

Statutory Homelessness in Kent: Financial year 2023-2024

This bulletin presents data published in October 2024 by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC).

This data will be updated in Autumn/Winter 2025/26.

NOTE: within this bulletin “Kent” refers to the Kent County Council area which excludes Medway

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[Kent facts and figures](#)

The statutory homeless data covers the characteristics of assessments and activities for homeless households in all local authorities in England between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024.

Summary

- During the financial year 2023/24, 11,627 Kent households were assessed under the statutory homeless duty.
- Of this total, 3,468 were found to be threatened with homelessness within 56 days and therefore owed a prevention duty.
- 3,438 households were assessed as being owed a relief duty.
- 1,262 households were found to be unintentionally homeless and in priority need and owed a main duty.
- The total number of households for whom a main duty ended was 1,302. Of this total 72.0% (938) accepted the offer of social housing.
- The average number of Kent households living in temporary accommodation each quarter during 2022/23 to 2023/24 is 2,091.

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What is statutory homelessness?

The term "Homelessness" is often considered to apply only to people "sleeping rough". However, most statistics on homelessness relate to the **"statutory homeless"** i.e., those households which meet specific criteria set out in legislation, and to whom a local authority has accepted a homelessness duty.

A household is considered statutorily homeless if they do not have a legal right to occupy accommodation that is accessible, physically available and which would be reasonable for the household to continue to live in, as well as households who currently have the right to occupy suitable accommodation, but that are threatened with homelessness within 56 days.

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), requires each local authority in England to submit data for the number of households that are threatened with homelessness or have become homeless and have approached the authority requesting assistance.

The Homelessness Case Level Information Collection (H-CLIC) data system replaced the aggregated data return (collected using the P1E form) for all new homeless applications. The replacement of the aggregated return coincided with the introduction of new legislation, the 2017 Homelessness Reduction Act (HRA) which was implemented on 3 April 2018. This new system collects more detailed data than previously on households, the activities offered to assist them, and their outcomes.

H-CLIC collects and reports data on all homelessness applications whatever the outcome. If, following investigation and assessment, the authority finds the person is not homeless or threatened with homelessness they must issue a 'not homeless' decision and the case is recorded on H-CLIC.

Current HRA legislation represents a significant change in homelessness legislation in England. The 2017 Act places duties on local authorities to intervene earlier under a prevention and / or relief duty. Local authorities must act in cases where the risk of becoming homeless within the next 56 days as opposed to 28 days in the previous homelessness act 2002.

It also extends the remit of those households who local authorities should help irrespective of 'priority need' or 'unintentional homelessness.' There are additional requirements to identify the circumstances, needs of homeless households, and provide further assistance to help address these needs where identified.

What are the homelessness duties of a local authority?

Prevention duties are any activities aimed at preventing a household threatened with homelessness within 56 days from becoming homeless. This would involve activities to enable an applicant to remain in their current home or find alternative accommodation to prevent them from becoming homeless. The duty lasts for 56 days but may be extended if the local authority is continuing with efforts to prevent homelessness.

Relief duties are owed to households that are already homeless and require help to secure settled accommodation. This would involve activities to find accommodation to relieve their homelessness. The duty lasts 56 days and can only be extended by a local authority if the households would not be owed the main homelessness duty.

Main duties describe the duty a local authority has towards an applicant who is unintentionally homeless, eligible for assistance and has priority need. This definition has not been changed by the 2017 HRA. However, these households are now only owed a main duty if they did not secure accommodation in the prevention or relief stage. This means a household owed a main duty is no longer a household that is threatened with homelessness. In addition, a minimum of 56 days now must have elapsed from a household approaching the local authority to being owed a main duty.

Initial Assessments

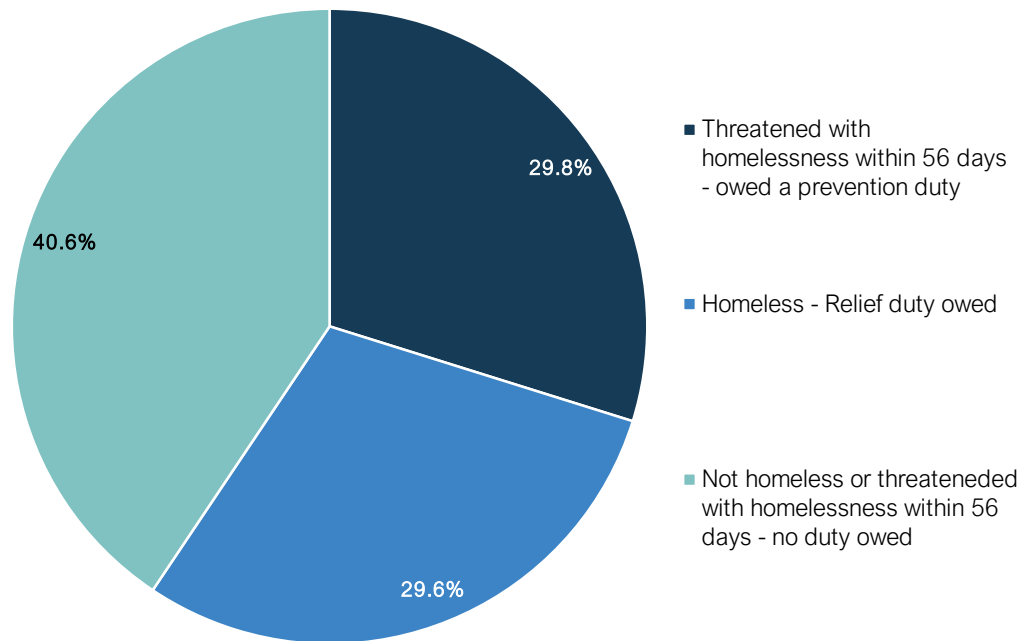
During the financial year 2023/24, local authorities in Kent assessed a total of 11,627 households under the statutory homelessness duty.

Chart 1 overleaf shows that of this total 3,468 (29.8%) households were found to be threatened with homelessness within 56 days, and therefore owed a prevention duty, 3,438 (29.6%) were assessed as being owed a relief duty and 4,721 (40.6%) of all households assessed were found to be not homeless.

During the financial year 2023/24 in Kent, of those 3,468 households threatened with homelessness and owed a prevention duty, 1,262 were due to a Section 21 notice. **A section 21 notice is a formal notification by a landlord which is the start of the process to end an assured shorthold tenancy.**

Chart 1: Initial homelessness assessments in Kent 2023/24

Initial assessments: Kent 2023 to 2024



Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table A1 detailed local authority level
Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Within Kent the highest number of initial assessments during 2023/24 was in Maidstone with 1,734 which accounts for 14.9% of the total for Kent. Of these assessments 607 were owed a prevention duty, 510 households were owed a relief duty, and 617 were found to be not homeless.

The lowest number of initial assessments was in Sevenoaks with 579 which accounts for 5.0% of the Kent total. Of these assessments 201 were owed a prevention duty, 156 households were owed a relief duty, and 222 households were found to be not homeless.

During the financial year 2023/24 in Medway, there was 3,600 assessments. Of these assessments 1,047 were owed a prevention duty, 845 households were owed a relief duty, and 1,708 were found to be not homeless.

Table 1 shows homelessness figures for 2023/24 and table 2 shows those owed a prevention duty, those owed a relief duty and those that are not homeless as percentages.

Table 1: Assessments on homelessness made during 2023/24

Area	Total assessments	Owed a prevention duty - threatened with homelessness within 56 days	Owed a prevention duty due to service of valid Section 21 Notice	Owed a relief duty - homeless	Not homeless	Households in area (thousands)*	Owed a prevention duty per 000s	Owed a relief duty per 000s
Kent	11,627	3,468	1,262	3,438	4,721	693	5.01	4.96
England	358,370	146,430	26,150	178,560	33,370	24,209	6.05	7.38
London	72,020	27,890	5,160	37,460	6,680	3,659	7.62	10.24
Rest of England	286,340	118,540	20,990	141,100	26,700	20,550	5.77	6.87
South East	56,080	23,030	4,630	21,250	11,800	3,912	5.89	5.43
Ashford	1,567	415	105	448	704	58	7.21	7.79
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	69	..	..
Dartford	731	312	96	294	125	49	6.39	6.02
Dover	1,217	224	98	330	663	55	4.06	5.98
Folkestone & Hythe	1,015	253	112	221	541	54	4.65	4.06
Gravesham	952	271	116	290	391	43	6.31	6.75
Maidstone	1,734	607	183	510	617	74	8.16	6.86
Sevenoaks	579	201	41	156	222	51	3.94	3.06
Swale	640	260	131	337	43	66	3.96	5.14
Thanet	1,379	391	185	430	558	67	5.86	6.45
Tonbridge & Malling	1,008	271	107	226	511	56	4.83	4.03
Tunbridge Wells	805	263	88	196	346	51	5.13	3.82
Medway U.A.	3,600	1,047	411	845	1,708	114	9.17	7.40

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness tables - detailed local authority level Table A1: Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council, *2018-based household projections for 2024, The Office for National Statistics, '..' Imputed data, meaning that previously published data from the authority and data from similar areas are used to create estimates. These estimates are included in regional and national totals.

Table 2: Percentage of assessments on homelessness made during 2023/24

Area	Total assessments	Owed a prevention duty - threatened with homelessness within 56 days	Owed a prevention duty due to service of valid Section 21 Notice	Owed a relief duty - homeless	Not homeless	Households in area (thousands)*	Owed a prevention duty per 000s	Owed a relief duty per 000s
Kent	11,627	29.8%	10.9%	29.6%	40.6%	693	5.01	4.96
England	358,370	40.9%	7.3%	49.8%	9.3%	24,209	6.05	7.38
London	72,020	38.7%	7.2%	52.0%	9.3%	3,659	7.62	10.24
Rest of England	286,340	41.4%	7.3%	49.3%	9.3%	20,550	5.77	6.87
South East	56,080	41.1%	8.3%	37.9%	21.0%	3,912	5.89	5.43
Ashford	1,567	26.5%	6.7%	28.6%	44.9%	58	7.21	7.79
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	69	..	..
Dartford	731	42.7%	13.1%	40.2%	17.1%	49	6.39	6.02
Dover	1,217	18.4%	8.1%	27.1%	54.5%	55	4.06	5.98
Folkestone & Hythe	1,015	24.9%	11.0%	21.8%	53.3%	54	4.65	4.06
Gravesham	952	28.5%	12.2%	30.5%	41.1%	43	6.31	6.75
Maidstone	1,734	35.0%	10.6%	29.4%	35.6%	74	8.16	6.86
Sevenoaks	579	34.7%	7.1%	26.9%	38.3%	51	3.94	3.06
Swale	640	40.6%	20.5%	52.7%	6.7%	66	3.96	5.14
Thanet	1,379	28.4%	13.4%	31.2%	40.5%	67	5.86	6.45
Tonbridge & Malling	1,008	26.9%	10.6%	22.4%	50.7%	56	4.83	4.03
Tunbridge Wells	805	32.7%	10.9%	24.3%	43.0%	51	5.13	3.82
Medway U.A.	3,600	29.1%	11.4%	23.5%	47.4%	114	9.17	7.40

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness tables - detailed local authority level Table A1: Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council, *2018-based household projections for 2024, The Office for National Statistics, '..' Imputed data, meaning that previously published data from the authority and data from similar areas are used to create estimates. These estimates are included in regional and national totals.

Prevention duty

Prevention duties include any activities aimed at preventing a household threatened with homelessness within 56 days from becoming homeless. This would involve activities to enable an applicant to remain in their current home or find alternative accommodation to prevent them from becoming homeless. The duty lasts for 56 days but may be extended if the local authority is continuing with efforts to prevent homelessness.

Characteristics of households owed a prevention duty

Table 3 shows the total number of households assessed as being owed a prevention duty in Kent was 3,468. Of this total, 34.8% (1,206) of these households lost their last settled home due to the end of private rented tenancy. This reason accounts for the largest proportion of households assessed. 22.1% (766 households) lost their last settled home due to family and friends no longer willing or able to accommodate them.

Table 3: Households owed a prevention duty by reason of loss of settled home

Kent	Number	%
Total households assessed as owed a homeless duty	3,468	100%
End of private rented tenancy - assured shorthold	1,206	34.8%
Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate	766	22.1%
End of private rented tenancy - not assured shorthold	316	9.1%
End of social rented tenancy	240	6.9%
Domestic abuse	240	6.9%
Other reasons / not known	191	5.5%
Non-violent relationship breakdown with partner	180	5.2%
Eviction from supported housing	162	4.7%
Left institution with no accommodation available	61	1.8%
Home no longer suitable - disability / ill health	58	1.7%
Other violence or harassment	26	0.7%
Required to leave accommodation provided by Home Office as asylum support	22	0.6%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table A2P - detailed local authority level Table. Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 4 shows that of the total number of households assessed as being owed a prevention duty in Kent, the largest proportion 46.9% (1,628 of households) were renting from the private rented sector. Households living with family are the second largest category with 23.5% (815 households) followed by those living in the social rented sector (13.8%, 477 households).

Table 4: Households owed a prevention duty by accommodation at time of application

Kent	Number	%
Total households assessed as owed a homeless duty	3,468	100%
Private rented sector	1,628	46.9%
Living with family	815	23.5%
Social rented sector	477	13.8%
Living with friends	241	6.9%
Other / not known	143	4.1%
Homeless on departure from institution	46	1.3%
Temporary accommodation	45	1.3%
Owner-occupier / shared ownership	39	1.1%
Refuge	23	0.7%
National Asylum Seeker Support (NASS) accommodation	10	0.3%
No fixed abode	1	0.0%
Rough sleeping	0	0.0%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table A4P - detailed local authority level Table. Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 5 shows that 741 or 21.4% of households owed a prevention duty were single females with dependent children. The second largest proportion was single males which accounted for 20.2% of the total (702 households).

Table 5: Households owed a prevention duty by household composition

Kent	Number	%
Total households assessed as owed a homeless duty	3,468	100%
Single parent with dependent children - Female	741	21.4%
Single adult - Male	702	20.2%
Single adult - Female	550	15.9%
Couple with dependent children	503	14.5%
Single adult - Other / gender not known	266	7.7%
Single parent with dependent children - Other / gender not known	248	7.2%
Couple / two adults without dependent children	243	7.0%
Single parent with dependent children - Male	90	2.6%
Three or more adults with dependent children	72	2.1%
Three or more adults without dependent children	53	1.5%
Not known	0	0.0%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table A5P - detailed local authority level Table. Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

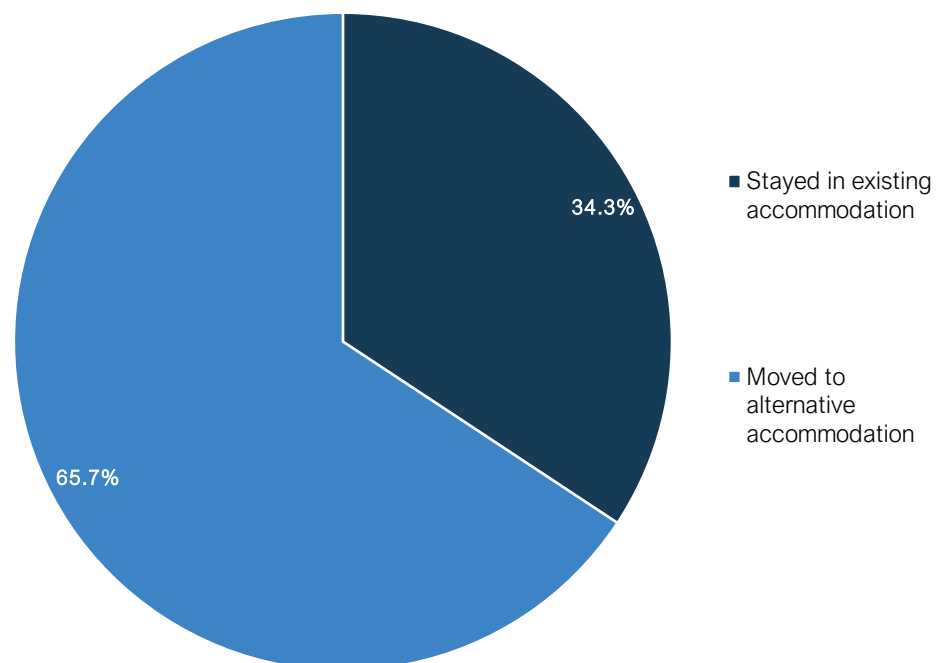
Households no longer owed a prevention duty

A household is no longer owed a prevention duty by a local authority when they have secured suitable accommodation for at least six months, the 56-day period has passed with the local authority taking reasonable steps to prevent homelessness, or if the applicant becomes intentionally homeless, refuses a suitable accommodation offer, or is no longer eligible for assistance; essentially, when the threat of homelessness has been successfully prevented.

During the financial year 2023/24, the total number of households for whom prevention duty ended in Kent was 3,284. Half of households for whom prevention duty ended secured accommodation for 6 months or more. Chart 2 shows that of those households who secured accommodation for 6 months or more, 1,073 (65.7%) moved to alternative accommodation and 560 (34.3%) stayed in existing accommodation.

Chart 2: Existing or alternative accommodation secured at end of prevention duty

Existing or alternative accommodation secured at prevention duty end: Kent 2023 to 2024



Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table P1 detailed local authority level
Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Of the 1,633 households that secured accommodation for 6 months or more, 449 households (27.5%) were secured accommodation by the local authority or an organisation delivering a housing options service. A further 267 households (16.4%) were helped financially to secure accommodation that they had found. Table 6 shows the number and percentage by main activity that resulted in end of prevention duty in Kent.

Table 6: Main activity that resulted in end of prevention duty

Kent	Number	%
Secured accommodation for 6+ months	1,633	100%
Accommodation secured by local authority or organisation delivering housing options service	449	27.5%
Helped to secure accommodation found by applicant, with financial payment	267	16.4%
Helped to secure accommodation found by applicant, without financial payment	251	15.4%
Other	238	14.6%
Other financial payments (e.g. to reduce arrears)	116	7.1%
Negotiation / mediation / advocacy work to prevent eviction / repossession	100	6.1%
No activity – advice and information provided	76	4.7%
Negotiation / mediation work to secure return to family or friend	69	4.2%
Supported housing provided	42	2.6%
Discretionary Housing Payment to reduce shortfall	25	1.5%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table P3 - detailed local authority level Table. Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Those found to be homeless at the end of a prevention duty are consequently owed a relief duty. Those who refused suitable accommodation or refused to cooperate may also go on to relief. All other outcomes mean the case is closed. Table 7 shows the percentage of total households by reason for end of prevention duty in Kent, Medway, England, London, the South East, and the rest of England.

Table 7: Total households by reason for end of prevention duty 2023/24

Area	Total households	Secured accommodation for 6+ months	Homeless (including intentionally homeless)	Contact lost	56 days elapsed and no further action	Withdrew application / applicant deceased	No longer eligible	Refused suitable accommodation	Refused to co-operate	Not known
Kent	3,284	49.7%	26.1%	5.4%	14.0%	3.8%	0.5%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%
England	135,180	51.0%	26.2%	9.2%	8.9%	3.4%	0.5%	0.7%	0.3%	0.0%
London	23,170	48.8%	28.0%	7.3%	12.3%	2.9%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.0%
Rest of England	112,020	51.4%	25.8%	9.6%	8.2%	3.5%	0.5%	0.8%	0.2%	0.0%
South East	21,730	52.2%	25.1%	8.3%	9.6%	3.6%	0.4%	0.5%	0.2%	0.0%
Ashford	408	37.0%	37.7%	2.9%	15.4%	4.7%	1.7%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dartford	319	34.8%	34.2%	14.1%	13.2%	3.1%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Dover	204	41.7%	38.2%	3.4%	9.8%	5.4%	0.5%	0.0%	1.0%	0.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	228	43.0%	32.5%	11.0%	3.9%	6.6%	0.4%	1.8%	0.9%	0.0%
Gravesham	299	24.4%	30.4%	1.0%	40.5%	3.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Maidstone	600	60.0%	21.8%	2.5%	11.2%	4.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Sevenoaks	156	34.6%	26.9%	3.8%	30.8%	2.6%	0.6%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%
Swale	248	69.8%	14.9%	1.2%	13.3%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Thanet	384	72.4%	13.0%	5.2%	6.0%	2.6%	0.3%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	214	51.9%	21.5%	10.3%	11.2%	2.3%	0.5%	2.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Tunbridge Wells	224	62.1%	19.6%	8.9%	4.0%	5.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Medway U.A.	991	65.5%	26.5%	1.4%	4.7%	1.5%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

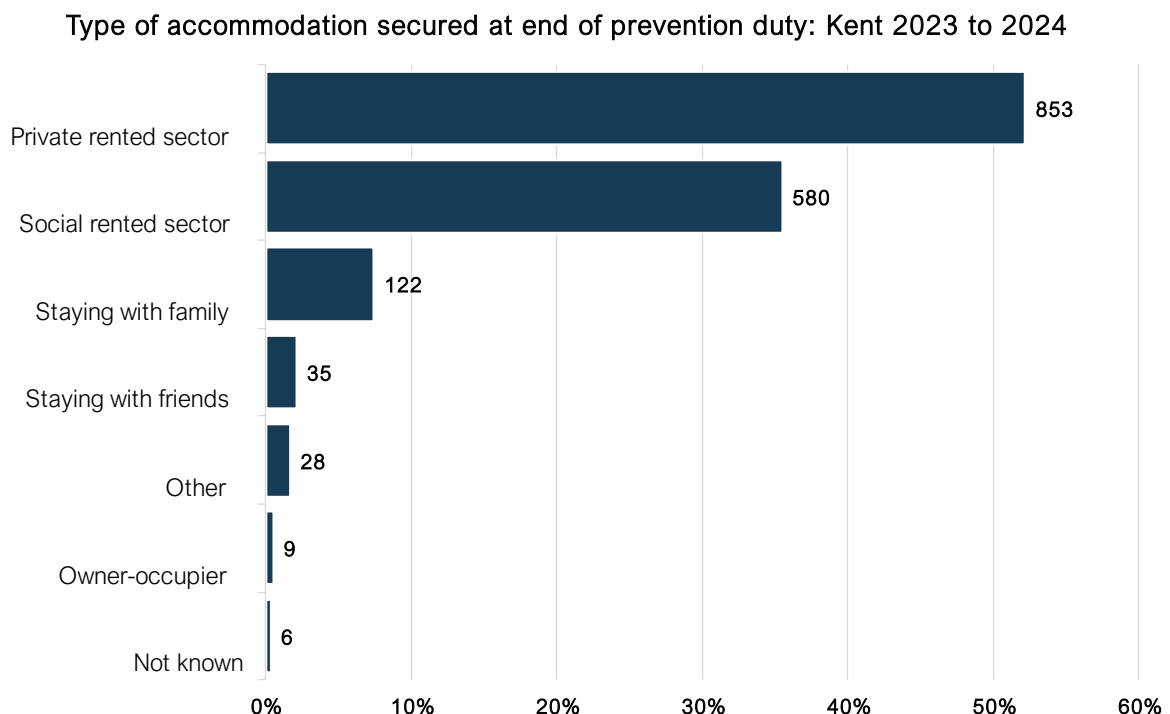
Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness tables - detailed local authority level Table P1: Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council, '..' incomplete or no data received from the local authority

Outcomes of households where prevention duty ended

In Kent, 1,633 (49.7%) households secured accommodation for 6 months or more. Of this total 853 (52.2%) moved into private rented accommodation and 580 (35.5%) moved into social rented accommodation. 85.2% of households (914) secured accommodation within the same local authority.

Chart 3 shows the number of households by type of accommodation secured at the end of prevention duty and chart 4 overleaf shows the destination of households as a percentage with alternative accommodation secured.

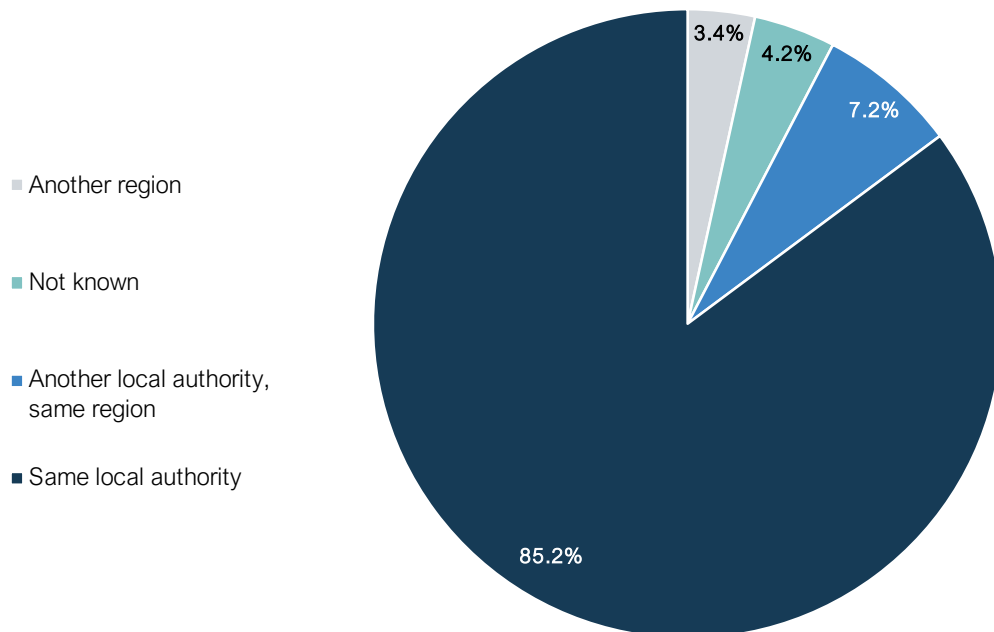
Chart 3: Type of accommodation secured at end of prevention duty



Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table P2 detailed local authority level
Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Chart 4: Destination of households with alternative accommodation secured

Destination of households with alternative accommodation secured: Kent 2023 to 2024



Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table P4 detailed local authority level
Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 8 shows that 286 or 17.5% of households that secured accommodation for 6 months or more were single females with dependent children. The second largest proportion was single males which accounted for 16.1% of the total (263 households).

Table 8: Household composition of those with accommodation secured at duty end

	Kent	Number	%
Secured accommodation for 6+ months		1,633	100%
Single parent with dependent children - Female		286	17.5%
Single adult - Male		263	16.1%
Couple with dependent children		233	14.3%
Single adult - Other / gender not known		230	14.1%
Single adult - Female		209	12.8%
Single parent with dependent children - Other / gender not known		189	11.6%
Couple / two adults without dependent children		111	6.8%
Three or more adults with dependent children		43	2.6%
Three or more adults without dependent children		38	2.3%
Single parent with dependent children - Male		31	1.9%
Not known		0	0.0%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table P3 - detailed local authority level Table. Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Relief duty

Relief duties are owed to households that are already homeless and require help to secure settled accommodation. This would involve activities to find accommodation to relieve their homelessness. The duty lasts 56 days and can only be extended by a local authority if the households would not be owed the main homelessness duty.

Characteristics of households owed a relief duty

The total number of households assessed as being owed a relief duty in Kent was 3,438. Table 9 shows that 30.7% (1,054) of these households lost their last settled home because family or friends were no longer willing or able to accommodate them. The second largest proportion of households lost their last settled home due to domestic abuse which accounted for 20.5% of the total (704 households).

Table 9: Households owed a relief duty by reason for loss of settled home

Kent	Number	%
Total households assessed as owed a homeless duty	3,438	100%
Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate	1,054	30.7%
Domestic abuse	704	20.5%
End of private rented tenancy - assured shorthold	352	10.2%
Non-violent relationship breakdown with partner	284	8.3%
Other reasons / not known	254	7.4%
Left institution with no accommodation available	223	6.5%
Eviction from supported housing	142	4.1%
End of private rented tenancy - not assured shorthold	132	3.8%
Other violence or harassment	116	3.4%
End of social rented tenancy	85	2.5%
Home no longer suitable - disability / ill health	61	1.8%
Required to leave accommodation provided by Home Office as asylum support	31	0.9%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table A2R - detailed local authority level Table. Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 10 shows that 825 (24.0%) households living with family make up the largest proportion of those owed a relief duty. A total of 465 households who were renting privately are the second largest category accounting for 13.5% of the total, followed by 404 that previously had no fixed abode (11.8%).

Table 10: Households owed a relief duty by accommodation at time of application

Kent	Number	%
Total households assessed as owed a homeless duty	3,438	100%
Living with family	825	24.0%
Private rented sector	465	13.5%
No fixed abode	404	11.8%
Living with friends	359	10.4%
Rough sleeping	346	10.1%
Social rented sector	335	9.7%
Homeless on departure from institution	283	8.2%
Other / not known	176	5.1%
Temporary accommodation	127	3.7%
Refuge	64	1.9%
Owner-occupier / shared ownership	41	1.2%
National Asylum Seeker Support (NASS) accommodation	13	0.4%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table A4R - detailed local authority level Table. Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 11 shows that 35.0% (1,205) of households owed a relief duty were single adult males. 18.2% (627) of households were single adult females, and 582 of all households owed a relief duty were female single parents with dependent children (16.9%).

Table 11: Households owed a relief duty by household composition

Kent	Number	%
Total households assessed as owed a homeless duty	3,438	100%
Single adult - Male	1,205	35.0%
Single adult - Female	627	18.2%
Single parent with dependent children - Female	582	16.9%
Single adult - Other / gender not known	334	9.7%
Couple with dependent children	220	6.4%
Couple / two adults without dependent children	178	5.2%
Single parent with dependent children - Other / gender not known	145	4.2%
Single parent with dependent children - Male	104	3.0%
Three or more adults with dependent children	25	0.7%
Three or more adults without dependent children	18	0.5%
Not known	0	0.0%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table A5R - detailed local authority level Table. Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Households no longer owed a relief duty

A household is no longer owed a relief duty when a local authority has taken reasonable steps to help them secure accommodation for 56 days, and the applicant is deemed to be in priority need and not intentionally homeless, meaning the duty automatically ends after this period; this is typically followed by the potential to transition to the "main housing duty" if suitable accommodation has not been secured.

The total number of households for whom a relief duty ended in Kent was 3,825. For most of these households 56 days elapsed and no further action was taken. 1,140 (29.8%) households secured accommodation for 6 months or more.

Table 12 shows that of this total 51.1% (582) of households were secured accommodation by the local authority or an organisation delivering a housing options service. 150 households (13.2%) of households were secured accommodation via another activity.

Table 12: Main activity that resulted in accommodation secured for households owed a relief duty

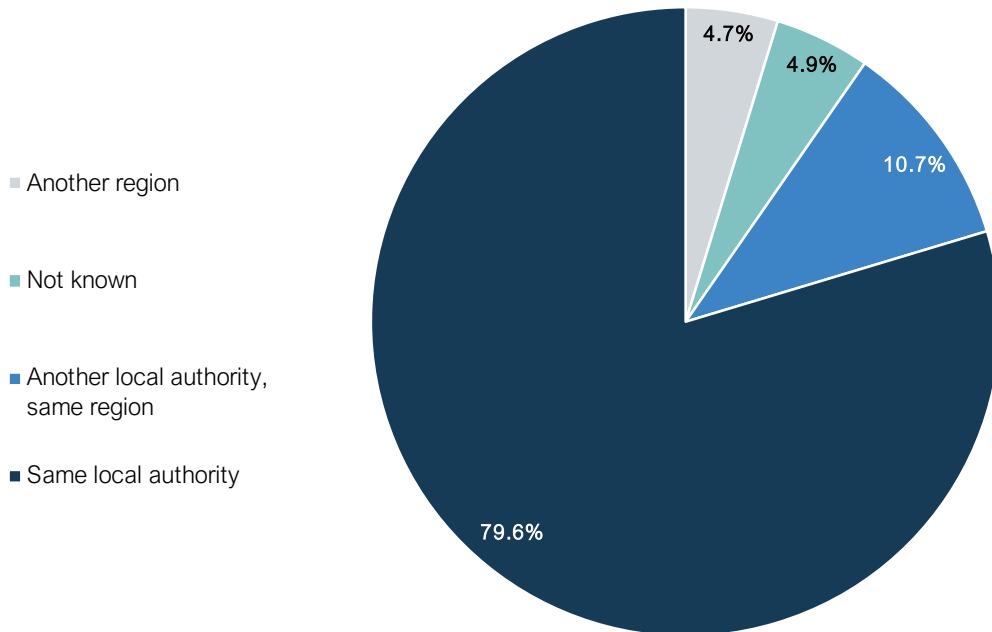
Kent	Number	%
Total secured accommodation for 6+ months	1,140	100%
Accommodation secured by local authority or organisation delivering housing options service	582	51.1%
Other activity through which accommodation secured	150	13.2%
Supported housing provided	138	12.1%
Helped to secure accommodation found by applicant, without financial payment	136	11.9%
Helped to secure accommodation found by applicant, with financial payment	124	10.9%
No activity	10	0.9%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table R3 - detailed local authority level Table. Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

908 (79.6%) households secured accommodation within the same local authority area. Chart 5 overleaf shows the destination of households as a percentage with alternative accommodation secured at end of relief duty.

Chart 5: Destination of households at end of relief duty

Destination of households with alternative accommodation secured: Kent 2023 to 2024



Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table R4 detailed local authority level
Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 13 shows the percentage of total households by reason for end of relief duty in Kent, Medway, England, London, the South East, and the rest of England.

Table 13: Total households no longer in need of relief duty by reason 2023/24

Area	Total households	Secured accommodation for 6+ months	56 days elapsed and no further action	Contact lost	Withdrew application / applicant deceased	Refused final accommodation	Intentionally homeless from accommodation provided	Local connection referral accepted by another LA	No longer eligible	Notice served due to refusal to co-operate	Not known
Kent	3,825	29.8%	49.9%	9.2%	6.8%	1.0%	0.5%	1.3%	1.3%	0.2%	0.0%
England	199,120	32.1%	48.9%	10.1%	5.6%	1.4%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.2%	0.0%
London	38,820	24.3%	62.7%	5.9%	4.3%	1.1%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.1%
Rest of England	160,300	34.1%	45.5%	11.1%	6.0%	1.4%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.1%	0.0%
South East	24,410	28.8%	51.0%	9.8%	6.8%	0.9%	0.7%	1.1%	0.8%	0.2%	0.0%
Ashford	536	26.1%	56.5%	6.0%	6.9%	0.4%	0.7%	0.7%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dartford	396	21.5%	54.3%	15.9%	5.1%	1.3%	0.0%	1.3%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Dover	367	21.8%	62.7%	5.4%	5.7%	1.4%	1.1%	1.4%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	250	48.0%	18.4%	9.2%	6.0%	6.0%	2.4%	2.0%	6.0%	2.0%	0.0%
Gravesham	262	35.5%	46.2%	6.5%	9.9%	0.0%	0.8%	0.8%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Maidstone	625	33.6%	47.4%	5.4%	9.1%	1.0%	0.5%	2.4%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Sevenoaks	191	17.3%	62.3%	9.4%	6.3%	1.0%	0.5%	1.0%	2.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Swale	438	29.9%	54.8%	8.4%	5.0%	0.2%	0.2%	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Thanet	351	14.8%	61.0%	16.2%	6.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	1.1%	0.3%	0.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	222	38.3%	39.6%	13.5%	5.9%	0.9%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Tunbridge Wells	187	59.4%	18.7%	11.2%	8.6%	1.1%	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Medway U.A.	1,116	28.0%	58.4%	5.6%	5.2%	0.3%	0.0%	1.8%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness tables - detailed local authority level Table R1: Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council, '..' incomplete or no data received from the local authority

Outcomes of households where relief duty ended

Table 14 shows that for 1,907 (49.9%) households, the duty requirement of 56 days elapsed, and no further action was taken. 1,140 households (29.8%) secured accommodation for 6 months or more.

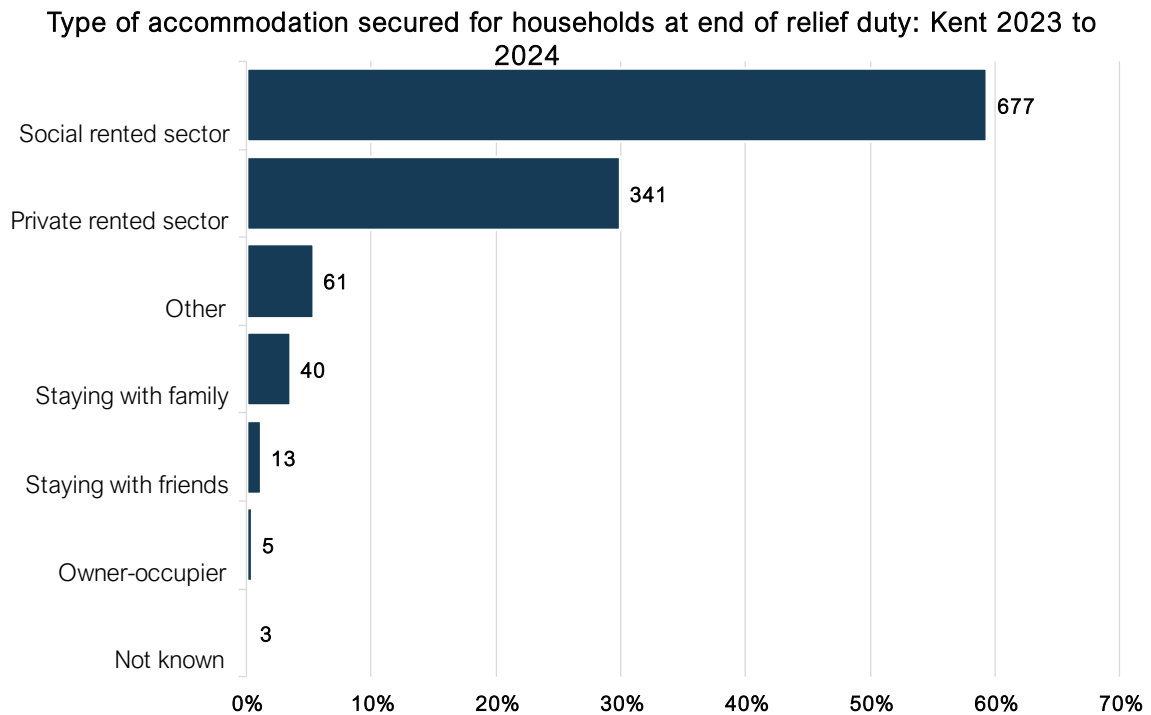
Table 14: Reasons for end of relief duty

Kent	Number	%
Total households whose relief duty ended	3,825	100%
56 days elapsed and no further action	1,907	49.9%
Secured accommodation for 6+ months	1,140	29.8%
Contact lost	352	9.2%
Withdrew application / applicant deceased	261	6.8%
Local connection referral accepted by other LA	50	1.3%
No longer eligible	48	1.3%
Refused final accommodation	40	1.0%
Intentionally homeless from accommodation provided	21	0.5%
Notice served due to refusal to co-operate	6	0.2%
Not known	0	0.0%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table R1 - detailed local authority level Table. Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Chart 6 overleaf shows that for those households who secured accommodation in Kent at end of relief duty, 677 households (59.4%) did so from the social rented sector and 341 households (29.9%) secured accommodation from the private rented sector.

Chart 6: Type of accommodation secured for households at end of relief duty



Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table R2 detailed local authority level
Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 15 shows that 326 (28.6%) households that secured accommodation at the end of relief duty were male single adult households. 243 (21.3%) households at the end of relief duty were single adult (other / gender not known) households.

Table 15: Household composition of those with accommodation secured at end of relief duty

Kent	Number	%
Total secured accommodation for 6+ months	1,140	100%
Single adult - Male	326	28.6%
Single adult - Other / gender not known	243	21.3%
Single adult - Female	148	13.0%
Single parent with dependent children - Female	121	10.6%
Single parent with dependent children - Other / gender not known	100	8.8%
Couple with dependent children	88	7.7%
Couple / two adults without dependent children	67	5.9%
Three or more adults with dependent children	20	1.8%
Single parent with dependent children - Male	18	1.6%
Three or more adults without dependent children	9	0.8%
Not known	0	0.0%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table R5 - detailed local authority level Table. Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Main Duty

Main homelessness duty describes the duty a local authority has towards an applicant who is unintentionally homeless, eligible for assistance and has priority need. A local authority has a duty to provide accommodation under a homeless application to someone only if they have or might have a priority need.

If someone has dependent children living with them, for example, they are automatically in priority need. Some people are only in priority need if they or someone they live with is vulnerable for some additional reason, such as because of a health condition. The local authority must decide if the person is significantly more vulnerable than an ordinary person would be if they were homeless.

Households are only owed a main duty if they did not secure accommodation in the prevention or relief stage. This means a household owed a main duty is no longer a household that is threatened with homelessness. In addition, a minimum of 56 days now must have elapsed from a household approaching the local authority to being owed a main duty.

Main duty does not have a limit on the number of days. Households eligible for main duty homelessness are usually put into temporary accommodation and continue to be helped by the local authority until the duty ends for a specific reason, such as securing accommodation, or withdrawing.

There were 1,660 main duty decisions taken in Kent during the financial year 2023/24. This equates to a rate of 2.40 households per 1,000 households. This rate is lower than the overall England rate (3.89), London rate (6.15) South East rate (3.16) and the rest of England (3.49).

76.1% (1,263) main duty decisions in Kent were classed as being homeless and in priority need and unintentionally homeless. This is a lower proportion than that seen in London (78.4%) though higher than the proportions seen in England (68.9%), the South East (73.2%) and the rest of England (65.9%).

Tables 16 and 16a show the number and percentage of main duty decisions made in 2023 to 2024.

Table 16: Total Main duty decisions made in 2023 to 2024

Area	Total assessments	Rate per 1,000 households	Homeless & priority need & unintentionally homeless	Homeless & priority need & intentionally homeless	Homeless & no priority need	Not homeless
Kent	1,660	2.40	1,263	107	271	19
England	94,280	3.89	64,960	3,970	24,270	1,080
London	22,520	6.15	17,660	530	3,990	350
Rest of England	71,750	3.49	47,300	3,440	20,280	730
South East	12,360	3.16	9,050	640	2,520	150
Ashford	304	5.28	224	12	59	9
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dartford	195	3.99	179	6	10	0
Dover	227	4.11	185	10	31	1
Folkestone & Hythe	42	0.77	4	7	29	2
Gravesham	118	2.75	66	15	32	5
Maidstone	299	4.02	198	40	61	0
Sevenoaks	118	2.31	108	2	7	1
Swale	236	3.60	196	14	26	0
Thanet	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tonbridge & Malling	88	1.57	80	0	7	1
Tunbridge Wells	33	0.64	23	1	9	0
Medway U.A.	636	5.57	440	13	176	7

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness tables - detailed local authority level Table MD1: Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council, '..' incomplete or no data received from the local authority

Table 16a: Percentage of Main duty decisions made in 2023 to 2024

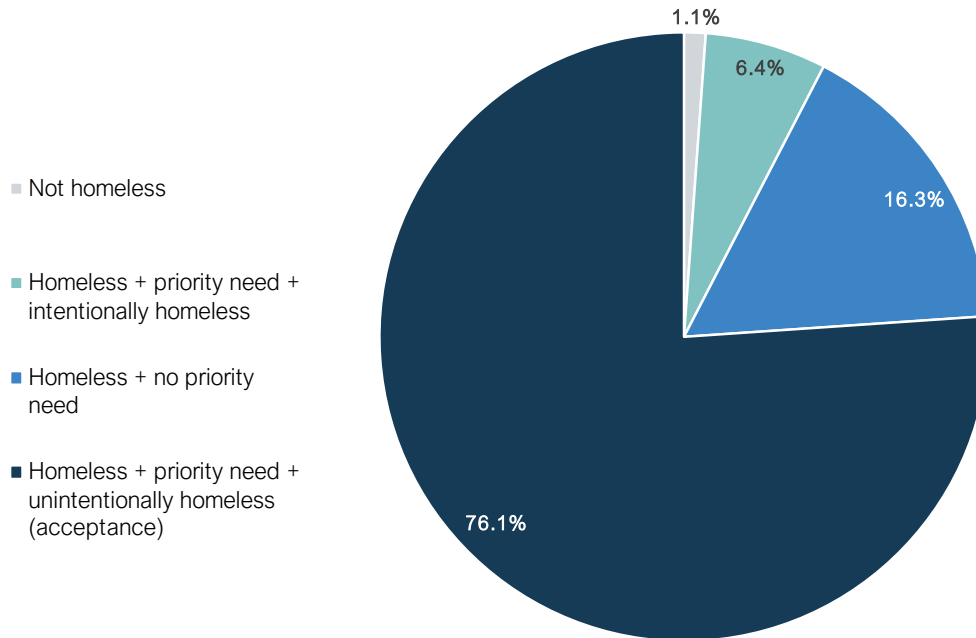
Area	Total assessments	Rate per 1,000 households	Homeless & priority need & unintentionally homeless	Homeless & priority need & intentionally homeless	Homeless & no priority need	Not homeless
Kent	1,660	2.40	76.1%	6.4%	16.3%	1.1%
England	94,280	3.89	68.9%	4.2%	25.7%	1.1%
London	22,520	6.15	78.4%	2.4%	17.7%	1.6%
Rest of England	71,750	3.49	65.9%	4.8%	28.3%	1.0%
South East	12,360	3.16	73.2%	5.2%	20.4%	1.2%
Ashford	304	5.28	73.7%	3.9%	19.4%	3.0%
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dartford	195	3.99	91.8%	3.1%	5.1%	0.0%
Dover	227	4.11	81.5%	4.4%	13.7%	0.4%
Folkestone & Hythe	42	0.77	9.5%	16.7%	69.0%	4.8%
Gravesham	118	2.75	55.9%	12.7%	27.1%	4.2%
Maidstone	299	4.02	66.2%	13.4%	20.4%	0.0%
Sevenoaks	118	2.31	91.5%	1.7%	5.9%	0.8%
Swale	236	3.60	83.1%	5.9%	11.0%	0.0%
Thanet	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tonbridge & Malling	88	1.57	90.9%	0.0%	8.0%	1.1%
Tunbridge Wells	33	0.64	69.7%	3.0%	27.3%	0.0%
Medway U.A.	636	5.57	69.2%	2.0%	27.7%	1.1%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness tables - detailed local authority level Table MD1: Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council, '..' incomplete or no data received from the local authority

Chart 7 shows the outcome of main duty decisions as a percentage for eligible households in Kent.

Chart 7: Total Main duty decision made in 2023 to 2024 Priority needs of households owed a main duty

Outcome of main duty decision for eligible households: Kent 2023 to 2024



Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table MD1 detailed local authority level
Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Of the 1,660 main duty decisions, there were 1,263 households who were homeless with priority need and unintentionally homeless. More than half of this total, (54.9%) 691 households, included dependent children. 9.4% had mental health problems and 9.1% had experienced domestic abuse. Table 17 shows the number and percentage of households owed a main duty by priority need.

Table 17: Priority need of households owed a main duty

Kent	Number	%
Total households owed a main duty	1,263	100%
Household includes dependent children	691	54.9%
Mental health problems	118	9.4%
Domestic abuse	114	9.1%
Physical disability / ill health	108	8.6%
Household includes children, but other priority need reported	63	5.0%
Other	61	4.8%
Household includes a pregnant woman	45	3.6%
Young applicant	37	2.9%
Old age	15	1.2%
Homeless because of emergency	7	0.6%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table MD3 - detailed local authority level Table. Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council. Note: Some data for individual local authorities is suppressed if lower than 5 households, therefore figures may not sum

Outcomes of households no longer owed a main duty

A household is "no longer owed a main duty" when they are assessed as not being in priority need or being intentionally homeless, meaning a local authority is no longer legally obligated to provide them with permanent housing under the homelessness legislation.

During the financial year 2023 to 2024, the total number of households for whom a main duty ended in Kent was 1,302. Of this total, 938 households (72.0%) accepted the offer of social housing, 134 households (10.3%) voluntarily left their temporary accommodation, and 74 households (5.7%) accepted the offer of private rented sector housing.

Table 18 shows the number and percentage of households where main duty ended by outcome in Kent and table 19 shows the percentage of total households no longer owed a main duty by outcome in Kent, Medway, England, London, the South East, and the rest of England.

Table 18: Outcomes of households no longer owed a main duty

Kent	Number	%
Total number of households where main duty ended	1,302	100%
Housing Act 1996 Pt6 social housing offer - accepted	938	72.0%
Voluntarily ceased to occupy TA	134	10.3%
Private rented sector offer - accepted	74	5.7%
Became intentionally homeless from TA	71	5.5%
Refused suitable TA offer, withdrew or lost contact	68	5.2%
Housing Act 1996 Pt6 social housing offer - refused	12	0.9%
Private rented sector offer - refused	4	0.3%
Ceased to be eligible	1	0.1%
Not known	0	0.0%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness Table MD2 - detailed local authority level Table. Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 19: Outcomes of households no longer owed a main duty 2023/24

Area	Total households whose main duty ended	Accepted by Housing Act 1996 Pt6 social housing offer	Refused by Housing Act 1996 Pt6 social housing offer	Accepted by private rented sector offer	Refused by private rented sector offer	Refused suitable TA offer, withdrew or lost contract	Ceased to be eligible	Became intentionally homeless from TA	Voluntarily ceased to occupy TA	Not known
Kent	1,302	72.0%	0.9%	5.7%	0.3%	5.2%	0.1%	5.5%	10.3%	0.0%
England	44,480	73.4%	2.9%	6.5%	0.5%	7.2%	0.9%	3.6%	5.0%	0.1%
London	7,710	63.2%	1.4%	12.6%	1.7%	7.5%	3.1%	2.3%	7.9%	0.3%
Rest of England	36,770	75.5%	3.2%	5.3%	0.2%	7.1%	0.5%	3.8%	4.4%	0.1%
South East	6,530	74.9%	1.5%	6.6%	0.2%	5.7%	0.2%	4.1%	6.6%	0.0%
Ashford	195	74.9%	0.0%	11.8%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	7.7%	5.1%	0.0%
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dartford	121	55.4%	0.8%	12.4%	1.7%	19.8%	0.0%	2.5%	7.4%	0.0%
Dover	139	71.2%	0.0%	7.2%	0.0%	4.3%	0.0%	8.6%	8.6%	0.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	1	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Gravesham	93	72.0%	3.2%	5.4%	0.0%	4.3%	0.0%	9.7%	5.4%	0.0%
Maidstone	146	74.0%	1.4%	2.7%	0.0%	3.4%	0.0%	8.9%	9.6%	0.0%
Sevenoaks	92	76.1%	5.4%	7.6%	2.2%	7.6%	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Swale	211	81.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	0.0%	0.5%	17.5%	0.0%
Thanet	163	62.0%	0.6%	1.2%	0.0%	6.1%	0.0%	8.0%	22.1%	0.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	100	87.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.0%	0.0%	2.0%	8.0%	0.0%
Tunbridge Wells	41	51.2%	0.0%	19.5%	0.0%	14.6%	2.4%	4.9%	7.3%	0.0%
Medway U.A.	237	70.0%	4.2%	3.0%	0.4%	6.8%	0.4%	0.4%	14.3%	0.4%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness tables - detailed local authority level Table MD2: Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council, '..' incomplete or no data received from the local authority

Households in temporary accommodation

The number of households in temporary accommodation (TA) is a snapshot at the end of each quarter. It is not a cumulative total of all placements across a quarter. The number of households in temporary accommodation at the end of the quarter includes households who are:

- awaiting a decision on whether a main duty is owed under a new application or reapplication
- awaiting a decision on whether a referral has been accepted under local connection arrangements
- undergoing a local authority review or county court appeal
- under a relief duty and have or may have priority need so eligible for temporary accommodation
- homeless, eligible for assistance and in priority need and owed the main homelessness duty
- intentionally homeless and have priority need and are being accommodated for a limited period

The average number of households living in temporary accommodation in Kent at the end of each quarter between April-June 2022 to January-March 2024 is 2,091.

Most of these households were placed in either nightly paid, privately managed self-contained accommodation or local authority or housing association stock. Hostels account for the smallest proportion of households placed in temporary accommodation.

Table 20 shows the number and proportion of all households in temporary accommodation by type at the end of each quarter in Kent between April-June 2022 and January-March 2024.

Table 20: Households in temporary accommodation by type at end of each quarter – Kent

Quarterly period	Q1 Apr-Jun 2022	Q2 Jul-Sep 2022	Q3 Oct-Dec 2022	Q4 Jan-Mar 2023	Q1 Apr-Jun 2023	Q2 Jul-Sep 2023	Q3 Oct-Dec 2023	Q4 Jan-Mar 2024
All Households in temporary accommodation	1,944	2,073	2,112	2,160	2,018	1,863	2,146	2,408
Private sector accommodation leased by authority or by a registered provider	4.0%	3.8%	3.4%	4.0%	4.7%	3.3%	2.7%	6.1%
Nightly paid, privately managed accommodation, self-contained	38.0%	37.7%	36.9%	36.6%	36.3%	41.3%	42.2%	44.5%
Local authority or Housing association (LA/HA) stock	24.7%	25.5%	26.2%	24.7%	25.2%	26.8%	28.2%	25.3%
Bed and breakfast hotels (including shared annexes)	11.2%	11.4%	10.8%	11.6%	8.4%	12.0%	12.8%	12.4%
Hostels (including reception centres, emergency units and refuges)	1.1%	1.0%	1.4%	1.2%	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.6%
Any other type of temporary accommodation (including private landlord and not known)	21.0%	20.6%	21.2%	21.9%	24.8%	16.1%	13.6%	11.1%
In TA in another local authority district	32.5%	32.3%	31.4%	33.5%	30.6%	31.9%	29.3%	31.2%

Source: DLUHC H-CLIC Homelessness returns (quarterly) Table TA1: Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Households with children in temporary accommodation

The average number of households with children living in temporary accommodation in Kent at the end of each quarter between April-June 2022 to January-March 2024 was 1,170.

The proportion of households with children in temporary accommodation was the highest at the end of the 1st quarter in 2023 (58.4%) as shown in table 21. The average number of children living in temporary accommodation in Kent at the end of each quarter between April-June 2022 to January-March 2024 was 2,421.

Table 21: Households with children in temporary accommodation at end of each quarter – Kent

Quarterly period	Q1 Apr-Jun 2022	Q2 Jul-Sep 2022	Q3 Oct - Dec 2022	Q4 Jan-Mar 2023	Q1 Apr-Jun 2023	Q2 Jul-Sep 2023	Q3 Oct - Dec 2023	Q4 Jan-Mar 2024
Total households with children	1,063	1,156	1,185	1,220	1,178	1,017	1,204	1,337
% with children in temporary accommodation	54.7%	55.8%	56.1%	56.5%	58.4%	54.6%	56.1%	55.5%
Total number of children	2,175	2,390	2,423	2,541	2,442	2,132	2,492	2,769

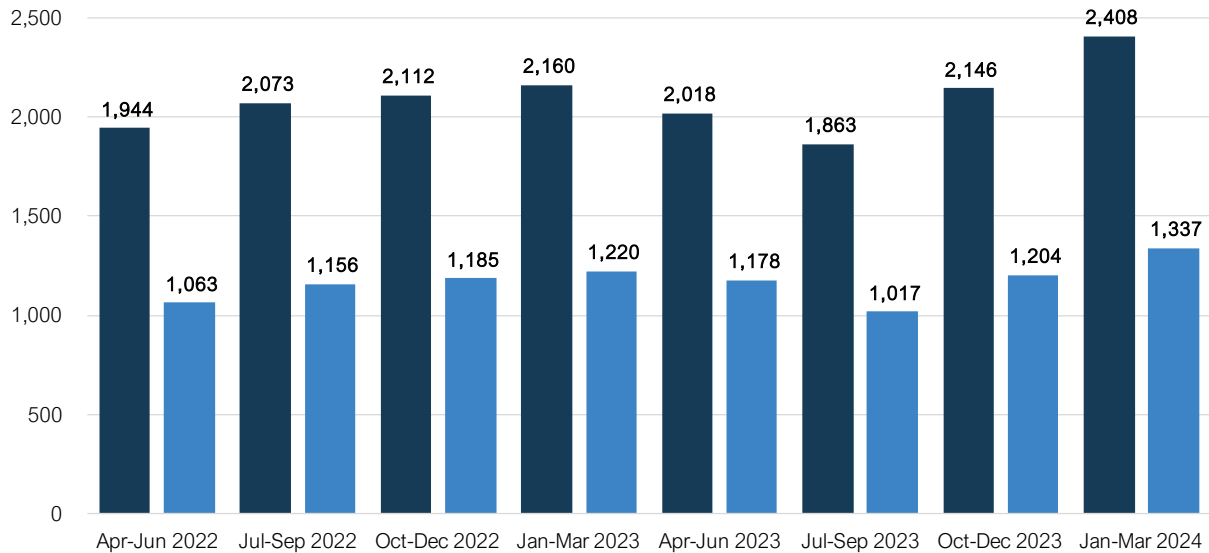
Source: DLUHC H-CLIC Homelessness returns (quarterly) Table TA1: Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Chart 8 overleaf shows the number of households in temporary accommodation and the number of total households with children from April-June 2022 to January-March 2024.

Chart 8: Households in temporary accommodation at end of each quarter: Kent

Households in temporary accommodation at end of each quarter: Kent

■ All households in temporary accommodation ■ Total households with children in temporary accommodation



Source: DLUHC: H -CLIC Homelessness returns (quarterly) Table TA1 detailed local authority level
Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Most households with children requiring temporary accommodation were placed in either nightly paid, privately managed, self-contained accommodation or within local authority or housing association stock. Table 22 shows the number and percentage of households with children in temporary accommodation by type at the end of each quarter in Kent from April-June 2022 to January-March 2024.

Table 22: Households with children in temporary accommodation by type at end of each quarter – Kent

Quarterly period	Q1 Apr-Jun 2022	Q2 Jul-Sep 2022	Q3 Oct-Dec 2022	Q4 Jan-Mar 2023	Q1 Apr-Jun 2023	Q2 Jul-Sep 2023	Q3 Oct-Dec 2023	Q4 Jan-Mar 2024
Total households with children	1,063	1,156	1,185	1,220	1,178	1,017	1,204	1,337
Private sector accommodation leased by authority or by a registered provider	4.4%	4.0%	3.5%	4.4%	5.0%	3.8%	3.0%	7.1%
Nightly paid, privately managed accommodation, self-contained	44.2%	45.3%	44.1%	44.6%	42.9%	49.7%	50.7%	53.8%
Local authority or Housing association (LA/HA) stock	29.1%	28.9%	30.3%	27.0%	26.4%	28.5%	32.5%	28.5%
Bed and breakfast hotels (including shared annexes)	0.8%	1.3%	1.1%	2.3%	1.8%	2.3%	1.3%	1.0%
Hostels (including reception centres, emergency units and refuges)	0.6%	0.5%	0.8%	0.5%	0.8%	0.8%	0.5%	0.9%
Any other type of temporary accommodation (including private landlord and not known)	20.9%	19.9%	20.3%	21.1%	23.1%	14.9%	12.0%	8.7%
Duty owed; no accommodation secured	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.3%	0.5%	0.7%

Source: DLUHC H-CLIC Homelessness returns (quarterly) Table TA1: Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Related documents

The [Deprivation & Poverty](#) webpage contains further information on homelessness.

Topics include: -

- Indices of Deprivation
- Poverty
- Unemployment and benefits

The [Housing Statistics](#) webpage contains more information on housing.

Topics include: -

- New housing
- House and land prices
- Housing stock