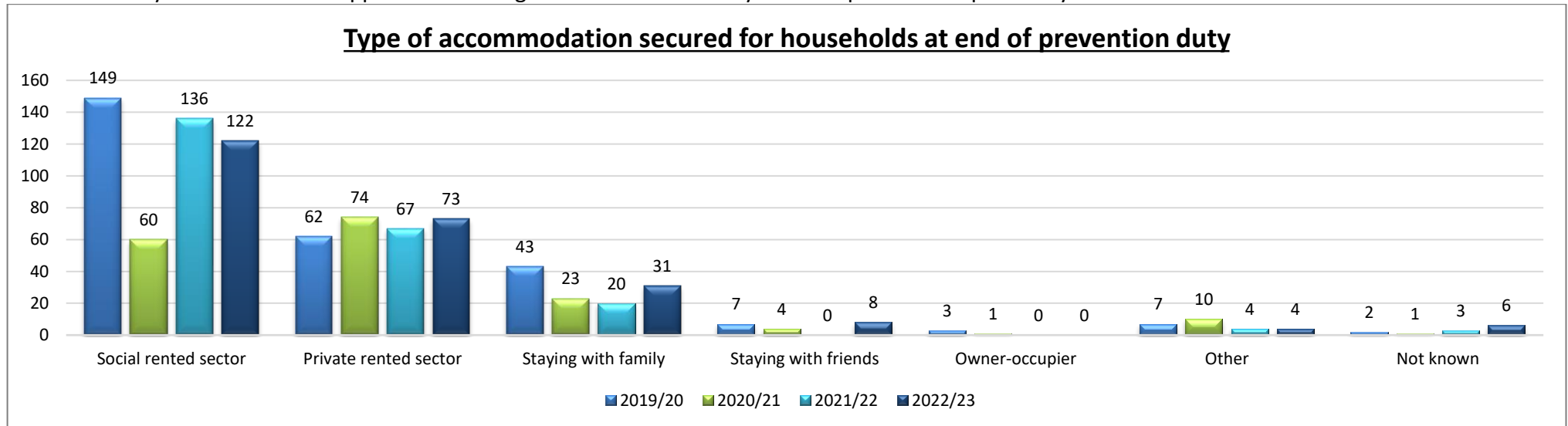


The number of homeless applicants owed a Prevention duty in 2022/23 reduced by 12% from 2021/22 and the number of applicants owed a Relief duty reduced by 5%. There was a 75% decrease in the number of households not owed any duty in 2022/23 compared to 2021/22.

Prevention Duty

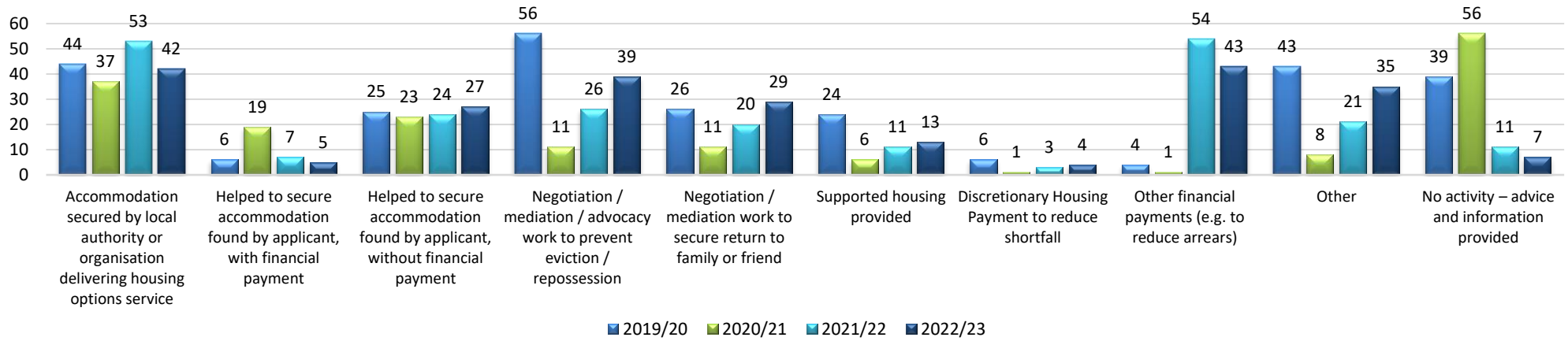


The most common reason for ending the Prevention Duty in 2022/23 was the applicant securing accommodation for 6+ months. The number of cases where the Prevention Duty ended due to the applicant becoming homeless decreased by 24% compared to the previous year.



Most households owed a Prevention Duty in 2022/23 secured social rented sector accommodation, though this figure decreased by 10% compared to 2021/22. The number of applicants securing accommodation in the private rented sector, with family, and with friends increased from 2021/22.

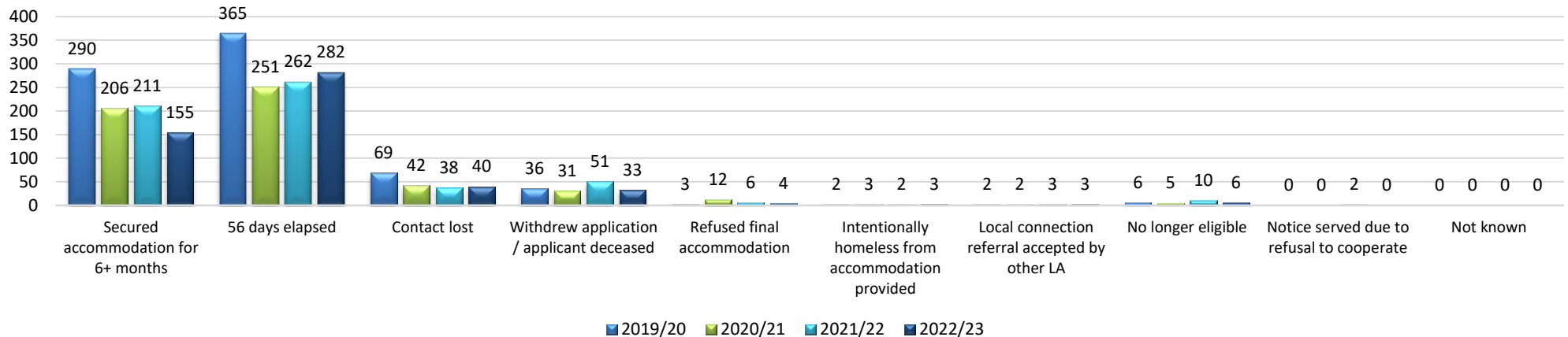
Main activity that resulted in accommodation secured for households



The main activities that resulted in accommodation being secured for those owed a Prevention Duty in 2022/23 was accommodation being secured by Housing Options Service Trafford and negotiation/mediation/advocacy work to prevent eviction.

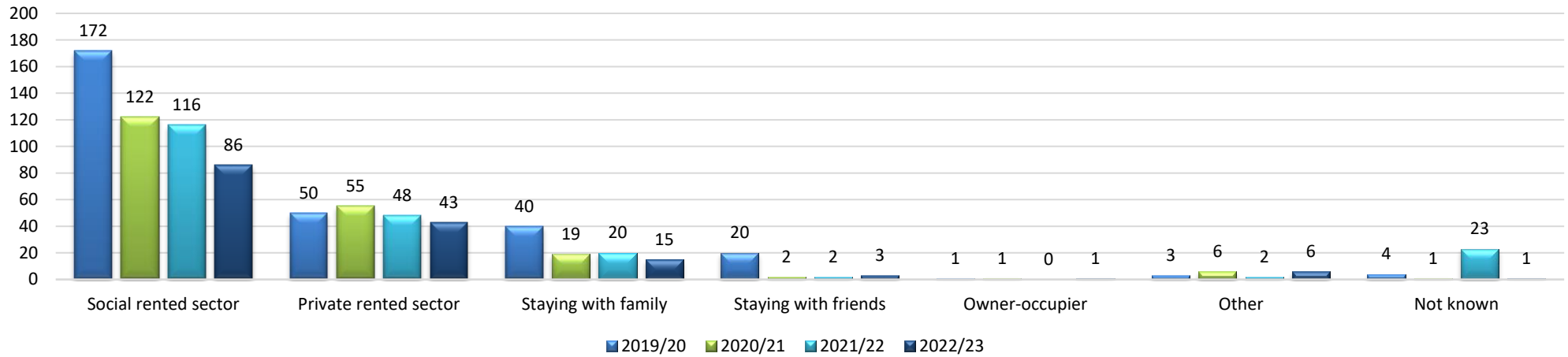
Relief Duty

Reason for households' relief duty ending



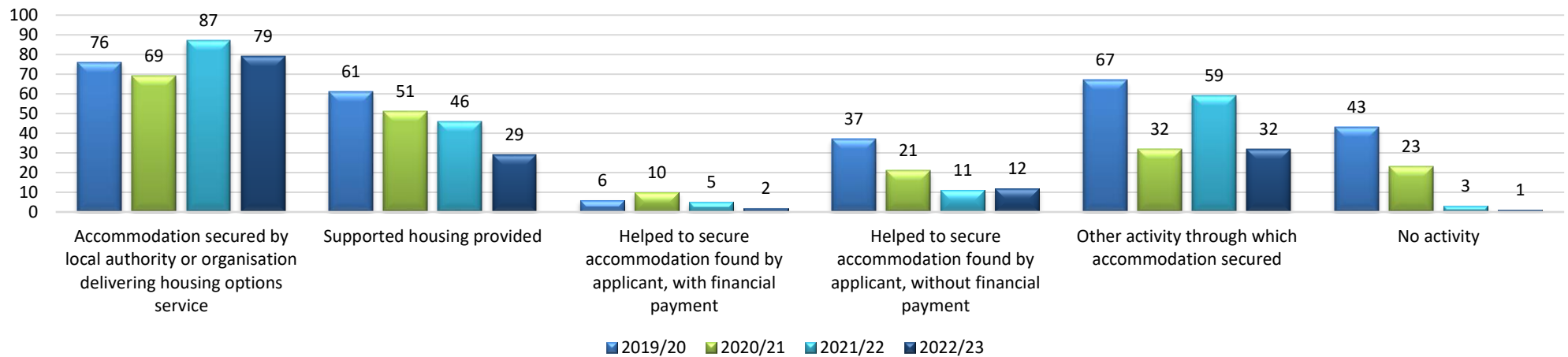
The main reason for the Relief Duty ending in 2022/23 was the 56-day legal time limit elapsing. As settled accommodation was not secured within the Relief Duty, these applicants would go on to be assessed for the Main Duty. The second most common reason for the Relief Duty ending was the applicant securing accommodation for 6+ months.

Type of accommodation secured for households at end of relief duty



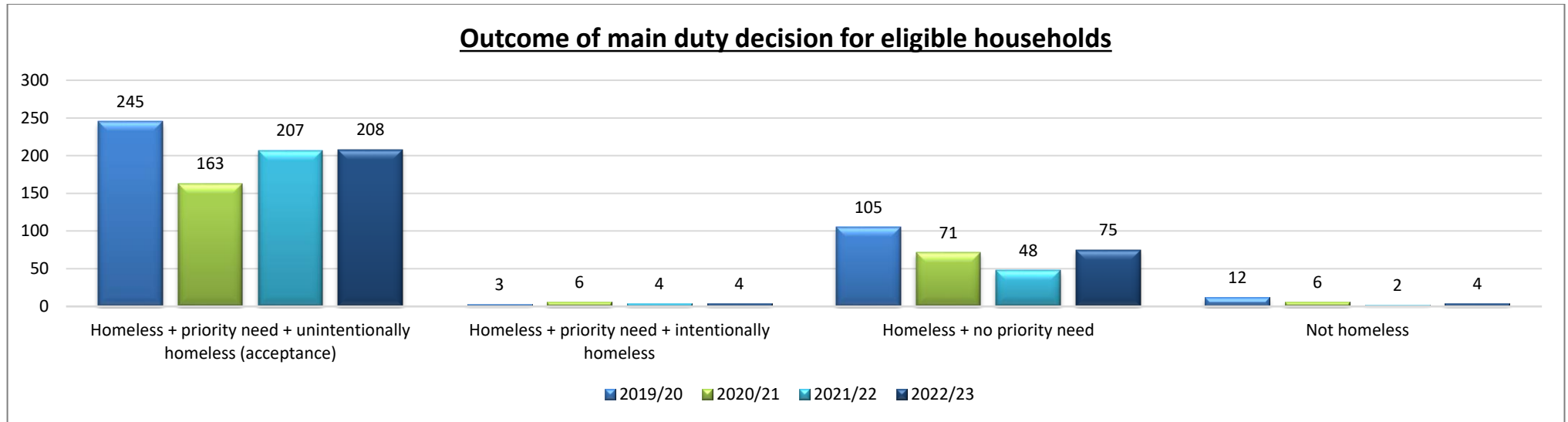
Of the applicants whose Relief duty ended due to securing accommodation for 6+ months in 2022/23, most secured social rented accommodation.

Main activity that resulted in accommodation secured for households

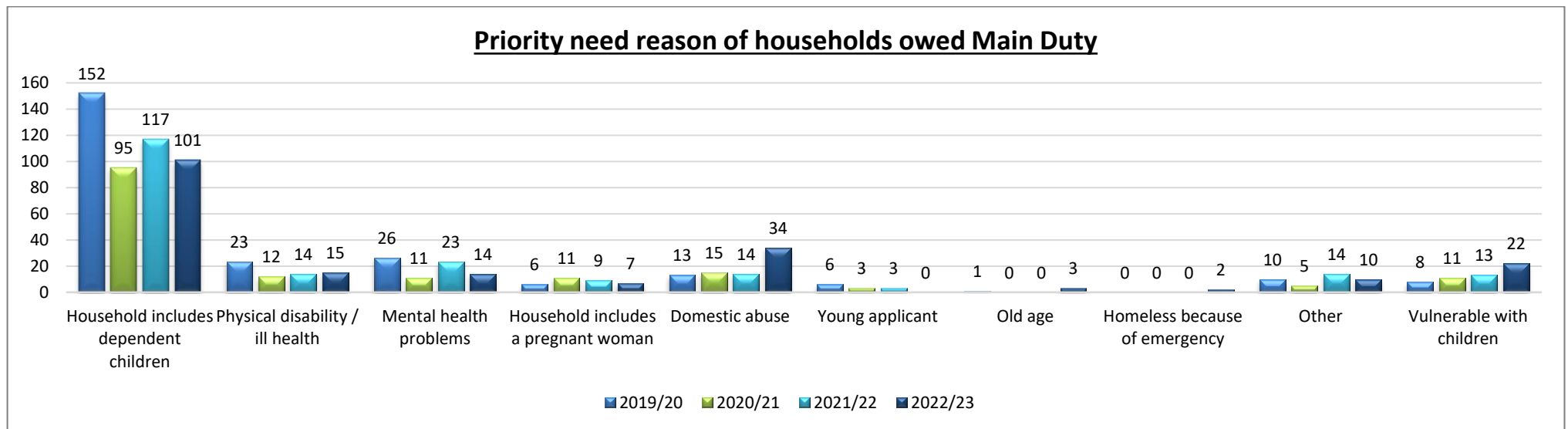


The main activity that resulted in accommodation being secured for those owed a Relief Duty in 2022/23 was accommodation being secured by HOST. There was a 63% decrease in households who were provided with supported accommodation.

Main Duty

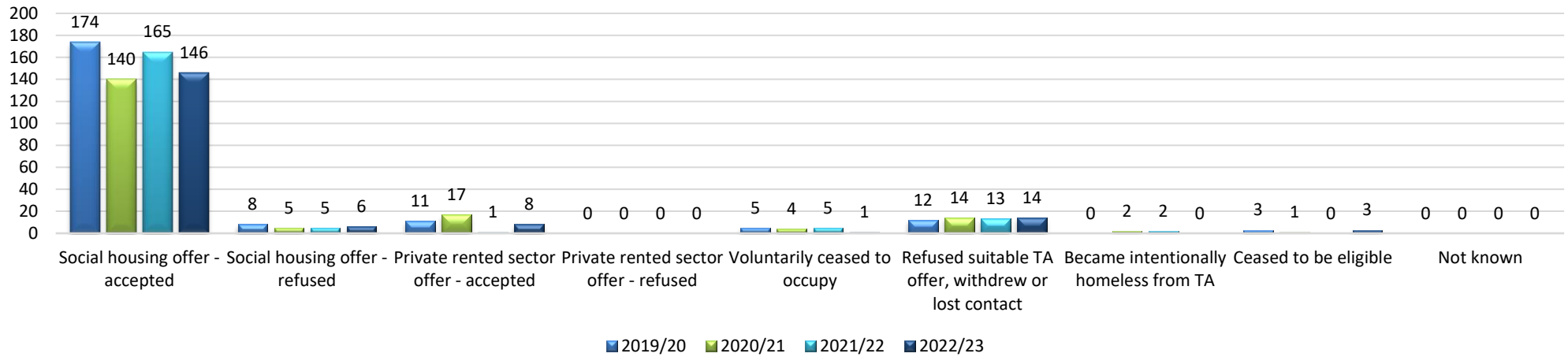


Most decisions made on eligible applicants in 2022/23 determined the household was homeless, in priority need, and unintentionally homeless and therefore owed the Main duty. There was an increase in non-priority need decisions and not homeless decisions made in 2022/23.



The most common reason for households being granted priority need status in 2022/23 was the household including dependent children. The second most common reason was the applicant was vulnerable as a result of domestic abuse, which increased by 143% from 2021/22.

Outcome of households no longer owed Main Duty



The majority of households owed the Main duty in 2022/23 accepted an offer of suitable social rented accommodation, which ended the homelessness duty. However, there was a 12% decrease in the number of Main duty cases that were ended following a social housing offer being accepted compared to 2021/22. There was a significant increase in Main duty applicants accepting offers of private rented accommodation in 2022/23 compared to 2021/22.

Delivery of the Homelessness Strategy Action Plan

The delivery of the Homelessness Strategy Action Plan is being led by the Homeless Champions Group (HCG). Several Task & Finish groups have been established to drive forward the delivery of the Action Plan, which include:

1. Prevent Homelessness
2. Rough Sleepers
3. B&B and Temporary Accommodation
4. Employment, Education & Training
5. Health & Wellbeing

Homelessness Strategy Action Plan Update 2023

A review of the Homelessness Strategy Action Plan 2019-2024 has been undertaken to determine what has been achieved, what we are working towards and what we have still left to do. A copy of the Homelessness Strategy Action Plan update is contained within Appendix 1.

What have we achieved?

Prevent Homelessness

- ✓ Explore the introduction of an in-house mediation service, part of HOST, that would reduce homelessness where parents, relatives or friends are no longer willing or able to accommodate.
- ✓ Explore the options to introduce a Private Landlords Incentive Scheme which will increase tenancy length and security for tenants in the private sector.
- ✓ Explore setting up a Sanctuary Scheme to enable victims of domestic abuse the opportunity to stay in their home with safe and secure measures thus reducing homelessness.
- ✓ Maintain the Trafford Domestic Abuse Forum.
- ✓ Work in partnership with the Police and Community Safety Team to tackle homelessness due to domestic abuse.
- ✓ Establish links and work in partnership with drug and alcohol services, health services, domestic abuse services and the VCSE sector to prevent homelessness.
- ✓ Explore options to provide financial and budgeting training for existing tenants to prevent homelessness.
- ✓ Ensure additional support with Universal Credit and related benefits is available so people are aware of the benefits available, how they can apply and also how to appeal.

Improve access to Permanent Affordable Accommodation & Supported Homes

- ✓ Encourage Registered Providers to offer a high-quality management agent (landlord) service to private landlords.

- ✓ Continue to operate the Bond scheme for tenants looking to access the private rented sector.
- ✓ Develop an Empty Property Strategy for Trafford.
- ✓ Continue to operate and promote the Empty Property Match Maker Scheme.

End Rough Sleeping

- ✓ Ensure there are effective outreach services in Trafford to play a critical role in identifying needs of a rough sleeper at an early stage.
- ✓ Ensure Trafford utilise the Social Impact Board (SIB) and Housing First initiatives introduced at a Greater Manchester level.
- ✓ Explore ways for people to donate that do not inadvertently support and encourage street begging.
- ✓ Explore the opportunity to establish a 'pay forward scheme' with a local café or restaurant as an alternative to giving rough sleepers/beggars on the street.
- ✓ Explore the opportunity to establish a card service for rough sleepers to access money donated.
- ✓ Offer a bed for the night for all rough sleepers during the winter period (October – March).
- ✓ Establish links with faith, community organisations and other partners to enable a bed for every night in winter can be provided in Trafford.
- ✓ Explore options to provide 'a bed every night' throughout the year regardless of weather.
- ✓ Ensure Trafford makes use of the available funding through the GM Mayoral Fund.
- ✓ Work with sofa surfers to prevent rough sleeping

Improve Access to Employment, Education and Training

- ✓ Continue to refer people to GM employment projects such as Working Well, Skills for Employment and Motiv8 who provide intensive one to one support working with individuals to overcoming their barriers and provide help to raise confidence, upskill and increase employability.
- ✓ Improve links with Trafford College to enable homeless people to access courses.
- ✓ Explore options to provide training courses to individuals at risk of homelessness, and those recently resettled following homelessness, on budgeting, cooking, nutrition and CV writing.
- ✓ Explore options to provide driving lessons and specific job-related courses.
- ✓ Explore options for a facility for individuals at risk of homelessness, and that recently resettled following homelessness, where they can prepare for job interviews.

- ✓ Publicise the grants available for homeless people/ individuals at risk of homelessness, and that recently resettled following homelessness, to access college courses.
- ✓ Ensure HOST and Job Centre staff are aware of the opportunities available for homeless people in terms of education.

Improve Health & Wellbeing for Homeless People

- ✓ Work with partners to address the health of homeless people across Trafford.
- ✓ Improve access to mental health services for homeless people in Trafford.
- ✓ Explore specialist support services that can help those in need and reduce homelessness for those people with a disclosed mental health issue.
- ✓ Develop a Mental Health Strategy for Trafford.
- ✓ Ensure that Trafford is part of the discussions regarding mental health at the GM level as part of the homelessness charter.
- ✓ Improve access to substance misuse services for homeless people in Trafford.
- ✓ Explore the opportunity to provide mindfulness and wellbeing courses for homeless people.
- ✓ Utilise the legal duties to ensure health, social care and related services (including housing) integrate to reduce health inequalities in Trafford.
- ✓ Explore the opportunity of dedicated medical centre for homeless people.
- ✓ Improve access to health and GP services for homeless people.
- ✓ Explore options to introduce a mobile health/therapy clinic that can take services directly to where it is needed.

What are we underway with?

Prevent Homelessness

- ✓ Continue to Prevent Homelessness as a priority - The prevention of homelessness continues to be an important part of Housing Options Service Trafford. HOST services have been promoted via social media, the Council and Registered Provider (RP) websites, and via posters displayed in key locations. The Housing and Homelessness Advice section of Trafford's website has also been updated to make information and advice easier to find and understand.
- ✓ Continue to offer Floating Support to assist with the prevention of homelessness – Trafford's Tenancy Support Service has 9 Officers; 3 dedicated to generic tenancy support and 6 focused on specialist cohorts including ex-offenders, asylum seekers, and rough sleepers.
- ✓ Establish links with services for young people to support Trafford's young people and educate regarding the risks of homelessness - A list of all the school contacts has been supplied to HOST

who will undertake visits to schools to provide a briefing session on homelessness. HOST also refer to 18–25-year-olds GM Better Outcomes Partnership and 16-25-year-olds to Power2.

- ✓ Continue to work in partnership with the After Care Team to provide a pathway for those homeless Care Leavers – A member of staff from HOST sits with the Aftercare team on a weekly basis.

Improve access to Permanent Affordable Accommodation & Supported Homes

- ✓ Increase the supply of affordable housing including social rent across Trafford – 255 new affordable homes were completed in 2022/23. A further 591 affordable homes have planning permission in Trafford and construction of 488 of these units has already commenced. Promotion of the Trafford Affordable Housing Fund continues, and RPs are encouraged to provide social rented accommodation in Trafford.
- ✓ Continue to utilise the Homes England grants and work in partnership with our Registered Providers to ensure that the supply of affordable housing across Trafford increases – Trafford received RSAP funding to deliver 12 new build homes for rough sleepers. Trafford Council are continuing to work with RPs and Homes England to encourage the development of affordable (including social rent) housing across the borough.
- ✓ Continue to promote the Trafford Affordable Housing Fund - Trafford Affordable Housing Fund was established in September 2018 and combines all affordable housing planning contributions made via a S106. The Fund is promoted quarterly with the Strategic Housing Partnership. A review of the criteria now allows for RPs and the Council to utilise the Fund alongside other grants.
- ✓ Work with Registered Providers and developers to support the ambition to increase private rented accommodation and actively promote Build for Rent, supported through the Homes England Homebuilding Fund – This action is ongoing and is discussed quarterly at the Strategic Housing Partnership and Increase Housing Delivery Group.
- ✓ Address the stock condition in the Private Sector using the results of the Private Sector Stock Condition Survey - The results of the last Private Sector Stock Condition have been utilised by Housing Standards to provide a comprehensive response to the Secretary of State regarding damp and mould growth in privately rented properties within Trafford.
- ✓ Increase the provision of good quality Private Rented Sector accommodation across Trafford – A successful bid was made to source 10 private rented properties through Approved Property Group and rent to clients with a 20% LHA uplift provided. Trafford also hold a quarterly landlord forum to strengthen relationships with local landlords.
- ✓ Explore options to bring empty properties back into use as affordable accommodation using available powers - Housing Standards promote the option for the Council to lease empty properties from homeowners via the Council website, as well as a link to 'Let Us', Greater Manchester's Ethical Lettings Agency.

Eradicate the use of B&B

- ✓ Aim to eradicate the use of Bed & Breakfast for emergency accommodation in Trafford - HOST work hard to ensure alternative temporary accommodation is offered to households including children.

- ✓ Continue to allocate families with children self-contained temporary accommodation as a priority rather than B&B – Trafford Council are working with GMCA to explore ways to reduce the use of B&B.

Increase the Provision of Temporary Accommodation

- ✓ Increase the provision of temporary accommodation - HOST has a dedicated PRS officer within the team whose role is to increase the provision of temporary accommodation within the PRS and engage effectively with landlords. A Landlord Forum is held quarterly to encourage engagement.
- ✓ Explore options to bring back empty properties for use as temporary accommodation – Housing Standards continue to work with homeowners to bring empty homes back into use. One property has been brought into use – a 4 bed HMO which has been converted to 4 individual flats for use as TA. An inspection of another empty property was undertaken in March 2023 by Housing Standards and HOST with a view to the owner leasing the property to the council.

End Rough Sleeping

- ✓ End the need for rough sleeping in Trafford by 2024 in line with the Greater Manchester commitment - Trafford's number of rough sleepers has decreased from 5 in 2021/22 to 2 in 2022/23. Both individuals are well known to the service and efforts will continue to encourage them to engage.
- ✓ Ensure those rough sleepers with complex needs and chaotic lifestyles have access to the appropriate support – GMCA has recruited a Dual Diagnosis Worker and an Outreach Nurse with RSI monies. These posts are shared across the 10 GM boroughs. Trafford also continues to support GM's Housing First Pilot. In addition, Trafford are investigating the possibility of commissioning supported accommodation units specifically for those with high level/complex needs.
- ✓ Explore new ways to create additional spaces to meet short term peaks in demand of rough sleepers – Trafford opened a second A Bed Every Night (ABEN) provision in March 2021. The ABEN scheme now provides 11 bedspaces. HOST access alternative accommodation to address peaks in demand for this type of provision.

Improve Access to Employment, Education and Training

- ✓ Continue to ensure that homeless people or those not living in-secure tenancies are a priority group for the Trafford Pledge – This will continue.
- ✓ Work with construction employers to ensure there are apprenticeships and careers structures in place - The Construction sub-group has agreed to coordinate all upcoming opportunities through Procure Plus who have Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) funding to create local training hubs in areas where there are a number of projects.

Improve Health & Wellbeing for Homeless People

- ✓ Continue to operate the GM Hospital Discharge protocol to ensure adequate notice is given regarding discharge to prevent homelessness and enable officers to find suitable accommodation - GM Hospital Discharge Protocol is in place and working well. There is an

officer within HOST who is the main contact for those people admitted to hospital with no fixed abode.

Next Steps

1. The Homelessness Strategy Action Plan (2019-2024) will continue to be reviewed and updated quarterly and an annual update report produced and published.
2. A quarterly update on the progress of the Homelessness Strategy Action Plan will continue to be provided to the Homeless Champions Group.
3. The Task & Finish Groups established to drive forward the Homelessness Strategy Action Plan will continue to meet until the specific task/outcomes have been achieved.

Appendix 1

Homelessness Strategy Action Plan 2019-2024

Annual Review 2023



www.trafford.gov.uk

Trafford Homelessness Strategy 2019-2024
Annual Statement 2023

www.trafford.gov.uk

Colour Key:	Not Started	Underway	Completed
--------------------	--------------------	-----------------	------------------

Ref.	Action	By when	By who	Update
ACTION 1: PREVENT HOMELESSNESS				
1.1	Continue to Prevent Homelessness as a priority.	Ongoing	HOST	<p>This action is ongoing.</p> <p>The following actions have been taken to promote HOST services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular posts on social media and the white boxes so staffs know where to signpost. • Posters printed and displayed in public buildings. • Review and refresh of the Housing section of Trafford's website to offer more detailed advice to those facing housing challenges.
1.2	Explore the introduction of an in-house mediation service, part of HOST, that would reduce homelessness where parents, relatives or friends are no long willing or able to accommodate.	Spring 2020	Housing Strategy & Growth Team, Adult Services, CCG.	<p>COMPLETED</p> <p>All HOST staff have received some training as part of the training for the HRA regarding mediation. HOST continue to look at further training for Officers on an ongoing basis.</p>
1.3	Explore the options to introduce a Private Landlords Incentive Scheme which will increase tenancy length and security for tenants in the private sector.	December 2023	Housing Strategy & Growth Team, Housing Standards Team, HOST	<p>COMPLETED</p> <p>Overall, the schemes in place such as the rental bond and the LHA uplift from RSI monies are working well.</p> <p>HOST lead a landlord forum to promote these schemes.</p>

Ref.	Action	By when	By who	Update
ACTION 1: PREVENT HOMELESSNESS				
1.4	Explore setting up a Sanctuary Scheme to enable victims of domestic abuse the opportunity to stay in their home with safe and secure measures thus reducing homelessness.	Autumn 2020	Housing Strategy & Growth Team, HOST,	COMPLETED TDAS can offer this function where required.
1.5	Maintain the Trafford Domestic Abuse Forum.	December 2023	MARAC, Partnerships Team.	COMPLETED The Forum has been re-named the Domestic Abuse Strategic Group and is well attended.
1.6	Work in partnership with the Police and Community Safety Team to tackle homelessness due to domestic abuse.	December 2023	HOST, GMP, Community Safety Team, Partnerships Team.	COMPLETED HOST attend the Local DA Partnership Board and MARAC. HOST's Domestic Abuse Tenancy Support Officer refers directly to Community Safety for target hardening. HOST have a close working relationship and are in frequent contact with GMP.
1.7	Continue to offer Floating Support to assist with the prevention of homelessness.	Ongoing	HOST, Adult Services	Trafford's Tenancy Support Service has 9 Officers; 3 dedicated to generic tenancy support and 6 focused on specialist cohorts including ex-offenders, asylum seekers, and rough sleepers.

Ref.	Action	By when	By who	Update
1.8	Establish links and work in partnership with drug and alcohol services, health services, domestic abuse services and the VCSE sector to prevent homelessness.	December 2023	HOST, CCG, VCSE, MARAC, Adult Services	<p>COMPLETED</p> <p>A member of staff from Achieve (Drug and Alcohol services) and Trafford Domestic Abuse Service sit with the HOST team on a weekly basis.</p> <p>HOST have also formed links with BluSci and a dentist.</p>
1.9	Explore options to provide financial and budgeting training for existing tenants to prevent homelessness.	December 2023	HOST, RPs	<p>COMPLETED</p> <p>Tenancy Support provide budgeting and financial advice and refer to external agencies where required.</p> <p>HOST also refer to Trafford's Welfare Rights service who provide financial and budgeting advice.</p>
1.10	Ensure additional support with Universal Credit and related benefits is available so people are aware of the benefits available, how they can apply and also how to appeal.	December 2023	Exchequer Services, DWP, HOST	<p>COMPLETED</p> <p>HOST ensure all customers have appropriate benefits and Tenancy Support assist with applications and appeals.</p> <p>A DWP worker attends the Homeless Champions Group and Complex Needs Cases meetings.</p>

Ref.	Action	By when	By who	Updates
1.11	Establish links with services for young people to support Trafford's young people and educate regarding the risks of homelessness.	December 2024	HOST	A list of all the school contacts has been supplied to HOST who are planning to undertake visits to provide a briefing session on homelessness and its affects. HOST also refer to GM Better Outcome Partnership (18–25) and Power2 (16-25).
1.12	Continue to work in partnership with the After Care Team to provide a pathway for those homeless Care Leavers.	Ongoing	HOST, Adult Services, Children's Service,	HOST Officers have weekly catch ups with the Aftercare Team.
ACTION 2: IMPROVE ACCESS TO PERMANENT AFFORDABLE ACCOMMODATION AND SUPPORTED HOMES				
2.1	Increase the supply of affordable housing including social rent across Trafford.	Ongoing	Strategic Growth Service, Homes England, RPs.	245 new affordable homes were completed in 2022/23. A further 591 affordable homes have planning permission and construction of 488 of these units has already commenced. Promotion of the Trafford Affordable Housing Fund continues.
2.2	Continue to utilise the Homes England grants and work in partnership with our Registered Providers to ensure that the supply of affordable housing across Trafford increases.	Ongoing	Strategic Growth Service, Homes England, RPs.	Trafford received RSAP funding to deliver 12 new build homes for rough sleepers. Homes England attend Trafford's quarterly Strategic Housing Partnership meeting. Trafford Council continues to work with RPs and Homes England to encourage the development of affordable housing (including social rent) across the borough.

Ref.	Action	By when	By who	Updates
2.3	Continue to promote the Trafford Affordable Housing Fund.	Ongoing	Strategic Growth Service, SHP, RPs	The Trafford Affordable Housing Fund is promoted quarterly within the Strategic Housing Partnership. A review of the criteria now allows for RPs and the Council to utilise the Fund alongside other grants.
2.4	Work with Registered Providers and developers to support the ambition to increase private rented accommodation and actively promote Build for Rent, supported through the Homes England Homebuilding Fund.	Ongoing	Strategic Growth Service, Homes England, RPs, Housing Standards Team.	This action is ongoing and discussed at the Strategic Housing Partnership and Increase Housing Delivery Group.
2.5	Encourage Registered Providers to offer a high-quality management agent (landlord) service to private landlords.	Ongoing	Strategic Growth Service, Homes England, RPs, Housing Standards Team.	COMPLETED GM Ethical Lettings Agency established which brings together GM RPs to provide management services for landlords in GM.
2.6	Address the stock condition in the Private Sector using the results of the Private Sector Stock Condition Survey.	Ongoing	Strategic Growth Service, RPs, Housing Standards Team, Private Landlords.	The results of the 2019 Stock Condition Survey have recently been utilised by Housing Standards to provide a comprehensive response to the Secretary of State regarding damp and mould growth in privately rented properties within Trafford.
2.7	Increase the provision of good quality Private Rented Sector accommodation across Trafford.	Ongoing	Strategic Growth Service, Homes England, RPs, Housing Standards Team.	Trafford made a successful bid to source 10 private rented properties through Approved property group and rent to clients with a 20% LHA uplift provided. Landlord Forum held quarterly.

Ref.	Action	By when	By who	Updates
2.8	Continue to operate the Bond scheme for tenants looking to access the private rented sector.	Ongoing	HOST	COMPLETED The Rental Bond scheme will continue and offers Landlords the option of either a paper or cash bond.
2.9	Develop an Empty Property Strategy for Trafford.	December 2019	Housing Standards Team, Housing Strategy & Growth Team.	COMPLETED The Empty Homes Strategy has been developed and was launched in November 2019.
2.10	Explore options to back empty properties into use as affordable accommodation using available powers.	Ongoing	Strategic Growth Service, Legal, Housing Standards Team, RPs, Developers.	Housing Standards promote the option for the Council to lease empty properties from homeowners via the Council website, as well as a link to 'Let Us', Greater Manchester's Ethical Lettings Agency.
2.11	Continue to operate and promote the Empty Property Match Maker Scheme.	Ongoing	Housing Strategy & Growth Team, Housing Standards team, Communications and Marketing Team.	COMPLETED Trafford's Empty Property Match Maker Scheme has been launched and regular social media posts regarding the scheme are in place.

ACTION 3: ERADICATE THE USE OF B&B				
Ref.	Action	By when	By who	Update
3.1	Aim to eradicate the use of Bed & Breakfast for emergency accommodation in Trafford.	March 2024	Housing Strategy & Growth Team, HOST	The use of B&B has increased by 25% from 2021/22 to 2022/23 due to the cost-of-living crisis. However, the length of time households spend in B&B has reduced. HOST are working with GMCA to explore ways to reduce the use of B&B and will continue to explore ways to increase the provision of emergency accommodation.
3.2	Continue to allocate families with children self-contained temporary accommodation as a priority rather than B&B.	Ongoing	HOST	HOST work hard to ensure alternative temporary accommodation is offered to households with children.
ACTION 4: INCREASE THE PROVISION OF TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION				
4.1	Increase the provision of temporary accommodation.	Ongoing	Strategic Growth Service, Homes England, HOST, RPs	HOST increased the portfolio by an additional 20 units during 2019/20 and continue to explore opportunities to increase temporary accommodation provision with both registered providers and private landlords.
4.2	Work in partnership with RPs and private landlords to increase the provision of temporary accommodation.	Ongoing	HOST, RPs, Private Landlords	HOST has a dedicated PRS officer within the team whose role is to increase the provision of temporary accommodation within the PRS and engage effectively with landlords. In addition, a Landlord Forum is held quarterly to encourage engagement.

Ref.	Action	By when	By who	Update
4.3	Explore options to bring back empty properties for use as temporary accommodation.	Ongoing	HOST, RPs, Private Landlords	<p>Housing Standards continue to work with homeowners to bring empty homes back into use. One property has been brought into use – a 4 bed HMO which has been converted to 4 individual flats for use as TA.</p> <p>An inspection of another empty property was undertaken in March 2023 by Housing Standards and HOST with a view to the owner leasing the property to the council.</p>
ACTION 5: END ROUGH SLEEPING				
5.1	End the need for rough sleeping in Trafford by 2024 in line with the Greater Manchester commitment.	Ongoing	HOST, GMCA	<p>Trafford's number has decreased from 5 in 2021/22 to 2 in 2022/23. Both individuals are well known to the service and efforts will continue to encourage them to engage.</p> <p>The Rough Sleeper Team now have access to petty cash to further encourage engagement.</p>
5.2	Ensure there are effective outreach services in Trafford to play a critical role in identifying needs of a rough sleeper at an early stage.	Ongoing	Housing Strategy & Growth Team, Adults Services, HOST, CCG, Voluntary Sector	<p>COMPLETED</p> <p>St John's Church in Stretford has provided a comprehensive list of services available to rough sleepers.</p> <p>Trafford has two Rough Sleeper Outreach workers and a Rough Sleeper Navigator who are working intensively with this cohort.</p>

Ref.	Action	By when	By who	Update
5.3	Ensure those rough sleepers with complex needs and chaotic lifestyles have access to the appropriate support.	Ongoing	Housing Strategy & Growth Team, Adults Services, HOST, CCG, Voluntary Sector	GMCA, through Rough Sleeper Initiative monies, have recruited Dual Diagnosis Workers and Outreach Nurses to be shared across the GM boroughs. Trafford are also investigating the possibility of commissioning supported accommodation units specifically for those with high level/complex needs.
5.4	Ensure Trafford utilise the Social Impact Board (SIB) and Housing First initiatives introduced at a Greater Manchester level.	Ongoing	Housing Strategy & Growth Team, Adults Services, HOST, CCG, Voluntary Sector	COMPLETED Trafford is working with the SIB to maintain support once the pilot has decommissioned. Trafford have used its full allocation for Housing First referrals.
5.5	Explore new ways to create additional spaces to meet short term peaks in demand of rough sleepers.	Ongoing	Housing Strategy & Growth Team, Adults Services, HOST, CCG, Voluntary Sector	Trafford opened a second A Bed Every Night (ABEN) provision in March 2021. The ABEN scheme now provides 11 bedspaces. HOST access alternative accommodation to address peaks in demand for this type of provision and secured funding to cover 'flexible surge accommodation'.
5.6	Explore ways for people to donate that do not inadvertently support and encourage street begging.	December 2023	Housing Strategy & Growth Team, HOST, Partnership Team, Real Change.	COMPLETED There is work ongoing at GM level to achieve this action; the GM Mayors Charity allows people to donate online and via shop portals. As such, it was decided this action was no longer necessary in Trafford.

Ref.	Action	By when	By who	Update
5.7	Explore the opportunity to establish a 'pay forward scheme' with a local café or restaurant as an alternative to giving rough sleepers/beggars on the street.	December 2019	Housing Strategy & Growth Team, HOST, Partnership Team, Real Change.	COMPLETED This was explored. The Homeless Champions group decided it wouldn't be viable due to risks that may incur with theft and bullying as well as large numbers of rough sleepers congregating at participating venues.
5.8	Explore the opportunity to establish a card service for rough sleepers to access money donated.	December 2019	Housing Strategy & Growth Team, HOST, Partnership Team, Real Change.	COMPLETED This was explored. The Homeless Champions Group decided it wouldn't be viable due to risks that may incur with theft and bullying.
5.9	Offer a bed for the night for all rough sleepers during the winter period (October – March).	Ongoing	RPs, HOST, GMCA	COMPLETED Trafford have two units providing 11 bed spaces for ABEN. ABEN will remain open every night until March 2025. Trafford also make emergency placements in 'flexible surge accommodation' when SWEP is triggered.
5.10	Establish links with faith, community organisations and other partners to enable a bed for every night in winter can be provided in Trafford.	Ongoing	Housing Strategy & Growth Team, HOST, Partnership Team	COMPLETED Action no longer necessary as funding from GMCA has ensured accommodation is available.
5.11	Explore options to provide 'a bed every night' throughout the year regardless of weather.	Dec 2020	Housing Strategy & Growth Team, HOST, Partnership Team, GMCA	COMPLETED This provision is in place.

Ref.	Action	By when	By who	Updates
5.12	Ensure Trafford makes use of the available funding through the GM Mayoral Fund.	Ongoing	Housing Strategy & Growth Team, HOST.	COMPLETED Trafford have a grant agreement in place with GMCA to receive monies from the mayoral fund for ABEN.
5.13	Work with sofa surfers to prevent rough sleeping	Ongoing	HOST	COMPLETED All customers have a housing options assessment with a Personal Housing Plan formulated in line with the HRA. Those at risk of rough sleeping, including sofa surfers, can access funds aimed at reducing rough sleeper numbers as well as the Rent & Deposit scheme to secure their own accommodation.
ACTION 6: IMPROVE ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND TRAINING				
6.1	Continue to ensure that homeless people or those not living in-secure tenancies are a priority group for the Trafford Pledge.	Ongoing	Strategic Growth Service, TEES.	This will continue.
6.2	Continue to refer people to GM employment projects such as Working Well, Skills for Employment and Motiv8 who provide intensive one to one support working with individuals to overcoming their barriers and provide help to raise confidence, upskill and increase employability.	Ongoing	HOST, DWP, Job Centre, RPs, Probation Service	COMPLETED HOST have contacts with the employment projects and will continue to refer customer who need this support.

Ref.	Action	By when	By who	Update
6.3	Improve links with Trafford College to enable homeless people to access courses.	December 2019	HOST, Trafford College.	COMPLETED Links with Trafford College have been established.
6.4	Explore options to provide training courses to individuals at risk of homelessness, and those recently resettled following homelessness, on budgeting, cooking, nutrition and CV writing.	Summer 2022	HOST, Trafford College, RPs, Partnership Team.	COMPLETED The Employment, Education, and Training Task & Finish Group established there are no such courses available to this cohort in Trafford.
6.5	Explore options to provide driving lessons and specific job-related courses.	March 2022	HOST, Trafford College, DWP, Job Centre	COMPLETED The Employment, Education, and Training Task & Finish Group established there are no such courses available in Trafford.
6.6	Explore options for a facility for individuals at risk of homelessness, and that recently resettled following homelessness, where they can prepare for job interviews.	March 2021	HOST, Housing Strategy & Growth Team, RPs	COMPLETED A facility has been established within Stretford Mall called 'Working Wardrobe' which allows homeless people and those on low incomes to access clothing for interviews.

6.7	Publicise the grants available for homeless people/ individuals at risk of homelessness, and that recently resettled following homelessness, to access college courses.	Ongoing	HOST	COMPLETED Trafford has explored this action and unfortunately Trafford College have confirmed that there aren't any specific grants that could be publicised.
6.8	Ensure HOST and Job Centre staff are aware of the opportunities available for homeless people in terms of education.	Ongoing	HOST, Job Centre, DWP.	COMPLETED DWP liaise with HOST and the Homeless Champions Group to ensure up to date information continues to be available.
6.9	Work with construction employers to ensure there are apprenticeships and careers structures in place.	Ongoing	Construction Sub-Group, Inclusive Growth Board, SHP, RPs.	The Construction sub-group has agreed to coordinate all upcoming opportunities through Procure Plus who have Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) funding to create local training hubs in areas where there are a number of projects.
ACTION 7: IMPROVE HEALTH AND WELLBEING FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE				
7.1	Work with partners to address the health of homeless people across Trafford.	March 2024	Adult Services, CCG, NHS, HOST, VCSE, RPs	COMPLETED GM Health & Social Care Partnership established to address the wider agenda of health and homelessness across all 10 LAs. Trafford's ABEN provision provides health support including Hep C awareness, flu vaccinations and Covid-19 support. Trafford also involve health partners in the Mobile Health Unit which visits temporary accommodation schemes & B&Bs to offer health services.

Ref.	Action	By when	By who	Updates
7.2	Improve access to mental health services for homeless people in Trafford.	Ongoing	Adult Services, CCG, NHS, Housing Strategy & Growth Team, HOST	COMPLETED HOST utilise GMCA's Dual Diagnosis Workers and Outreach Nurses. In addition, Trafford's RSI funded Mobile Health links homeless people in with local health services.
7.3	Explore specialist support services that can help those in need and reduce homelessness for those people with a disclosed mental health issue.	December 2023	Adult Services, CCG, NHS, Housing Strategy & Growth Team, HOST	COMPLETED Trafford now has a Mental Health Strategy and, in response to Covid-19, mental health support has been extended. The Council also launched the Supported Housing Strategy in 2023 which includes supported housing for individuals with mental health needs. The Mobile Health Unit also helps in delivery of this action.
7.4	Develop a Mental Health Strategy for Trafford.	March 2020	Adult Services, CCG, NHS, Housing Strategy & Growth Team, HOST	COMPLETED Strategy has been developed and published.
7.5	Ensure that Trafford is part of the discussions regarding mental health at the GM level as part of the homelessness charter.	Ongoing	HOST	COMPLETED Trafford is part of GM wide discussions relating to Mental Health and accessing services for homeless people.

Ref.	Action	By when	By who	Update
7.6	Improve access to substance misuse services for homeless people in Trafford.	Ongoing	Adult Services, CCG, NHS, Housing Strategy & Growth Team, HOST	<p>COMPLETED</p> <p>A member of staff from Achieve (Drug and Alcohol services) sits with the HOST team on a weekly basis.</p> <p>Achieve are also involved in the upcoming Mobile Health Unit which will further improve access to their service for Trafford's homeless cohort.</p>
7.7	Explore the opportunity to provide mindfulness and wellbeing courses for homeless people.	December 2023	Adult Services, CCG, NHS, HOST	<p>COMPLETED</p> <p>This action has been explored. It was decided, as the main issue for homeless people is securing accommodation, that mindfulness and wellbeing courses should be offered once rehoused in settled accommodation. It was also established that Registered Provider are already offering this service to tenants.</p>
7.8	Continue to operate the GM Hospital Discharge protocol to ensure adequate notice is given regarding discharge to prevent homelessness and enable officers to find suitable accommodation.	Ongoing	HOST, CCG, NHS	<p>GM Hospital discharge protocol is in place and HOST have a designated Officer as the main contact for those people admitted to hospital with no fixed abode.</p>
7.9	Utilise the legal duties to ensure health, social care and related services (including housing) integrate to reduce health inequalities in Trafford.	Ongoing	Adult Services, CCG, NHS, HOST	<p>COMPLETED</p> <p>Trafford's Mobile Health Unit includes partners from St Johns Ambulance, Public Health, and other health services. Its aim is to tackle health inequality experienced by homeless individuals in Trafford.</p>

Ref.	Action	By when	By who	Update
7.10	Explore the opportunity of dedicated medical centre for homeless people.	December 2023	CCG, NHS	COMPLETED Trafford launched a Mobile Health Unit which visits various sites across the borough to reach the homeless cohort. The service provides an in-depth health offer to homeless people.
7.11	Improve access to health and GP services for homeless people.	Ongoing	CCG, NHS	COMPLETED HOST ensure all customers are registered with a GP as part of the HRA assessment. They also have links with a local dentist who provides free treatment to the homeless cohort. The Mobile Health Unit also assists with GP registration.
7.12	Explore options to introduce a mobile health/therapy clinic that can take services directly to where it is needed.	December 2022	CCG, NHS	COMPLETED Trafford launched an RSI funded Mobile Health Unit in October 2021 which visits temporary accommodation, supported accommodation, refuges, and B&B in the borough to deliver health initiatives.