

Statutory Homelessness in Kent: 2017/2018

Related information

The [Housing Statistics](#) web page contains more information which you may find useful.

New Housing presents housing completions and rates of development in Kent from the Housing Information Audit (HIA).

House and land prices provide data on house prices and sales, Land and rent prices and land use.

Housing stock presents current housing stock figures and Council Tax data.

NOTE: within this bulletin 'Kent' refers to the Kent County Council (KCC) area which excludes Medway

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This bulletin presents statutory homelessness and prevention and relief data for local authorities in Kent as published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) on 29 June 2018. Figures for the South East and England are also presented.

Summary of findings

- During the financial year 2017 to 2018, local authorities in Kent made 4,133 decisions regarding homelessness. This figure is lower than the previous two years but considerably higher than the number of decisions made ten years ago.
- Of the decisions made, there were 1,447 applications accepted as being in priority need during 2017/18 in Kent. This is 35% of all decisions made and is a lower proportion than the South East, London and the rest of England.
- The rate of homeless households placed in temporary accommodation per 1,000 households in Kent is 1.69. This is lower than the regional figure and that seen in London, but still higher than the rest of England.
- During 2017/18 in Kent 4,427 households were positively assisted to prevent or relieve homelessness. This is the lowest figure since 2010/11. 2013/14 saw the highest number of households in Kent to be helped.
- In Kent 2,982 households who were at risk of becoming homeless, were assisted to remain in their existing home during 2017/18.
- 1,252 Kent households who were at risk of becoming homeless, were assisted to find alternative accommodation during 2017/18.

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 of priority need set out in legislation, and to whom a homelessness duty has been accepted by a local authority.

Such households are rarely homeless in the literal sense of being without a roof over their heads but are more likely to be threatened with the loss of, or are unable to continue with, their current accommodation.

The statutory homeless are presented in terms of households, not individuals. A household is defined as: one person living alone, or a group of people living at the same address who share common housekeeping or a living room. Values of less than five households have been suppressed. In addition, some values of five or greater have been suppressed to prevent other suppressed values being calculated

Statutory homelessness covers a sub-set of homeless households who approach and are assessed or granted assistance by their local authority. The actions of local authorities are guided by their legal duties, in particular:

- The Housing Act 1996
- The Homelessness Act 2002
- The Localism Act 2011
- The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017

A household is considered homeless if the local authority deems that they do not have a legal right to occupy accommodation that is accessible, physically available, which it would be reasonable for the household to continue to live in.

For households which are unintentionally homeless, and in a **priority need** category (such as having dependent children), the local authority has a main duty to secure settled accommodation. This includes the provision of suitable temporary accommodation until settled accommodation is available. These households are referred to as **statutorily homeless acceptances**.

As well as the statutory duties to priority need households, local authorities also have a duty to provide free advice and assistance to all households threatened with homelessness. Local authorities often go beyond this to proactively attempt to **prevent** or **relieve** homelessness. These actions are discretionary and thus approaches may vary considerably between authorities. Variations in levels of prevention activity may reflect differences in local authority policy, demand, availability of resources, or a combination of these. The level of prevention and relief activity may affect the number of acceptances.

Prevention refers to positive actions taken by local authorities or partner organisations funded by them to provide assistance to households who consider themselves to be at risk of homelessness. Prevention enables households to remain in their existing accommodation or obtain an alternative for at least the next 6 months.

Relief refers to positive actions to secure accommodation for households that have already become homeless

These statistics are used to understand the long and short-term trends of statutory homelessness but does not directly provide a definitive number of people or households affected by homelessness.

The term “homelessness” is much broader than statutory homeless and has several interpretations. These statutory homeless data do not cover the population living in hostels, rough sleeping or those described as “hidden homeless” who may meet the definition above, but either have not approached or not received assistance from their local authority. Hidden homeless includes overcrowded, sharing or concealed households.

It is difficult to provide an accurate estimate of homelessness. Data used to compile any estimate is collated from different datasets. They sample different subsets of the population and cover different time frames. Any estimate of homelessness will collate datasets that are not discrete from one another, which means some individuals may have been included more than once in the estimated total. In addition to this, calculating ‘hidden homeless’ by definition is difficult and so have to be estimated from survey data.

The MHCLG produce other statistical releases that can help build up the wider homelessness picture. The English housing survey publishes data on the number of concealed households in England. The annual rough sleeping counts and estimates data produces an annual estimate of rough sleepers in England.

The MHCLG’s [English Housing Survey \(EHS\)](#), provides an estimate of concealed households. These are additional adults in a household who wanted to rent or buy but could not afford to do so.

Future developments

A significant change in the new legislation is the integration of prevention and relief into a local authority’s statutory duty following implementation of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017, on 3rd April 2018. From this date prevention and relief are available to any household vulnerable to homelessness in 56 rather than 28 days. This broader definition of homelessness beyond priority need groups means that more information will be available on some households that are currently considered the ‘hidden homeless.’

In the longer term, it will enable the MHCLG to report on what prevention activities actually work for those at risk of homelessness. Once enacted the

duties in the Act will have a significant effect on the homelessness activities performed by local authorities and in consequence on future statistical release.

Following implementation of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017, on 3rd April 2018, the MHCLG has changed the way of collecting data from local authorities on statutory homelessness. In April 2018 the new Homelessness Case Level Information Collection (H-CLIC) replaced the P1E aggregated data return.

H-CLIC is a household level data collection. It includes more information on the people in a homeless household, more detailed information on their support needs, reasons for becoming homeless, length of time in temporary accommodation (whilst still living there) and the outcomes of each prevention case whether successful or not.

The MHCLG will continue to collect data on homelessness on a quarterly basis. Local authorities will submit their first April–June 2018 case level H-CLIC returns to MHCLG over summer 2018. The first statistical release based on the H-CLIC is planned for December 2018.

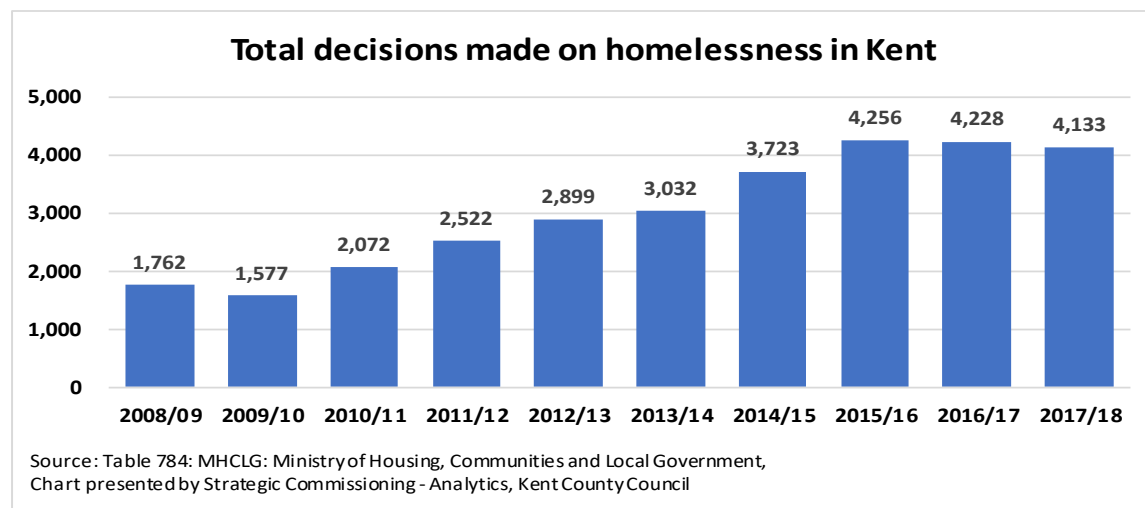
Further information on the future developments of this statistical release is available from the MHCLG Homelessness Statistics User Forum:
<https://gss.civilservice.gov.uk/guidances/mhclg-homelessness-statistics-user-forum/>

This release does not provide data on the number of people who are sleeping rough. This data is presented in a separate [Estimated Rough Sleepers in Kent](#) bulletin

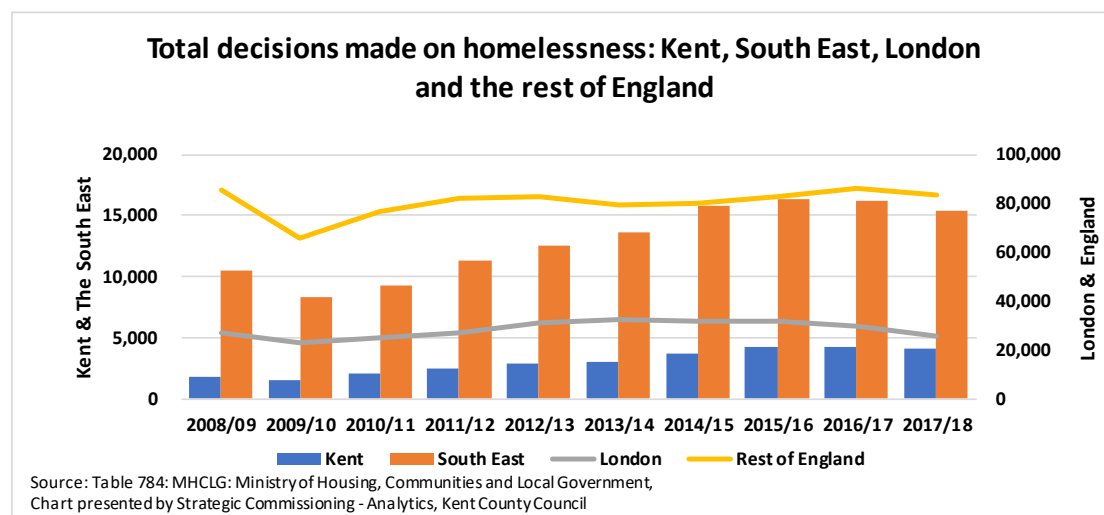
Analysis

Decisions made on homelessness

During the financial year 2017 to 2018, local authorities in Kent made 4,133 decisions regarding homelessness. This figure is lower than the previous two years but considerably higher than the number of decisions made ten years ago.



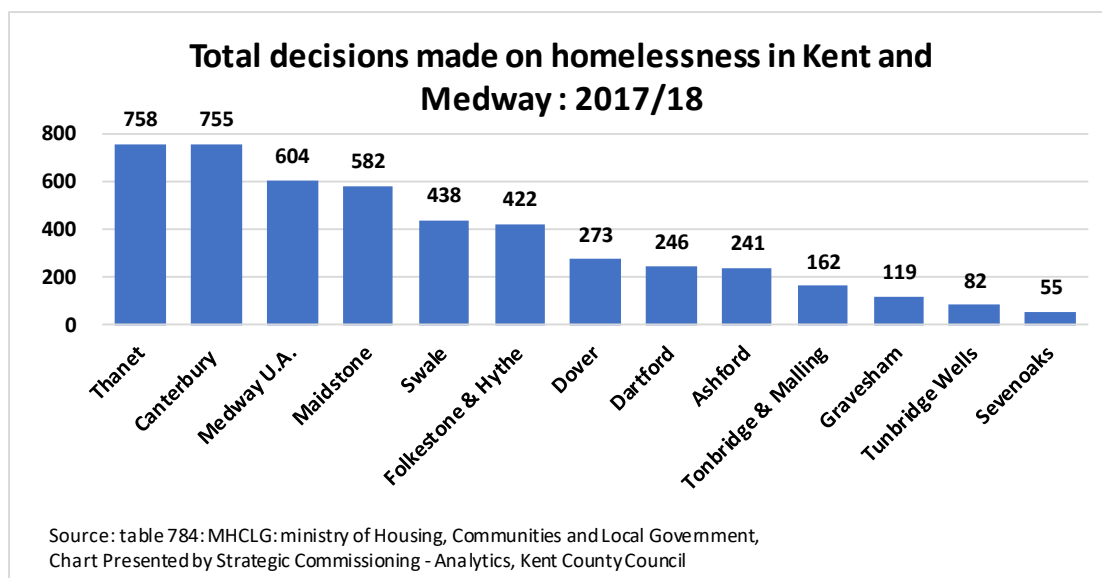
The steady increase in the number of decisions regarding homelessness is not unique to Kent. The pattern of homelessness decisions is similar to that seen in the South East, London and the rest of England. The rest of England excludes London and the South East.



The number of decisions varies considerably across the Kent local authorities and over time. During 2017/2018 Thanet made 758 decisions which for the first time in ten years was the highest number of all the local authorities in Kent.

For the past seven years Canterbury has had the highest number of decisions.

Sevenoaks made the smallest number of decisions during 2017/18 with 55. Apart from Tunbridge Wells in 2011/12 and 2015/16, Sevenoaks has had the lowest number of decisions regarding homelessness for the past ten years.



Total Decisions on homelessness made 2008/09 to 2017/18

	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Kent	1,762	1,577	2,072	2,522	2,899	3,032	3,723	4,256	4,228	4,133
South East	10,450	8,380	9,350	11,300	12,480	13,620	15,800	16,320	16,170	15,330
London	27,290	23,150	25,310	26,830	30,860	32,280	32,010	31,980	29,650	26,060
Rest of England	85,610	65,970	76,890	81,890	82,660	79,330	80,330	82,780	85,950	83,350
Ashford	174	247	273	274	292	318	247	224	208	241
Canterbury	207	228	738	873	958	1,012	1,203	1,202	914	755
Dartford	215	148	142	132	161	140	281	251	240	246
Dover	96	121	117	149	203	150	195	242	264	273
Folkestone & Hythe	173	158	135	175	190	146	124	201	300	422
Gravesham	187	140	120	92	117	106	110	88	140	119
Maidstone	126	57	79	271	287	376	586	568	580	582
Sevenoaks	122	73	49	78	42	32	55	97	76	55
Swale	93	93	129	81	162	215	274	416	508	438
Thanet	172	132	123	284	329	389	428	676	774	758
Tonbridge & Malling	67	96	113	61	62	53	134	226	134	162
Tunbridge Wells	130	84	54	52	96	95	86	65	90	82
Medway U.A.	485	266	305	404	540	823	1,352	1,091	664	604

Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
Table presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Applications accepted as being homeless and in priority need

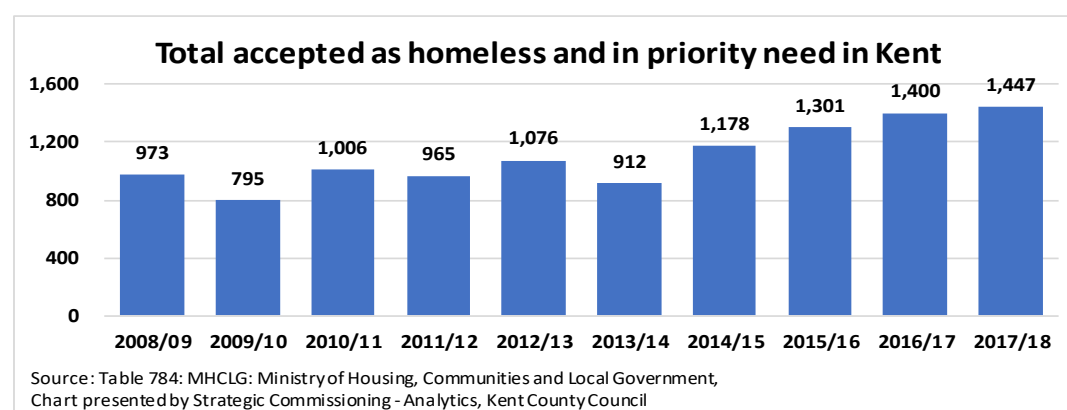
Priority need households are those with dependent children or those who are pregnant, elderly, have a physical disability or mental illness, a young person or suffering domestic violence. 1,447 applications were accepted as being in priority need during 2017/18 in Kent. This is 35% of all decisions made and is a lower proportion than the South East, London and the rest of England.

	Total Decisions 2017/18	Accepted as homeless and in priority need	
		Number	%
Kent	4,133	1,447	35%
South East	15,330	7,730	50%
London	26,060	15,440	59%
Rest of England	83,350	41,130	49%
Ashford	241	160	66%
Canterbury	755	69	9%
Dartford	246	148	60%
Dover	273	173	63%
Folkestone & Hythe	422	134	32%
Gravesham	119	31	26%
Maidstone	582	233	40%
Sevenoaks	55	27	49%
Swale	438	168	38%
Thanet	758	184	24%
Tonbridge & Malling	162	77	48%
Tunbridge Wells	82	43	52%
Medway U.A.	604	257	43%

Source: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

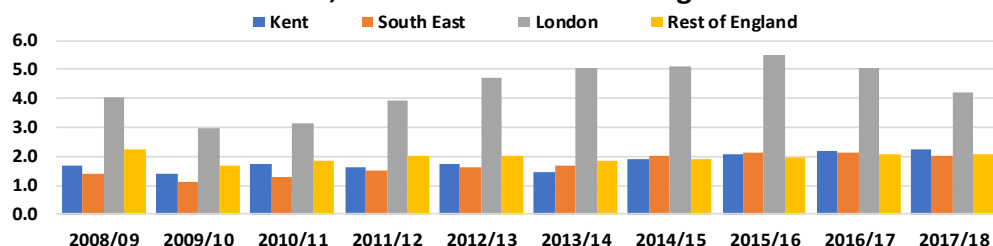
Table presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

As with the total number of decisions made each year, those found to be in priority need have also increased over the past decade.



Although the proportion of applications accepted as being in priority need is lower in Kent than the South East, London and the rest of England, when comparing the rate of applications per 1,000 households we see that the rate has increased in Kent during 2017/18 but the rate in other areas has fallen.

Homeless and in priority need per 1,000 households: Kent, South East, London and the rest of England



Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Chart presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Of the decisions made across the Kent local authority districts during 2017/18, Maidstone had the highest number of priority need cases whilst Ashford had the highest proportion with 66%. Sevenoaks had the lowest number of priority need cases whilst Canterbury had the lowest proportion with 9%. When comparing the rate of applications per 1,000 households we see that the rate is highest in Dover during 2017/18.

Homeless and in priority need per 1,000 households: 2017/18



Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Chart presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Total accepted as homeless and in priority need 2008/09 to 2017/18

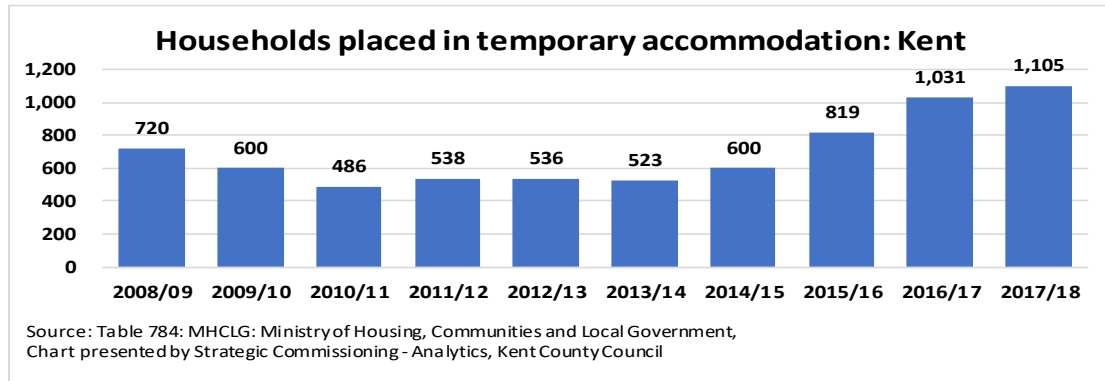
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Kent	973	795	1,006	965	1,076	912	1,178	1,301	1,400	1,447
South East	4,730	3,870	4,520	5,320	5,940	6,020	7,320	7,800	7,930	7,730
London	12,780	9,460	10,180	12,720	15,660	17,030	17,530	19,170	18,060	15,440
Rest of England	40,650	30,560	33,980	37,570	38,110	35,260	36,900	38,560	41,040	41,130
Ashford	125	178	194	161	199	166	152	154	136	160
Canterbury	42	47	259	79	82	59	101	129	85	69
Dartford	153	100	86	77	91	89	185	167	146	148
Dover	61	62	49	65	78	56	78	124	162	173
Folkestone & Hythe	88	80	42	55	57	42	32	52	86	134
Gravesham	105	73	77	53	63	63	42	21	29	31
Maidstone	37	7	27	189	198	155	213	192	231	233
Sevenoaks	100	50	40	42	33	24	29	41	38	27
Swale	61	59	82	37	73	77	71	112	163	168
Thanet	96	63	62	145	130	112	157	149	202	184
Tonbridge & Malling	32	32	52	41	33	23	75	124	77	77
Tunbridge Wells	73	44	36	21	39	46	43	36	45	43
Medway U.A.	186	129	146	168	257	357	491	418	344	257

Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

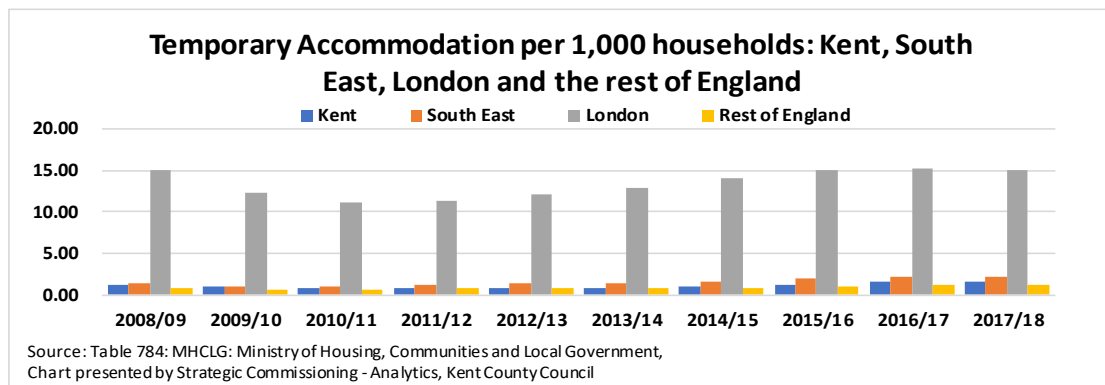
Table presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Temporary Accommodation

If a settled housing solution is not immediately available accepted priority need households may be placed in temporary accommodation. The number placed in this position have increased in Kent over the past decade.



The rate of homeless households placed in temporary accommodation per 1,000 households in Kent is lower than the regional figure and that seen in London, but still higher than the rest of England.



During 2017/2018 Thanet had the highest number of households placed in temporary accommodation. Swale had the highest number of households placed in temporary accommodation during the previous year, 2016/2017 and prior to this Ashford has had the highest number for six consecutive years.

Tonbridge & Malling had the lowest number of households placed in temporary accommodation during 2017/18. Apart from Folkestone & Hythe (formerly Shepway) in 2008/09 and Maidstone in 2009/10 and 2010/11, Tonbridge & Malling usually has the lowest number of households placed in temporary accommodation.

Households placed in temporary accommodation

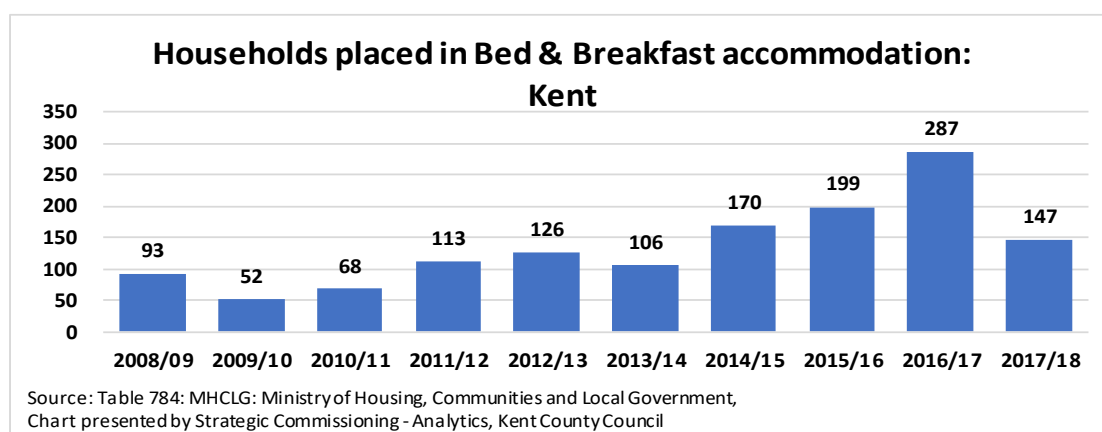
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Kent	720	600	486	538	536	523	600	819	1,031	1,105
South East	4,610	3,520	3,660	4,280	4,840	5,120	5,920	7,200	8,090	8,470
London	47,780	39,030	35,850	36,740	40,230	43,310	48,240	52,060	54,280	54,540
Rest of England	16,220	12,280	12,390	13,690	15,090	15,100	16,470	19,620	22,940	25,340
Ashford	98	99	105	102	104	113	98	124	124	167
Canterbury	110	110	72	44	64	44	48	77	66	69
Dartford	84	61	46	82	38	39	52	90	108	109
Dover	65	49	41	29	37	37	45	53	97	89
Folkestone & Hythe	15	16	22	39	44	62	43	51	50	71
Gravesham	46	38	36	49	36	41	52	86	88	99
Maidstone	32	15	8	17	19	16	36	63	51	66
Sevenoaks	83	76	43	38	43	22	46	43	70	36
Swale	76	73	65	51	72	73	69	95	155	150
Thanet	35	18	17	44	27	28	44	78	147	168
Tonbridge & Malling	39	19	10	13	16	12	25	25	36	35
Tunbridge Wells	37	26	21	30	36	36	42	34	39	46
Medway U.A.	151	120	102	109	120	148	260	259	351	348

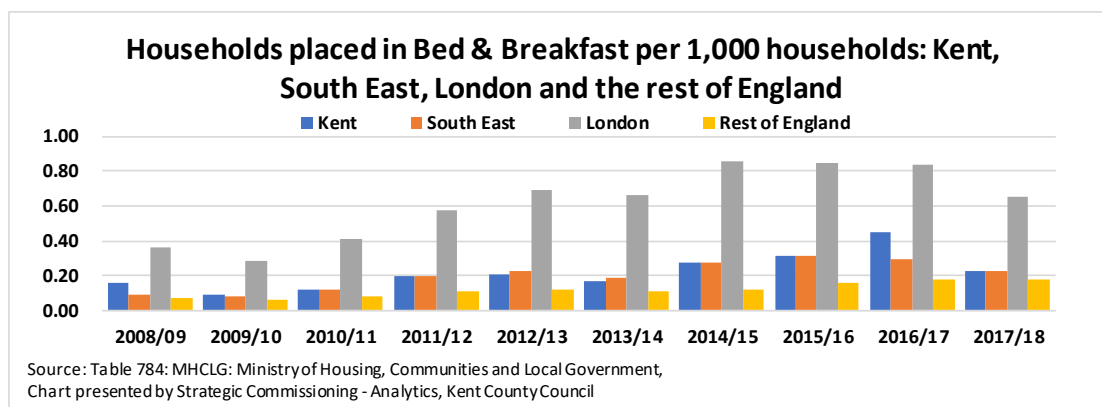
Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
Table presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Households placed temporarily in bed & breakfast accommodation

Bed and breakfast hotels represent the least suitable form of temporary accommodation for most households, particularly those with families, and should only be used as a last resort. Preferably for up to six weeks while applications are being processed.

During 2017/18 in Kent 147 households who were put into temporary accommodation were placed in bed & breakfast establishments. This is the lowest figure since 2013/14, but still higher than that seen ten years ago. However, the rates per 1,000 households in Kent, London, the South East and the rest of England have all fallen.





All of Kent's local authorities have had to house homeless households in temporary B&B's at some point during the past decade. The numbers vary considerably over the years and between each area. Dover, Swale and Thanet have had to use their B&B's to temporarily house homeless households every year since 2008/9.

Households placed in bed & breakfast accommodation

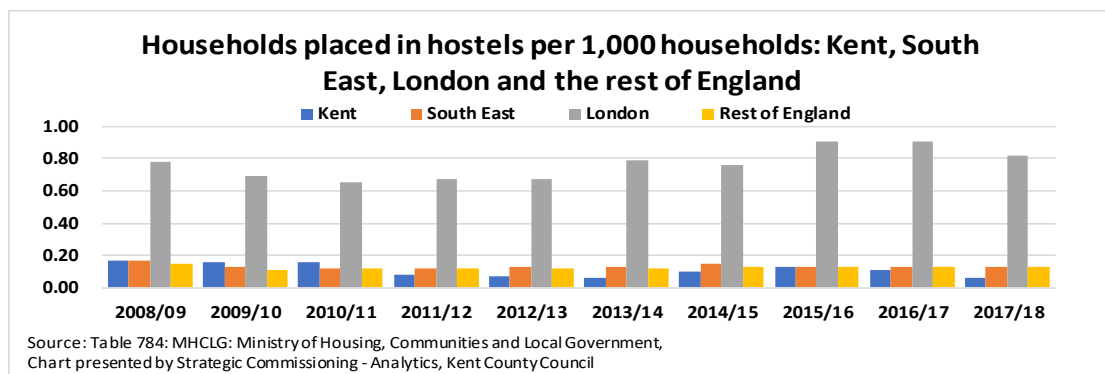
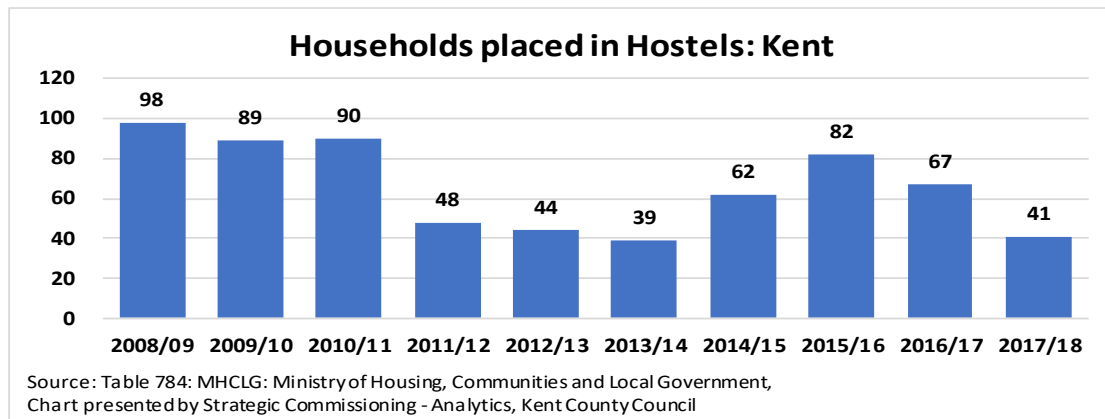
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Kent	93	52	68	113	126	106	170	199	287	147
South East	320	270	400	690	820	690	990	1,170	1,090	850
London	1,160	890	1,330	1,880	2,290	2,240	2,950	2,970	3,020	2,390
Rest of England	1,290	1,160	1,420	2,080	2,220	2,120	2,320	2,990	3,560	3,550
Ashford	26	17	17	20	26	19	19	20	27	--
Canterbury	1	2	4	1	--	-	7	19	14	6
Dartford	16	6	2	6	--	-	-	-	--	5
Dover	21	14	22	17	21	15	27	35	48	32
Folkestone & Hythe	0	0	0	0	--	5	-	-	--	--
Gravesham	0	0	0	2	--	0	-	-	--	--
Maidstone	0	0	1	5	--	-	-	-	--	--
Sevenoaks	9	3	1	13	19	13	44	37	57	--
Swale	1	3	12	13	27	30	25	34	67	46
Thanet	9	3	9	31	16	17	24	54	63	53
Tonbridge & Malling	2	4	0	0	12	7	18	-	6	--
Tunbridge Wells	8	0	0	5	5	0	6	-	5	5
Medway U.A.	12	18	4	19	43	67	116	64	20	17

Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
Table presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

- value less than 5 suppressed
-- denotes no data supplied

Households placed temporarily in Hostels

During 2017/18 in Kent 41 households who were put into temporary accommodation were placed into hostels. This is the lowest figure since 2008/09. The rate of homeless households being temporarily placed into hostels has fallen since last year in Kent and in London. It has remained the same in the South East and in the rest of England.



Due to small numbers in all other areas, only data for temporarily placed households in hostels for Canterbury is available for 2017/18.

Households placed in Hostels

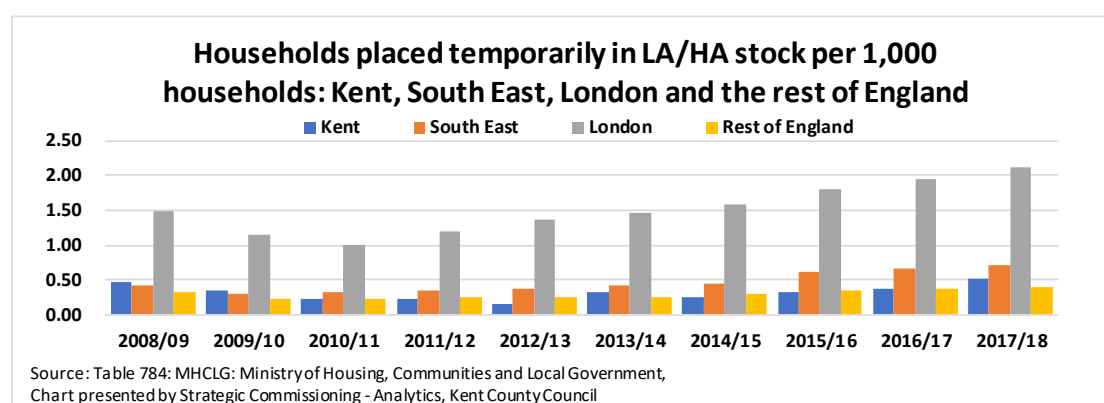
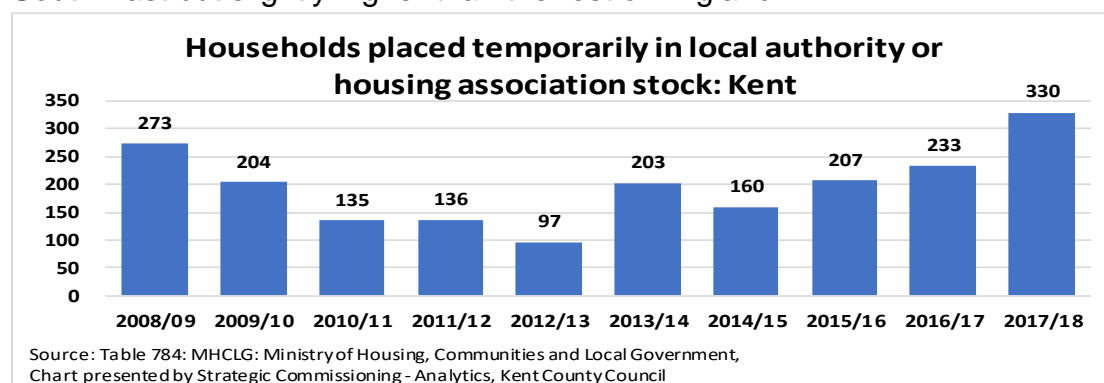
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Kent	98	89	90	48	44	39	62	82	67	41
South East	570	430	420	420	470	460	540	470	480	480
London	2,490	2,210	2,120	2,190	2,250	2,660	2,620	3,160	3,260	2,980
Rest of England	2,680	2,030	2,130	2,170	2,220	2,230	2,420	2,400	2,480	2,480
Ashford	0	1	0	0	--	0	-	-	--	--
Canterbury	27	28	29	27	25	19	24	45	45	41
Dartford	0	0	0	0	--	0	-	-	--	--
Dover	3	7	7	0	--	0	-	-	--	--
Folkestone & Hythe	0	0	0	0	--	0	-	-	--	--
Gravesham	30	22	26	6	6	6	24	24	22	--
Maidstone	0	0	0	0	--	0	-	-	--	--
Sevenoaks	8	8	8	0	--	0	-	-	--	--
Swale	12	12	14	14	13	14	14	13	--	--
Thanet	17	11	6	1	--	0	-	-	--	--
Tonbridge & Malling	1	0	0	0	--	0	-	-	--	--
Tunbridge Wells	0	0	0	0	--	0	-	-	--	--
Medway U.A.	0	0	0	0	--	0	-	-	--	--

Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
Table presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

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-- denotes no data supplied

Households temporarily placed in local authority or housing association stock

During 2017/18 in Kent 330 households were temporarily placed into properties owned by local authorities or housing associations. This is the highest figure during the past decade. The rate of households being placed into local authority or housing association stock during 2017/2018 in Kent is 0.51 per 1,000 households. This is lower than that seen in London and the South East but slightly higher than the rest of England.



Households placed temporarily in Local Authority or Housing Association properties

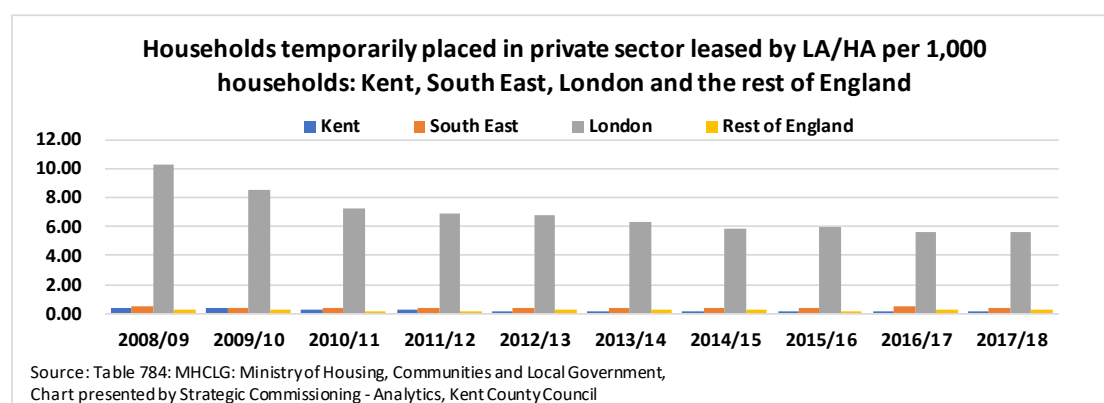
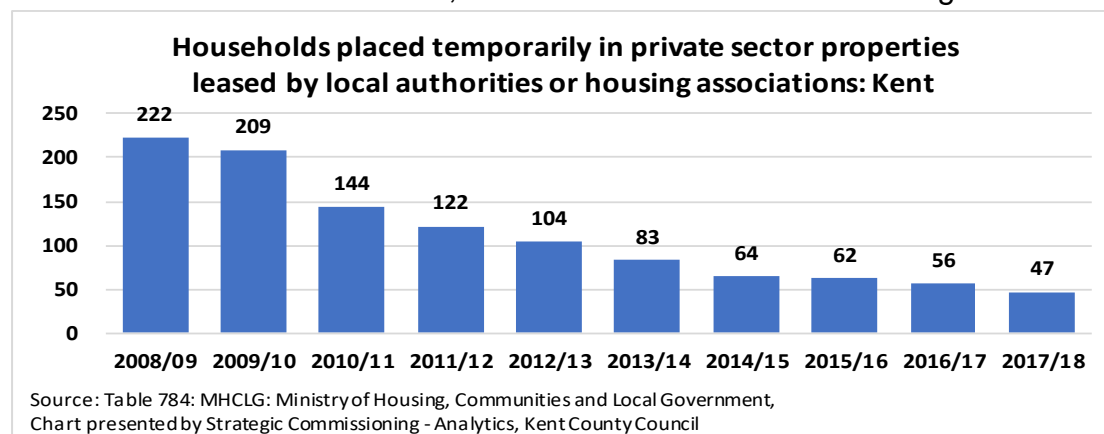
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Kent	273	204	135	136	97	203	160	207	233	330
South East	1,420	1,060	1,110	1,220	1,320	1,500	1,620	2,290	2,500	2,660
London	4,690	3,620	3,240	3,910	4,530	4,920	5,430	6,290	7,000	7,690
Rest of England	5,790	4,170	4,250	4,360	4,740	4,950	5,490	6,840	7,370	8,020
Ashford	30	16	15	13	7	27	16	39	31	48
Canterbury	69	75	23	11	17	21	17	13	7	--
Dartford	43	31	24	18	12	9	10	--	--	--
Dover	9	7	9	9	12	18	13	13	12	20
Folkestone & Hythe	15	16	22	39	--	57	--	--	45	60
Gravesham	13	8	0	0	--	0	--	--	--	49
Maidstone	31	13	7	5	--	13	35	61	48	56
Sevenoaks	3	1	0	2	--	--	--	--	6	--
Swale	10	8	12	8	19	20	22	39	42	57
Thanet	0	0	0	3	8	10	19	22	20	14
Tonbridge & Malling	32	13	9	8	--	--	--	--	--	--
Tunbridge Wells	18	16	14	20	22	28	28	20	22	26
Medway U.A.	33	34	20	21	13	6	--	--	48	77

Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
Table presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

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-- denotes no data supplied

Households temporarily placed in private sector properties leased by Local authorities or housing associations

During 2017/18 in Kent 47 households who were placed into temporary accommodation were placed into private sector properties leased by local authorities or housing associations. This is the lowest figure during the past decade. This equates to a rate of 0.7 per 1,000 households. This is much lower than that seen in London, the South East and the rest of England.



Households placed in private sector properties leased by local authorities or housing associations

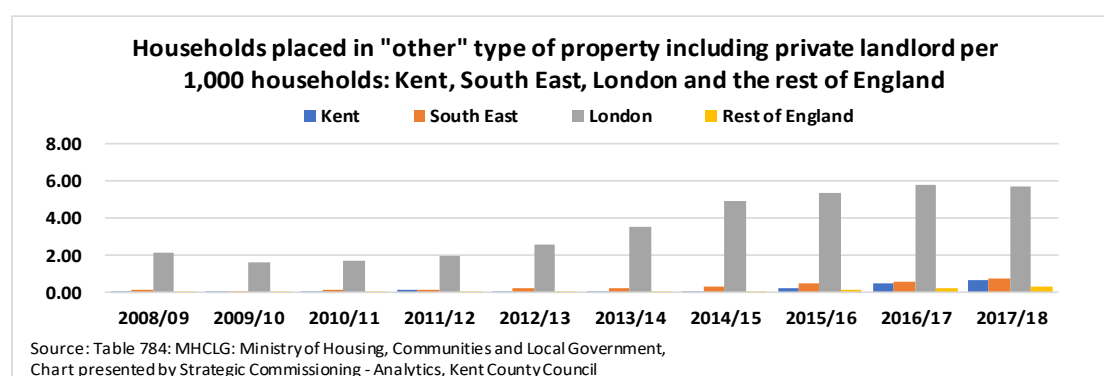
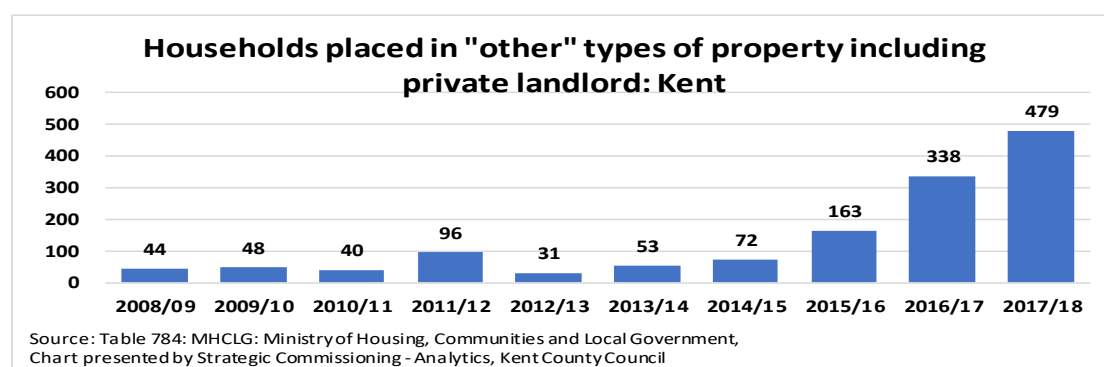
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Kent	222	209	144	122	104	83	64	62	56	47
South East	1,810	1,380	1,230	1,290	1,380	1,410	1,410	1,470	1,630	1,580
London	32,670	27,160	23,530	22,420	22,410	21,460	20,180	20,920	20,100	20,560
Rest of England	4,780	3,760	3,430	3,620	3,850	3,820	3,810	3,510	4,410	4,720
Ashford	42	65	73	69	71	67	59	57	56	47
Canterbury	13	5	11	5	11	0	-	-	-	-
Dartford	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	-	-	-
Dover	32	21	3	3	-	-	5	5	-	-
Folkestone & Hythe	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	-	-	-
Gravesham	13	8	0	0	-	0	-	-	-	-
Maidstone	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	-	-	-
Sevenoaks	63	64	34	23	22	7	-	-	-	-
Swale	39	37	17	13	-	9	-	-	-	-
Thanet	9	4	2	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tonbridge & Malling	1	0	0	0	-	0	-	-	-	-
Tunbridge Wells	10	5	4	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Medway U.A.	0	0	0	34	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
Table presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

- value less than 5 suppressed
-- denotes no data supplied

Temporary Accommodation: “other” types including private landlord

“Other” types of property include short-term leases in the private sector when no (or unsuitable) official accommodation is available and could be “considered to be” one of the early indicators of underlying problems. During 2017/18 in Kent, 479 households were placed into “other” types of property which include private landlords. This is the highest figure during the past decade and equates to a rate of 0.73 per 1,000 households. This is lower than that seen in London and the South East but slightly higher than the rest of England.



Households placed in "other" types of property including private landlord

	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Kent	44	48	40	96	31	53	72	163	338	479
South East	480	380	500	650	860	1,060	1,360	1,810	2,390	2,910
London	6,760	5,170	5,630	6,350	8,760	12,030	17,050	18,720	20,910	20,920
Rest of England	1,700	1,150	1,160	1,460	2,050	1,980	2,430	3,870	5,110	6,570
Ashford	0	0	0	0	--	0	-	-	--	56
Canterbury	0	0	5	0	--	0	-	-	--	22
Dartford	25	24	20	58	23	27	40	87	107	102
Dover	0	0	0	0	--	0	-	-	32	32
Folkestone & Hythe	0	0	0	0	--	0	-	-	5	11
Gravesham	0	2	1	18	--	19	18	46	59	49
Maidstone	1	2	0	7	--	0	-	-	--	5
Sevenoaks	0	0	0	0	--	0	-	-	7	31
Swale	14	13	10	3	--	0	-	-	30	31
Thanet	0	0	0	0	--	0	-	-	58	95
Tonbridge & Malling	3	2	1	5	--	-	6	19	28	30
Tunbridge Wells	1	5	3	5	8	7	8	11	12	15
Medway U.A.	106	68	78	35	55	72	140	191	283	254

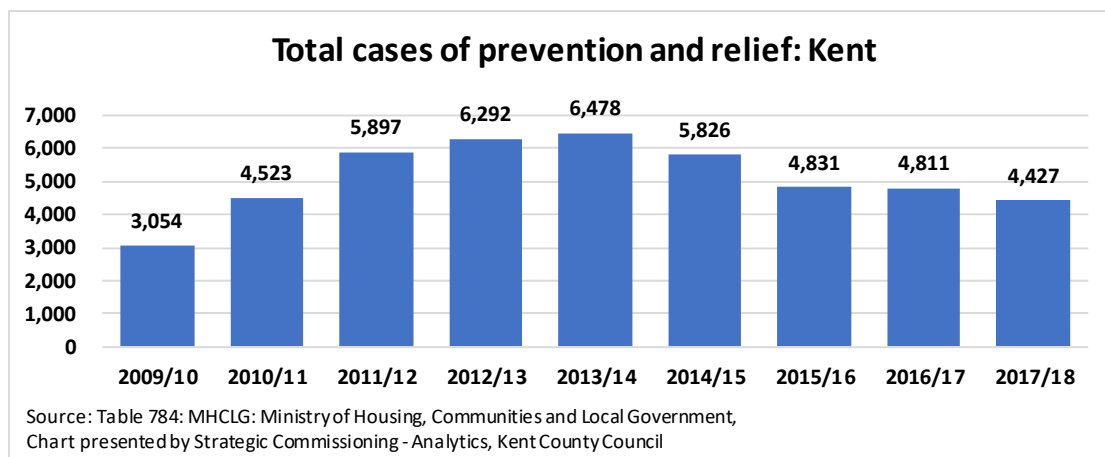
Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
Table presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

- value less than 5 suppressed
-- denotes no data supplied

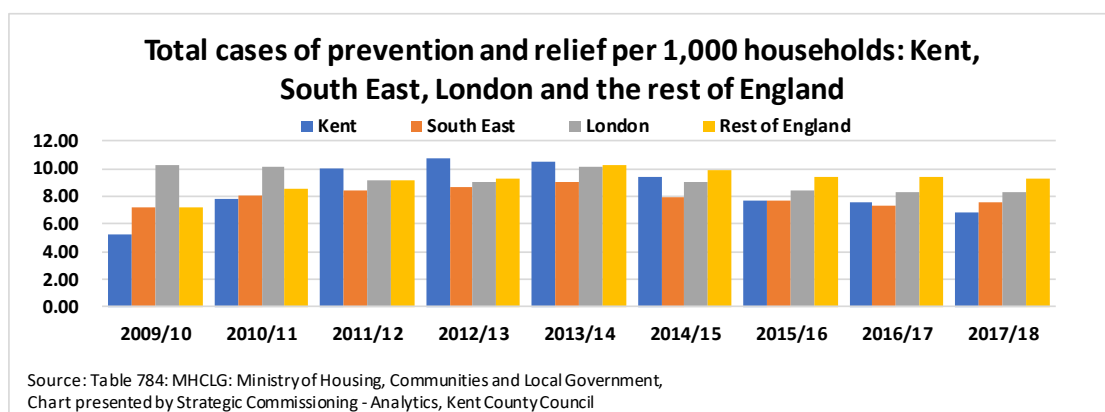
Positive action to Prevent and Relieve homelessness

Under the Homelessness Act 2002, local housing authorities must have a strategy for preventing and relieving homelessness in their district. The strategy must apply to everyone at risk of homelessness, including cases where someone is found to be homeless but not in priority need and cases where someone is found to be intentionally homeless. Homelessness prevention and relief refers to positive action taken by the local authority which provides someone who considers themselves at risk of homelessness with a solution for at least the next six months.

During 2017/18 in Kent 4,427 households were positively assisted to prevent or relieve homelessness. This is the lowest figure since 2010/11. 2013/14 saw the highest number of households in Kent to be helped.



The rate of households receiving assistance to prevent or relieve homelessness 2017/2018 in Kent is 6.87 per 1,000 households. This is lower than that seen in London, the South East and the rest of England.



All local authorities in Kent provided positive assistance to prevent or relieve homelessness during 2017/18. Ashford assisted the highest number with 1,709. Dartford assisted the lowest number with 79 households.

Total cases where positive action was taken to prevent or relieve homelessness

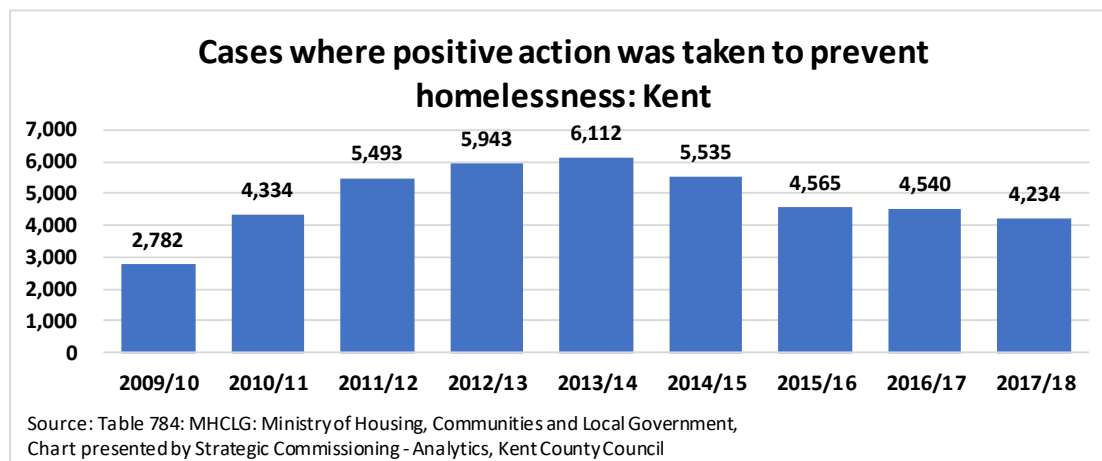
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Kent	3,054	4,523	5,897	6,292	6,478	5,826	4,831	4,811	4,427
South East	25,000	28,000	29,400	31,320	32,660	29,180	28,720	27,610	28,680
London	32,600	32,900	29,800	30,300	34,080	31,080	29,520	29,720	30,290
Rest of England	132,600	155,900	169,200	172,600	194,320	189,620	183,750	185,500	184,690
Ashford	274	673	1,729	2,157	2,400	2,074	1,563	1,763	1,709
Canterbury	285	599	844	947	1,126	1,130	1,146	1,030	808
Dartford	218	195	126	181	111	87	49	53	79
Dover	231	271	251	240	136	130	173	151	136
Folkestone & Hythe	211	298	402	375	407	198	196	144	181
Gravesham	336	420	589	418	347	252	291	394	462
Maidstone	213	671	224	375	337	292	244	226	121
Sevenoaks	343	414	494	410	405	419	256	219	138
Swale	321	240	254	389	506	485	279	236	173
Thanet	265	391	393	318	338	390	294	257	244
Tonbridge & Malling	183	155	210	165	209	182	119	102	122
Tunbridge Wells	174	196	381	317	156	187	221	236	254
Medway U.A.	1,714	1,241	631	405	335	438	355	561	645

Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

Table presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Prevention

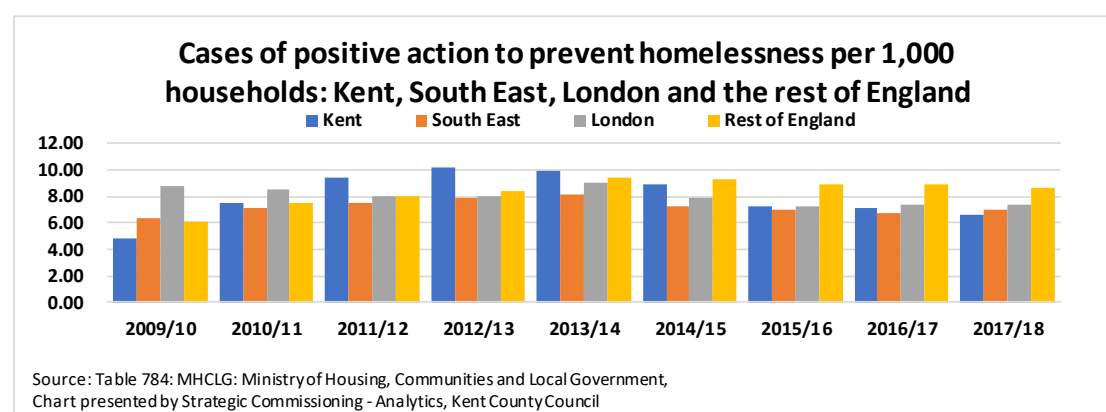
The homelessness “prevented” category are households at risk of homelessness, before homelessness occurs. During 2017/18 in Kent 4,234 households were positively assisted to prevent homelessness. This is the lowest figure since 2010/11. 2013/14 saw the highest number of households in Kent who were prevented from becoming homeless.



The rate of households receiving assistance to prevent homelessness 2017/2018 in Kent is 6.57 per 1,000 households. This is lower than that seen in London, the South East and the rest of England.

Of the cases where positive action was taken to prevent homelessness, 2,982 households in Kent were able to remain in their existing homes during

2017/2018. This is 70% of all cases of prevention, and is a higher proportion than the South East, London and the rest of England.



All local authorities in Kent provided positive assistance to prevent homelessness during 2017/18. Ashford assisted the highest number with 1,705. Dartford assisted the lowest number with 63 households. Ashford saw the highest proportion of cases of prevention resulting in the households being able to remain in their existing homes during 2017/18 with 96%. Tunbridge Wells saw the lowest proportion with 15%.

Total cases of prevention by outcome

	Total cases of prevention 2017/18	Able to remain in existing home		Assisted to obtain alternative	
		Number	%	Number	%
Kent	4,234	2,982	70%	1,252	30%
South East	26,400	14,660	56%	11,740	44%
London	26,930	18,310	68%	8,620	32%
Rest of England	172,170	92,000	53%	80,170	47%
Ashford	1,705	1,638	96%	67	4%
Canterbury	717	476	66%	241	34%
Dartford	63	33	52%	30	48%
Dover	128	71	55%	57	45%
Folkestone & Hythe	181	67	37%	114	63%
Gravesham	408	347	85%	61	15%
Maidstone	119	24	20%	95	80%
Sevenoaks	134	41	31%	93	69%
Swale	169	92	54%	77	46%
Thanet	240	103	43%	137	57%
Tonbridge & Malling	120	53	44%	67	56%
Tunbridge Wells	250	37	15%	213	85%
Medway U.A.	636	286	45%	350	55%

Source: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

Table presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Number of cases where positive action was taken to prevent homelessness

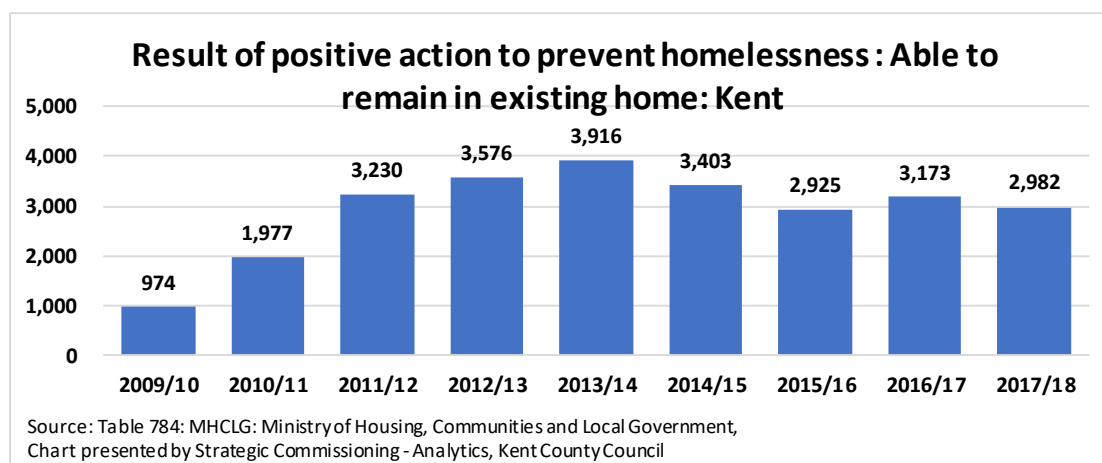
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Kent	2,782	4,334	5,493	5,943	6,112	5,535	4,565	4,540	4,234
South East	22,000	24,800	26,200	28,230	29,530	26,600	26,110	25,460	26,400
London	27,900	27,600	25,900	26,900	30,620	27,110	25,700	26,250	26,930
Rest of England	113,000	136,500	148,900	155,000	179,280	177,890	173,040	173,910	172,170
Ashford	222	661	1,728	2,155	2,396	2,073	1,563	1,763	1,705
Canterbury	204	553	772	822	1,019	1,013	1,041	929	717
Dartford	202	170	75	110	44	76	44	47	63
Dover	231	270	251	233	134	129	172	151	128
Folkestone & Hythe	210	298	402	375	398	198	196	144	181
Gravesham	258	340	398	348	233	121	153	249	408
Maidstone	213	670	224	364	334	286	237	221	119
Sevenoaks	338	405	459	363	363	416	256	219	134
Swale	320	240	252	388	505	478	274	229	169
Thanet	245	381	384	309	327	379	290	257	240
Tonbridge & Malling	165	151	168	163	206	182	119	98	120
Tunbridge Wells	174	195	380	313	153	184	220	233	250
Medway U.A.	1,629	1,241	614	392	321	434	341	559	636

Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

Table presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

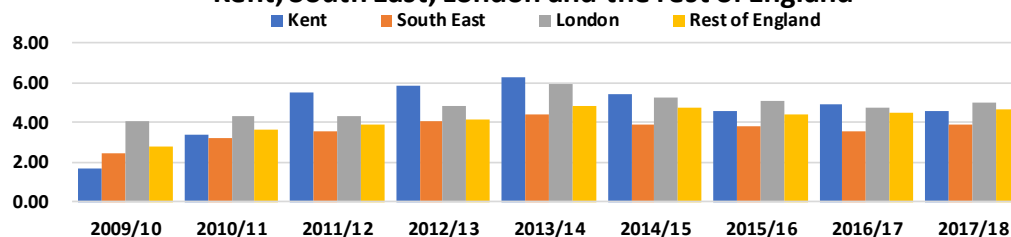
Able to remain in own home

In Kent 2,982 households who were at risk of becoming homeless, were assisted to remain in their existing home during 2017/18. This is slightly lower than the previous year. 2013/14 saw the highest number of households in Kent who were able to remain in their existing homes.



The rate of households remaining in their existing home during 2017/2018 in Kent is 4.57 per 1,000 households. This is higher than the South East but lower than that seen in London and the rest of England.

Households able to remain in existing home per 1,000 households: Kent, South East, London and the rest of England



Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Chart presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

All local authorities in Kent assisted households to remain in their own homes during 2017/18. Ashford assisted the highest number with 1,638. Maidstone assisted the lowest number with 24 households.

Households were able to remain in existing home

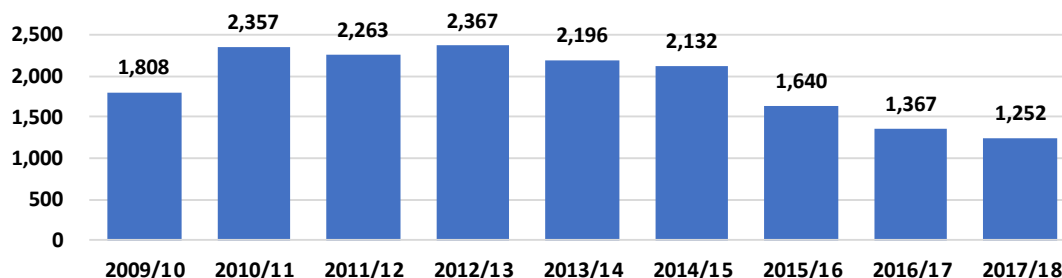
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Kent	974	1,977	3,230	3,576	3,916	3,403	2,925	3,173	2,982
South East	8,400	11,300	12,300	14,580	15,910	14,220	14,060	13,430	14,660
London	12,800	14,000	13,900	16,050	19,940	18,090	17,820	16,890	18,310
Rest of England	51,600	67,800	72,100	78,650	91,960	91,130	84,950	89,010	92,000
Ashford	95	516	1,564	2,037	2,320	2,029	1,476	1,685	1,638
Canterbury	108	282	484	500	593	540	812	741	476
Dartford	55	42	49	47	38	16	19	18	33
Dover	128	119	31	43	10	11	18	42	71
Folkestone & Hythe	17	90	176	163	162	76	63	60	67
Gravesham	258	340	343	216	226	121	138	230	347
Maidstone	80	326	107	146	111	56	43	49	24
Sevenoaks	74	102	62	45	69	72	40	47	41
Swale	86	54	58	160	250	269	105	141	92
Thanet	24	47	102	82	86	127	120	90	103
Tonbridge & Malling	45	47	46	23	30	45	45	37	53
Tunbridge Wells	4	12	208	114	21	41	46	33	37
Medway U.A.	1,190	827	401	239	93	199	148	243	286

Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
Table presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Assisted to obtain alternative accommodation

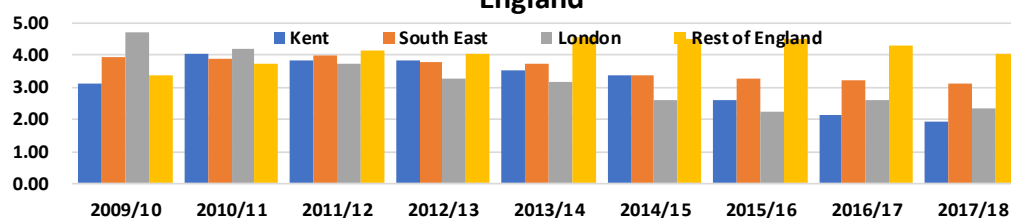
1,252 households who were at risk of becoming homeless, were assisted to find alternative accommodation during 2017/18. This is slightly lower than the previous year. 2012/13 saw the highest number of households in Kent who were prevented from becoming homeless by being helped to find alternative accommodation.

Result of positive action to prevent homelessness : Assisted to obtain alternative accommodation: Kent



Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government,
Chart presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Households assisted to obtain alternative accommodation per 1,000 households: Kent, South East, London and the rest of England



Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government,
Chart presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

All local authorities in Kent assisted households to obtain alternative accommodation during 2017/18. Canterbury assisted the highest number with 241. Dartford assisted the lowest number with 30 households.

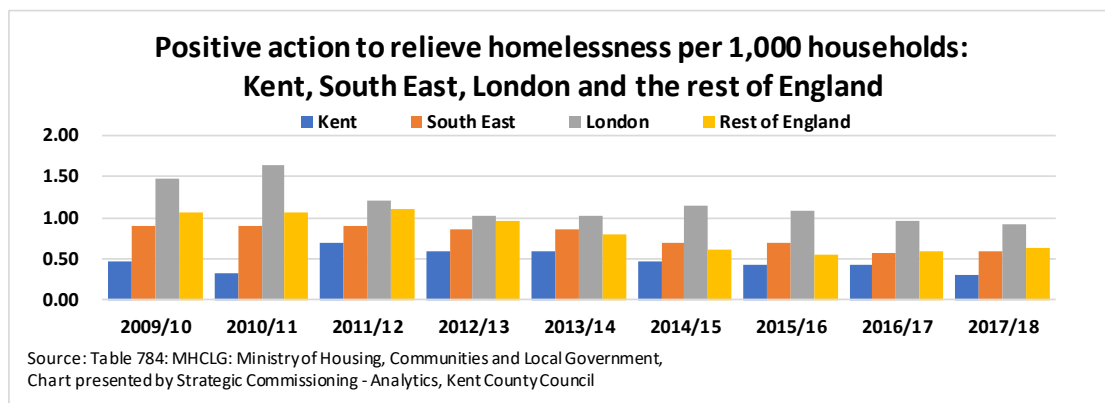
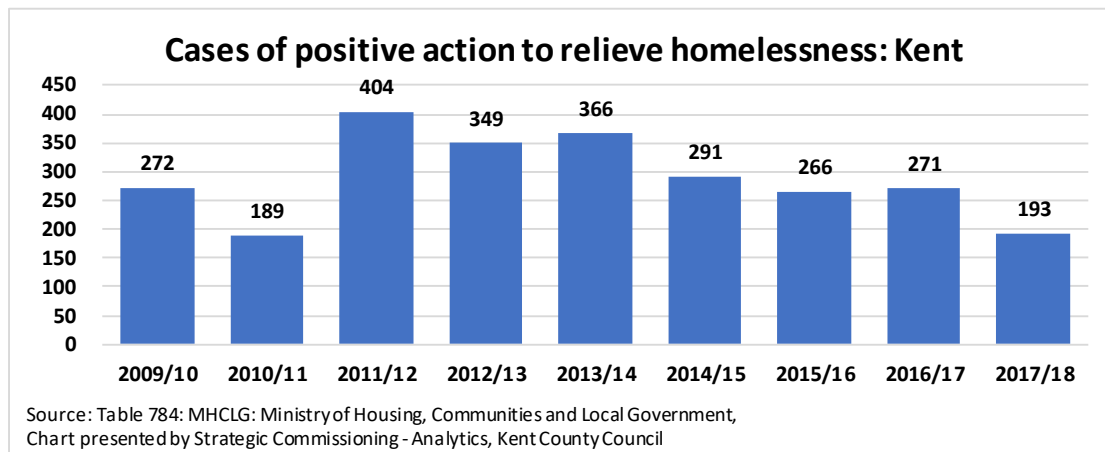
Household assisted to obtain alternative accommodation

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Kent	1,808	2,357	2,263	2,367	2,196	2,132	1,640	1,367	1,252
South East	13,600	13,500	13,900	13,640	13,620	12,380	12,060	12,030	11,740
London	15,000	13,600	12,100	10,850	10,680	9,020	7,880	9,360	8,620
Rest of England	61,500	68,700	76,700	76,350	87,320	86,780	88,090	84,900	80,170
Ashford	127	145	164	118	76	44	87	78	67
Canterbury	96	271	288	322	426	473	229	188	241
Dartford	147	128	26	63	6	60	25	29	30
Dover	103	151	220	190	124	118	154	109	57
Folkestone & Hythe	193	208	226	212	236	122	133	84	114
Gravesham	0	0	55	132	7	0	15	19	61
Maidstone	133	344	117	218	223	230	194	172	95
Sevenoaks	264	303	397	318	294	344	216	172	93
Swale	234	186	194	228	255	209	169	88	77
Thanet	221	334	282	227	241	252	170	167	137
Tonbridge & Malling	120	104	122	140	176	137	74	61	67
Tunbridge Wells	170	183	172	199	132	143	174	200	213
Medway U.A.	439	414	213	153	228	235	193	316	350

Source: Table 784: MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Governr - value less than 5 suppressed
Table presented by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council -- denotes no data supplied

Relief

'Homelessness relief' is where an authority has been unable to prevent homelessness but helps someone to secure accommodation, even though the authority is under no statutory obligation to do so. During 2017/18 in Kent 193 households were positively assisted to relieve homelessness. 6.87 per 1,000 households. This is a lower rate than that seen in London, The South East and the rest of England.



Within the Kent local authorities, Canterbury provided 91 households with homelessness relief during 2017/18. Maidstone and Tonbridge & Malling had the lowest number of cases and there were no cases in Folkestone & Hythe.

