

Statutory Homelessness in Kent: Financial year 2022-2023

This bulletin presents data published in October 2023 by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC).

This data will be updated in Autumn/Winter 2024/25

NOTE: *within this bulletin "Kent" refers to the Kent County Council area which excludes Medway*

Further Information

Kent Analytics
Kent County Council
Invicta House
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XQ

Email:
research@kent.gov.uk

Tel: 03000 417444
[Facts and figures about Kent](#)

The statutory homeless data covers the characteristics of assessments and activities for homeless households in all local authorities in England between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023

Summary

- During the financial year 2022/23, 6,920 Kent households were assessed under the statutory homeless duty.
- Of this total, 3,577 were found to be threatened with homelessness within 56 days and therefore owed a prevention duty.
- 3,039 households were assessed as being owed a relief duty.
- 1,407 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 1,194. Of this total 62.6% (748) accepted the offer of social housing.
- The average number of Kent households living in temporary accommodation each quarter during 2021/22 to 2022/23 is 1,964.

Contents

What is statutory homelessness?.....	1
What are the homelessness duties of a local authority?.....	2
Initial Assessments.....	2
Prevention duty.....	6
Characteristics of households owed a prevention duty	6
Households no longer owed a Prevention duty	8
Outcomes of households where prevention duty ended.....	11
Relief duty.....	13
Characteristics of households owed a relief duty.	13
Households no longer owed a relief duty.	14
Outcomes of households where relief duty ended.....	17
Main Duty	18
Outcomes of households no longer owed a main duty	22
Households in temporary accommodation.....	24
Households with children in temporary accommodation.....	26

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.

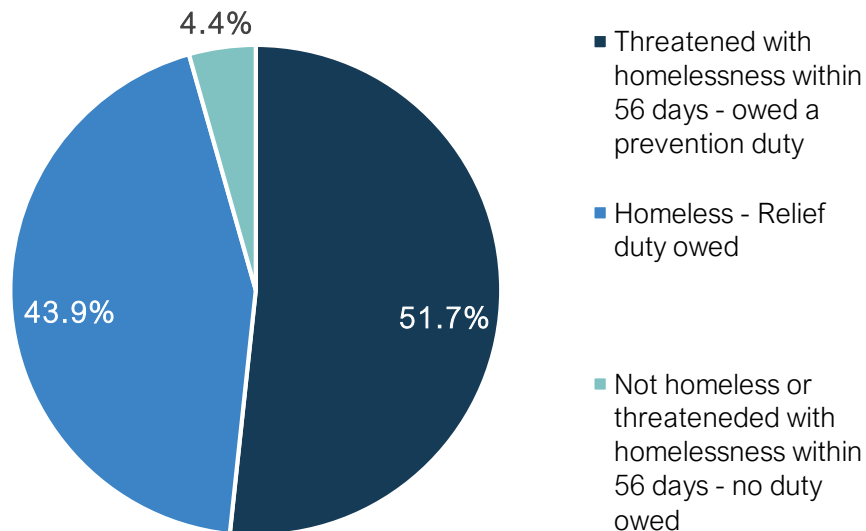
Initial Assessments

During the financial year 2022/23, local authorities in Kent assessed a total of 6,920 households under the statutory homelessness duty.

Chart 1 shows that of this total 3,577 (51.7%) households were found to be threatened with homelessness within 56 days, and therefore owed a prevention duty, 3,039 (43.9%) were assessed as being owed a relief duty and 304 (4.4%) of all households assessed were found to be not homeless.

Chart 1: Initial homelessness assessments in Kent 2022/23

Initial assessments: Kent 2022 to 2023



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

During the financial year 2022/23 in Kent, 3,577 households were threatened with homelessness and owed a prevention duty. Of these 971 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.**

Within Kent the highest number of initial assessments during 2022/23 was in Maidstone with 1,157 which accounts for 16.7% of the total for Kent. Of these assessments 596 were owed a prevention duty, 427 households were owed a relief duty, and 134 were found to be not homeless.

The lowest number of initial assessments was in Tonbridge & Malling with 323 which accounts for 4.7% of the Kent total. Of these assessments 175 were owed a prevention duty, 146 households were owed a relief duty, and 2 households were found to be not homeless.

During the financial year 2022/23 in Medway, there was 1,820 assessments. Of these assessments 946 were owed a prevention duty, 847 households were owed a relief duty, and 27 were found to be not homeless.

See Table1 for 2022/23 figures and Table 2 for 2022/23 percentages.

Table 1: Assessments on homelessness made during 2022/23

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	6,920	3,577	971	3,039	304	686	5.21	4.43
England	311,990	140,790	24,260	157,640	13,560	24,041	5.86	6.56
London	59,440	25,530	4,240	31,620	2,280	3,630	7.03	8.71
Rest of England	252,550	115,260	20,020	126,020	11,280	20,411	5.65	6.17
South East	43,250	20,780	4,160	19,060	3,410	2,652	7.83	7.19
Ashford	614	301	92	312	1	57	5.26	5.45
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dartford	611	340	55	265	6	49	6.93	5.40
Dover	510	239	118	261	10	52	4.58	5.00
Folkestone & Hythe	537	363	81	161	13	55	6.55	2.90
Gravesham	672	328	121	330	14	42	7.77	7.82
Maidstone	1,157	596	102	427	134	77	7.69	5.51
Sevenoaks	400	214	19	137	49	29	7.47	4.78
Swale	804	294	67	467	43	135	2.18	3.46
Thanet	858	468	195	376	14	130	3.59	2.88
Tonbridge & Malling	323	175	59	146	2	109	1.60	1.34
Tunbridge Wells	434	259	62	157	18	157	1.65	1.00
Medway U.A.	1,820	946	224	847	27	114	8.32	7.45

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness tables - Detailed local authority level Table A1: Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council, *2018-based household projections for 2022, 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 2022/23

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	6,920	51.7%	14.0%	43.9%	4.4%	894	4.00	3.40
England	311,990	45.1%	7.8%	50.5%	4.3%	24,041	5.86	6.56
London	59,440	43.0%	7.1%	53.2%	3.8%	3,630	7.03	8.71
Rest of England	252,550	45.6%	7.9%	49.9%	4.5%	20,411	5.65	6.17
South East	43,250	48.0%	9.6%	44.1%	7.9%	2,652	7.83	7.19
Ashford	614	49.0%	15.0%	50.8%	0.2%	57	5.26	5.45
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dartford	611	55.6%	9.0%	43.4%	1.0%	49	6.93	5.40
Dover	510	46.9%	23.1%	51.2%	2.0%	52	4.58	5.00
Folkestone & Hythe	537	67.6%	15.1%	30.0%	2.4%	55	6.55	2.90
Gravesham	672	48.8%	18.0%	49.1%	2.1%	42	7.77	7.82
Maidstone	1,157	51.5%	8.8%	36.9%	11.6%	77	7.69	5.51
Sevenoaks	400	53.5%	4.8%	34.3%	12.3%	29	7.47	4.78
Swale	804	36.6%	8.3%	58.1%	5.3%	135	2.18	3.46
Thanet	858	54.5%	22.7%	43.8%	1.6%	130	3.59	2.88
Tonbridge & Malling	323	54.2%	18.3%	45.2%	0.6%	109	1.60	1.34
Tunbridge Wells	434	59.7%	14.3%	36.2%	4.1%	157	1.65	1.00
Medway U.A.	1,820	52.0%	12.3%	46.5%	1.5%	114	8.32	7.45

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness tables - Detailed local authority level Table A1: Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council, *2018-based household projections for 2022, 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 3,577. Of this total, 41.9% (1,497) 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. 23.4% (838) 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	3,577	100%
End of private rented tenancy - assured shorthold	1,497	41.9%
Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate	838	23.4%
End of social rented tenancy	237	6.6%
Domestic abuse	236	6.6%
End of private rented tenancy - not assured shorthold	217	6.1%
Non-violent relationship breakdown with partner	156	4.4%
Other reasons / not known	144	4.0%
Left institution with no accommodation available	128	3.6%
Eviction from supported housing	74	2.1%
Other violence or harassment	46	1.3%
Required to leave accommodation provided by Home Office as asylum support	4	0.1%

Table 4 shows that of the total number of households assessed as being owed a prevention duty in Kent, the largest proportion 50.4% (1,803) of households were renting from the private rented sector. Households living with family are the second largest category 23.7% (848 households) followed by those living in the social rented sector 10.6% (380 households). There were two application from rough sleepers in Kent during 2022-23.

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

Kent	Number	%
Total households assessed as owed a homeless duty	3,577	100%
Private rented sector	1,803	50.4%
Living with family	848	23.7%
Social rented sector	380	10.6%
Living with friends	273	7.6%
Homeless on departure from institution	124	3.5%
Other / not known	61	1.7%
Owner-occupier / shared ownership	44	1.2%
Refuge	17	0.5%
Temporary accommodation	13	0.4%
No fixed abode	11	0.3%
Rough sleeping	2	0.1%
National Asylum Seeker Support (NASS) accommodation	1	0.0%

Table 5 shows that 1,096 or 30.6% of households owed a prevention duty were single females with dependent children. The second largest proportion was single males which accounted for 23.6% of the total (844 households).

Table 5: Households owed a prevention duty by household composition

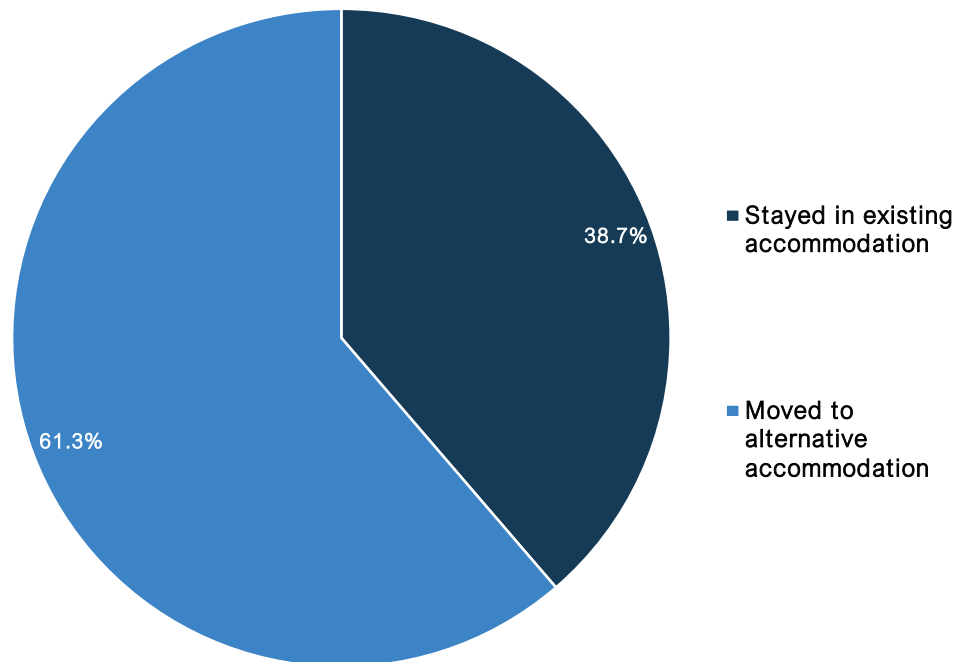
Kent	Number	%
Total households assessed as owed a homeless duty	3,577	100%
Single parent with dependent children - Female	1,096	30.6%
Single adult - Male	844	23.6%
Single adult - Female	660	18.5%
Couple with dependent children	527	14.7%
Couple / two adults without dependent children	229	6.4%
Single parent with dependent children - Male	91	2.5%
Three or more adults with dependent children	72	2.0%
Three or more adults without dependent children	51	1.4%
Single adult - Other / gender not known	6	0.2%
Single parent with dependent children - Other / gender not known	1	0.0%
Not known	-	0.0%

Households no longer owed a Prevention duty

During the financial year 2022/23, the total number of households for whom prevention duty ended in Kent was 3,769. More than 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, 1,306 (61.3%) moved to alternative accommodation and 824 (38.7%) 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 2022 to 2023



Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness TableP1 detailed local authority level
Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Of the 2,130 households that secured accommodation for 6 months or more, 466 households (21.9%) were secured accommodation by the local authority or an organisation delivering a housing options service. A further 362 households (17.0%) were helped financially to secure accommodation that they had found. See Table 6 for details

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

Kent	Number	%
Secured accommodation for 6+ months	2,130	100%
Accommodation secured by local authority or organisation delivering housing options service	466	21.9%
Helped to secure accommodation found by applicant, with financial payment	362	17.0%
Other	303	14.2%
Helped to secure accommodation found by applicant, without financial payment	300	14.1%
Other financial payments (e.g.to reduce arrears)	199	9.3%
Negotiation / mediation / advocacy work to prevent eviction / repossession	177	8.3%
Negotiation / mediation work to secure return to family or friend	126	5.9%
No activity – advice and information provided	105	4.9%
Supported housing provided	63	3.0%
Discretionary Housing Payment to reduce shortfall	29	1.4%

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. See Table 7 for details

Table 7: Total households by reason for end of prevention duty 2022/23

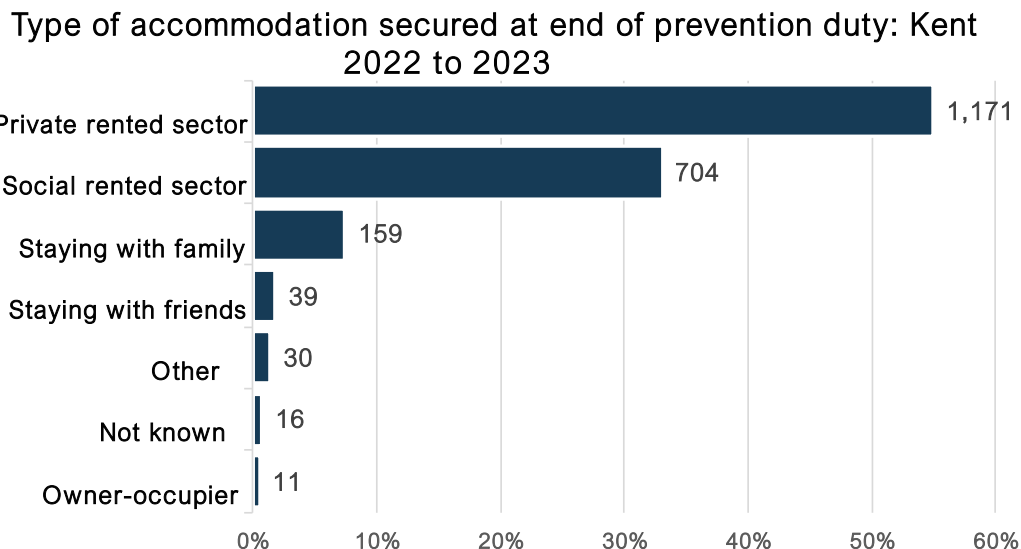
Area	Total households	Secured accommodation for 6+ months	Homeless (including intentionally homeless)	Contact lost	56 days elapsed and no further action	Withdrew application / applicant deceased	No longer eligible	Refused suitable accommodation	Refused to co-operate	Not known
Kent	3,769	56.5%	19.2%	7.7%	11.2%	4.0%	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%
England	130,770	52.7%	24.0%	8.9%	9.0%	4.0%	0.4%	0.7%	0.3%	0.0%
London	22,240	51.5%	24.4%	6.6%	12.7%	3.9%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%
Rest of England	108,540	53.0%	23.9%	9.4%	8.2%	4.0%	0.4%	0.8%	0.3%	0.0%
South East	19,450	54.3%	22.0%	8.6%	9.6%	4.3%	0.4%	0.6%	0.3%	0.0%
Ashford	290	36.6%	39.7%	2.4%	13.8%	5.2%	2.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Canterbury	249	45.0%	19.7%	17.3%	7.6%	10.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%
Dartford	283	31.8%	30.7%	19.1%	15.5%	2.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Dover	258	52.7%	27.1%	4.3%	12.4%	2.3%	0.8%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	384	51.8%	14.8%	20.3%	4.4%	5.5%	0.0%	1.6%	1.6%	0.0%
Gravesham	293	40.3%	19.8%	4.8%	30.0%	4.8%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Maidstone	516	70.2%	15.7%	3.5%	5.4%	5.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Sevenoaks	216	44.4%	10.6%	10.2%	25.5%	5.1%	0.5%	1.9%	1.9%	0.0%
Swale	325	72.3%	15.4%	0.9%	9.2%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Thanet	549	74.9%	11.5%	2.6%	7.7%	1.5%	2.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	158	63.9%	22.2%	6.3%	3.8%	1.3%	1.3%	0.6%	0.6%	0.0%
Tunbridge Wells	248	66.1%	14.9%	6.9%	9.3%	2.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Medway U.A.	940	64.5%	20.1%	2.3%	6.2%	6.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	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

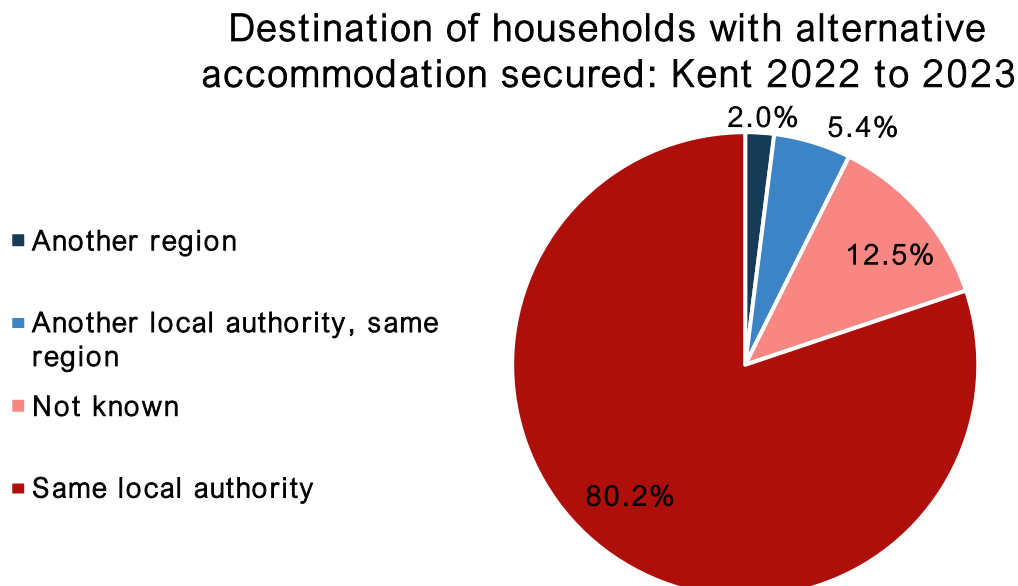
In Kent, 2,130 (56.5%) households secured accommodation for 6 months or more. Of this total 1,171 (55.0%) moved into private rented accommodation and 704 (33.1%) moved into social rented accommodation. 80.2% of households (1,047) secured accommodation within the same local authority. See Charts 3 and 4 for details

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



Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness table 2 - detailed local authority level. Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Chart 4: Destination of households with alternative accommodation secured



Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness table 4 - detailed local authority level
Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 8 shows that 642 or 30.1% 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 23.3% of the total (496 households).

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

Kent	Number	%
Secured accommodation for 6+ months	2,130	100%
Single parent with dependent children - Female	642	30.1%
Single adult - Male	496	23.3%
Single adult - Female	383	18.0%
Couple with dependent children	325	15.3%
Couple / two adults without dependent children	153	7.2%
Single parent with dependent children - Male	44	2.1%
Three or more adults with dependent children	42	2.0%
Three or more adults without dependent children	41	1.9%
Single adult - Other / gender not known	2	0.1%
Single parent with dependent children - Other / gender not known	2	0.1%
Not known	-	0.0%

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 3,039. Table 9 shows that 34.5% (1,048) 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 18.9% of the total (573 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	3,039	100%
Family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate	1,048	34.5%
Domestic abuse	573	18.9%
End of private rented tenancy - assured shorthold	317	10.4%
Non-violent relationship breakdown with partner	229	7.5%
Left institution with no accommodation available	197	6.5%
Other reasons / not known	185	6.1%
End of private rented tenancy - not assured shorthold	154	5.1%
Eviction from supported housing	137	4.5%
Other violence or harassment	124	4.1%
End of social rented tenancy	67	2.2%
Required to leave accommodation provided by Home Office as asylum support	8	0.3%

Table 10 shows that 716 (23.6%) households living with family make up the largest proportion of those owed a relief duty. A total of 476 households that previously had no fixed abode are the second largest category accounting for 15.7% of the total, followed by 417 who were renting privately, 13.7% of the total households owed a relief duty.

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

Kent	Number	%
Total households assessed as owed a homeless duty	3,039	100%
Living with family	716	23.6%
No fixed abode	476	15.7%
Private rented sector	417	13.7%
Rough sleeping	358	11.8%
Living with friends	315	10.4%
Homeless on departure from institution	246	8.1%
Social rented sector	243	8.0%
Other / not known	93	3.1%
Temporary accommodation	89	2.9%
Owner-occupier / shared ownership	43	1.4%
Refuge	39	1.3%
National Asylum Seeker Support (NASS) accommodation	4	0.1%

Table 11 shows that 45.0% (1,369) of households owed a relief duty were single adult males. 21.2% (643) of households were female single parents with dependent children. Single adult females accounted for 18.8% of all households owed a relief duty (571 households).

Table 11: Households owed a relief duty by household composition

Kent	Number	%
Total households assessed as owed a homeless duty	3,039	100%
Single adult - Male	1,369	45.0%
Single parent with dependent children - Female	643	21.2%
Single adult - Female	571	18.8%
Couple with dependent children	173	5.7%
Couple / two adults without dependent children	146	4.8%
Single parent with dependent children - Male	73	2.4%
Three or more adults with dependent children	30	1.0%
Single adult - Other / gender not known	16	0.5%
Three or more adults without dependent children	14	0.5%
Single parent with dependent children - Other / gender not known	3	0.1%
Not known	1	0.0%

Households no longer owed a relief duty.

The total number of households for whom a relief duty ended in Kent was 4,119. For most of these households 56 days elapsed and no further action was taken. 1,161 (28.2%) households secured accommodation for 6 months or more.

Table 12 shows that of this total 40.4% (469) of households were secured accommodation by the local authority or an organisation delivering a housing options service. 240 households (20.7%) of households were secured accommodation via another activity

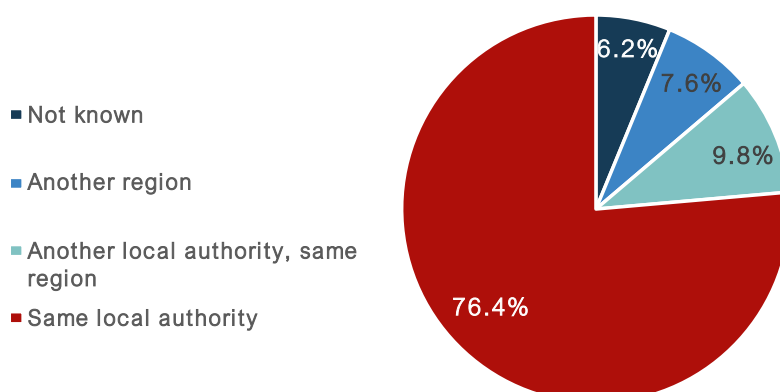
Table 12: Main activity that resulted in accommodation secured for households owed a relief duty

	Kent	Number	%
Total secured accommodation for 6+ months		1,161	100%
Accommodation secured by local authority or organisation delivering housing options service		469	40.4%
Other activity through which accommodation secured		240	20.7%
Helped to secure accommodation found by applicant, with financial payment		147	12.7%
Helped to secure accommodation found by applicant, without financial payment		145	12.5%
Supported housing provided		133	11.5%
No activity		27	2.3%

887 (76.4%) households secured accommodation within the same local authority area. See Chart 5 and Table 13 for details.

Chart 5: Destination of households at end of relief duty

Destination of households with alternative accommodation secured: Kent 2022 to 2023



Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness table 14 - detailed local authority level. Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

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

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	4,119	28.2%	49.4%	9.5%	9.5%	1.0%	0.5%	1.2%	0.5%	0.2%	0.0%
England	175,290	36.2%	43.8%	10.3%	6.4%	1.3%	0.5%	0.6%	0.7%	0.2%	0.0%
London	32,390	29.6%	54.9%	6.9%	5.3%	1.3%	0.4%	0.5%	0.6%	0.3%	0.1%
Rest of England	142,900	37.7%	41.4%	11.1%	6.6%	1.3%	0.6%	0.6%	0.7%	0.2%	0.0%
South East	21,160	31.0%	47.8%	10.1%	7.8%	0.9%	0.7%	1.1%	0.6%	0.1%	0.0%
Ashford	412	20.6%	61.4%	4.6%	9.2%	0.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Canterbury	471	34.6%	27.8%	19.7%	12.3%	1.5%	0.6%	2.3%	0.6%	0.4%	0.0%
Dartford	309	20.7%	56.6%	15.2%	4.2%	1.9%	0.3%	0.3%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Dover	327	19.0%	65.4%	7.3%	4.0%	0.9%	1.5%	1.2%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	229	53.3%	22.3%	7.9%	7.4%	3.9%	2.2%	1.3%	0.4%	1.3%	0.0%
Gravesham	401	23.2%	60.6%	2.2%	13.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Maidstone	433	43.2%	31.4%	6.0%	15.7%	1.4%	0.2%	2.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Sevenoaks	173	22.0%	55.5%	6.9%	6.9%	4.6%	0.0%	2.3%	0.0%	1.7%	0.0%
Swale	559	25.0%	55.6%	7.0%	11.3%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Thanet	444	19.6%	59.5%	14.9%	4.7%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	188	21.3%	54.8%	10.6%	11.7%	0.5%	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Tunbridge Wells	173	46.2%	33.5%	9.8%	8.1%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%
Medway U.A.	895	36.9%	43.7%	5.0%	11.3%	0.6%	0.1%	1.7%	0.6%	0.2%	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 2,035 (49.4%) households, the duty requirement of 56 days elapsed, and no further action was taken. 1,161 households (28.2%) secured accommodation for 6 months or more.

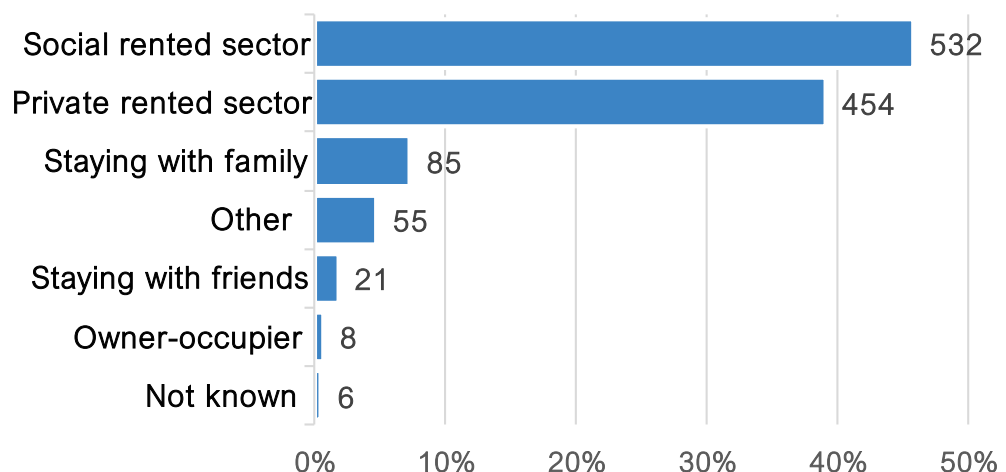
Table 14: Reasons for end of relief duty

Kent	Number	%
Total households whose relief duty ended	4,119	100%
56 days elapsed and no further action	2,035	49.4%
Secured accommodation for 6+ months	1,161	28.2%
Contact lost	390	9.5%
Withdrew application / applicant deceased	391	9.5%
Local connection referral accepted by other LA	51	1.2%
Refused final accommodation	41	1.0%
Intentionally homeless from accommodation provided	21	0.5%
No longer eligible	20	0.5%
Notice served due to refusal to co-operate	9	0.2%
Not known	-	0.0%

Chart 6 shows that for those households who secured accommodation, 45.8% (532) households did so from the social rented sector.

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

Type of accommodation secured for households at end of relief duty: Kent 2022 to 2023



Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness table R2 - detailed local authority level

Table 15 shows that 560 (18.4%) households that secured accommodation at the end of relief duty were male single adult households. 229 (7.5%) households at the end of relief duty were female single parent households.

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

Kent	Number	%
Total secured accommodation for 6+ months	3,039	100%
Single adult - Male	560	18.4%
Single parent with dependent children - Female	229	7.5%
Single adult - Female	209	6.9%
Couple with dependent children	73	2.4%
Couple / two adults without dependent children	51	1.7%
Single parent with dependent children - Male	18	0.6%
Three or more adults with dependent children	11	0.4%
Single adult - Other / gender not known	6	0.2%
Three or more adults without dependent children	4	0.1%
Single parent with dependent children - Other / gender not known	-	0.0%
Not known	-	0.0%

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. 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.

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 2,016 main duty decisions taken in Kent during the financial year 2022/23. This equates to a rate of 3.03 households per 1,000 households. This rate is lower than the

overall England rate (3.16), lower than London (4.30) and higher than the South East (2.59) and the rest of England (2.95).

69.8% (1,407) main duty decisions in Kent were classed as being homeless and in priority need and unintentionally homeless. This is lower proportion than that seen in the South East (74.1%), and London (79.0%) and England as a whole (71.1%). However, the proportion of households in priority and intentionally homeless is slightly higher in Kent than in the rest of England (69.0%). See tables 16 and 16a and Chart 7 for details

Table 16: Total Main duty decisions made in 2022 to 2023

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	2,016	3.03	1,407	81	490	38
England	74,290	3.16	52,800	3,320	17,020	1,150
London	15,250	4.30	12,040	420	2,310	480
Rest of England	59,040	2.95	40,760	2,900	14,710	670
South East	9,860	2.59	7,310	450	1,970	130
Ashford	253	4.63	189	2	52	10
Canterbury	122	1.82	44	19	57	2
Dartford	176	..	157	6	12	1
Dover	219	4.18	174	9	33	3
Folkestone & Hythe	45	0.87	3	12	30	0
Gravesham	219	5.16	113	7	84	15
Maidstone	137	1.93	101	5	31	0
Sevenoaks	97	1.95	70	2	21	4
Swale	310	4.95	255	4	51	0
Thanet	266	4.13	169	12	85	0
Tonbridge & Malling	109	2.04	81	3	24	1
Tunbridge Wells	63	1.26	51	0	10	2
Medway U.A.	394	3.50	232	12	130	20

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

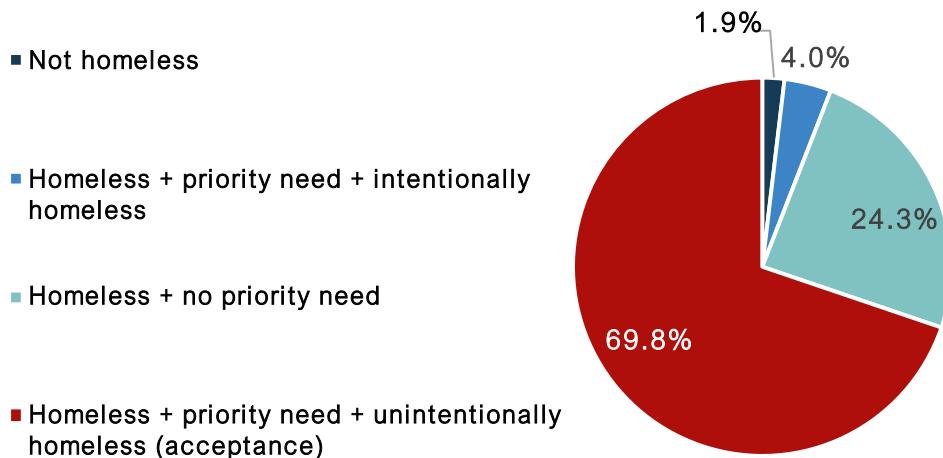
Table 16a: Percentage of Main duty decisions made in 2022 to 2023

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	2,016	3.03	69.8%	4.0%	24.3%	1.9%
England	74,290	3.16	71.1%	4.5%	22.9%	1.5%
London	15,250	4.30	79.0%	2.8%	15.1%	3.1%
Rest of England	59,040	2.95	69.0%	4.9%	24.9%	1.1%
South East	9,860	2.59	74.1%	4.6%	20.0%	1.3%
Ashford	253	4.63	74.7%	0.8%	20.6%	4.0%
Canterbury	122	1.82	36.1%	15.6%	46.7%	1.6%
Dartford	176	..	89.2%	3.4%	6.8%	0.6%
Dover	219	4.18	79.5%	4.1%	15.1%	1.4%
Folkestone & Hythe	45	0.87	6.7%	26.7%	66.7%	0.0%
Gravesham	219	5.16	51.6%	3.2%	38.4%	6.8%
Maidstone	137	1.93	73.7%	3.6%	22.6%	0.0%
Sevenoaks	97	1.95	72.2%	2.1%	21.6%	4.1%
Swale	310	4.95	82.3%	1.3%	16.5%	0.0%
Thanet	266	4.13	63.5%	4.5%	32.0%	0.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	109	2.04	74.3%	2.8%	22.0%	0.9%
Tunbridge Wells	63	1.26	81.0%	0.0%	15.9%	3.2%
Medway U.A.	394	3.50	58.9%	3.0%	33.0%	5.1%

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: Total Main duty decision made in 2021 to 2022 Priority needs of households owed a main duty

**Outcome of main duty decision for eligible households: Kent
2022 to 2023**



Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness table D1 - detailed local authority level
Chart presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Of the 2,016 main duty decisions, there were 1,407 households who were homeless with priority need and unintentionally homeless. More than half of this total, (54.1%) 759 households, included dependent children. 13% had physical disabilities or suffered ill health and 8.7% had mental health problems. See table 17 for details.

Table 17: Priority need of households owed a main duty

Kent	Number	%
Total households owed a main duty	1,407	
Household includes dependent children	759	54.1%
Physical disability / ill health	182	13.0%
Mental health problems	122	8.7%
Domestic abuse	88	6.3%
Household includes children, but other priority need reported	80	5.7%
Other	66	4.7%
Household includes a pregnant woman	43	3.1%
Young applicant	37	2.6%
Old age	21	1.5%
Homeless because of emergency	6	0.4%

Outcomes of households no longer owed a main duty

During the financial year 2022 to 2023, the total number of households for whom a main duty ended in Kent was 1,194. Of this total, 748 households (62.6%) accepted the offer of social housing, 171 households (14.3%) voluntarily left their temporary accommodation, and 98 households (8.2%) accepted the offer of private rented sector housing. See tables 18 and 19 for details.

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

Kent	Number	%
Total number of households where main duty ended	1,194	100%
Housing Act 1996 Pt6 social housing offer - accepted	748	62.6%
Voluntarily ceased to occupy TA	171	14.3%
Private rented sector offer - accepted	98	8.2%
Became intentionally homeless from TA	86	7.2%
Refused suitable TA offer, withdrew or lost contact	68	5.7%
Housing Act 1996 Pt6 social housing offer - refused	15	1.3%
Private rented sector offer - refused	4	0.3%
Ceased to be eligible	3	0.3%
Not known	1	0.1%

Table 19 Outcomes of households no longer owed a main duty

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	1,194	62.6%	1.3%	8.2%	0.3%	5.7%	0.3%	7.2%	14.3%	0.1%
England	37,360	71.7%	2.8%	7.3%	0.6%	6.9%	1.6%	3.4%	5.6%	0.1%
London	5,900	57.3%	0.8%	15.8%	2.4%	4.7%	7.6%	2.2%	9.0%	0.3%
Rest of England	31,470	74.4%	3.1%	5.8%	0.2%	7.3%	0.5%	3.6%	5.0%	0.0%
South East	5,150	71.7%	1.6%	7.4%	0.4%	5.6%	0.2%	4.5%	8.7%	0.0%
Ashford	183	56.3%	1.6%	10.4%	0.5%	8.2%	0.0%	13.7%	9.3%	0.0%
Canterbury	10	90.0%	0.0%	10.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Dartford	92	56.5%	0.0%	15.2%	1.1%	9.8%	1.1%	7.6%	8.7%	0.0%
Dover	140	65.0%	0.0%	11.4%	0.0%	2.9%	0.0%	8.6%	12.1%	0.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	4	25.0%	0.0%	25.0%	0.0%	25.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	0.0%
Gravesham	74	79.7%	2.7%	4.1%	0.0%	8.1%	0.0%	1.4%	4.1%	0.0%
Maidstone	71	62.0%	2.8%	7.0%	0.0%	8.5%	0.0%	7.0%	12.7%	0.0%
Sevenoaks	133	66.9%	3.8%	15.0%	0.8%	6.0%	1.5%	1.5%	4.5%	0.0%
Swale	203	59.6%	0.0%	2.5%	0.0%	1.5%	0.0%	5.4%	31.0%	0.0%
Thanet	139	56.1%	0.7%	3.6%	0.0%	7.9%	0.0%	12.2%	19.4%	0.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	95	73.7%	2.1%	2.1%	0.0%	4.2%	0.0%	5.3%	11.6%	1.1%
Tunbridge Wells	50	62.0%	0.0%	14.0%	2.0%	2.0%	0.0%	2.0%	18.0%	0.0%
Medway U.A.	259	84.9%	0.4%	1.5%	0.0%	4.6%	0.0%	1.2%	6.9%	0.4%

Source: DLUHC: Statutory homelessness tables - Detailed local authority level Table MD2: Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

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 2021 to January-March 2023 is 1,964.

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.

See table 20 for details.

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

Quarterly period	Q1 Apr-Jun 2021	Q2 Jul-Sep 2021	Q3 Oct-Dec 2021	Q4 Jan-Mar 2022	Q1 Apr-Jun 2022	Q2 Jul-Sep 2022	Q3 Oct-Dec 2022	Q4 Jan-Mar 2023
All Households in temporary accommodation	1,739	1,843	1,888	1,954	1,944	2,073	2,112	2,160
Private sector accommodation leased by authority or by a registered provider	2.8%	3.4%	3.8%	3.2%	4.0%	3.8%	3.4%	4.0%
Nightly paid, privately managed accommodation, self-contained	37.3%	37.1%	36.4%	35.7%	38.0%	37.7%	36.9%	36.6%
Local authority or Housing association (LA/HA) stock	21.0%	22.5%	24.0%	23.2%	24.7%	25.5%	26.2%	24.7%
Bed and breakfast hotels (including shared annexes)	10.6%	12.0%	12.7%	12.9%	11.2%	11.4%	10.8%	11.6%
Hostels (including reception centres, emergency units and refuges)	1.7%	1.3%	1.6%	1.6%	1.1%	1.0%	1.4%	1.2%
Any other type of temporary accommodation (including private landlord and not known)	26.5%	23.8%	21.5%	23.4%	21.0%	20.6%	21.2%	21.9%
In TA in another local authority district	36.6%	35.5%	34.1%	34.1%	32.5%	32.3%	31.4%	33.5%

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

Households with children in temporary accommodation

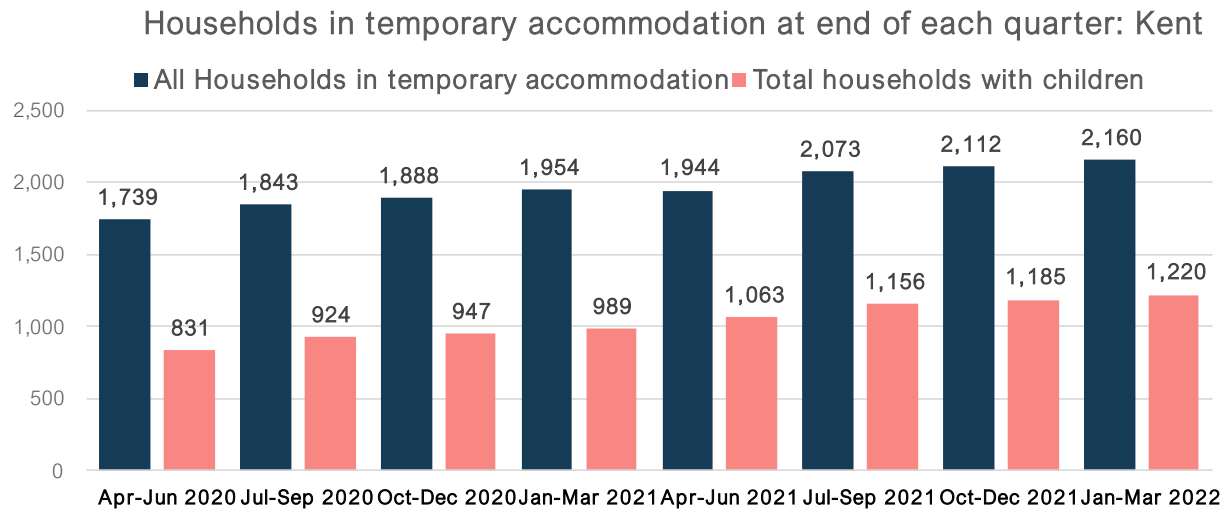
The average number of households with children living in temporary accommodation in Kent at the end of each quarter between April-June 2021 to January-March 2023 was 1,039.

The proportion of households with children in temporary accommodation was the highest at the end of the 4th quarter 2023 than it has been for the past eight quarters. The average number of children living in temporary accommodation in Kent at the end of each quarter between April-June 2021 to January-March 2023 was 2,113.

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

Quarterly period	Q1 Apr-Jun 2021	Q2 Jul-Sep 2021	Q3 Oct - Dec 2021	Q4 Jan-Mar 2022	Q1 Apr-Jun 2022	Q2 Jul-Sep 2022	Q3 Oct - Dec 2022	Q4 Jan-Mar 2023
Total households with children	831	924	947	989	1,063	1,156	1,185	1,220
% with children in temporary accommodation	47.8%	50.1%	50.2%	50.6%	54.7%	55.8%	56.1%	56.5%
Total number of children	1,646	1,843	1,894	1,995	2,175	2,390	2,423	2,541

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



Source: DLUHC: HCLIC 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. See table 9 for details.

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

Quarterly period	Q1 Apr-Jun 2021	Q2 Jul-Sep 2021	Q3 Oct-Dec 2021	Q4 Jan-Mar 2022	Q1 Apr-Jun 2022	Q2 Jul-Sep 2022	Q3 Oct-Dec 2022	Q4 Jan-Mar 2023
Total households with children	831	924	947	989	1,063	1,156	1,185	1,220
Private sector accommodation leased by authority or by a registered provider	3.6%	4.1%	4.5%	3.7%	4.4%	4.0%	3.5%	4.4%
Nightly paid, privately managed accommodation, self-contained	38.3%	41.3%	41.9%	41.1%	44.2%	45.3%	44.1%	44.6%
Local authority or Housing association (LA/HA) stock	26.2%	27.1%	29.1%	28.7%	29.1%	28.9%	30.3%	27.0%
Bed and breakfast hotels (including shared annexes)	0.4%	0.5%	1.2%	0.7%	0.8%	1.3%	1.1%	2.3%
Hostels (including reception centres, emergency units and refuges)	0.8%	0.6%	0.8%	1.0%	0.6%	0.5%	0.8%	0.5%
Any other type of temporary accommodation (including private landlord and not known)	30.7%	25.0%	22.4%	24.8%	20.9%	19.9%	20.3%	21.1%
Duty owed; no accommodation secured	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%

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