



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Rough Sleeping Count & Estimates FAQs



Is every homeless person counted?

The Counts and Estimates methodology produces a snapshot figure of how many people sleep rough in England on a typical night, with figures available at local, regional and national levels. The data does not include people who are homeless but do not fall within the rough sleeping definition or show how many people slept rough during an extended period.

How is 'rough sleeping' defined?

People sleeping, about to bed down (sitting on/in or standing next to their bedding) or actually bedded down in the open air (such as on the streets, in tents, doorways, parks, bus shelters or encampments). People in buildings or other places not designed for habitation (such as stairwells, barns, sheds, car parks, cars, derelict boats, stations, or "bashes").

Intelligence Gathering

GCC gather intelligence before the night of the count; working in partnership with a variety of different agencies; including: The Assertive Outreach, Police, 2gether Trust, NHS, Car park & park wardens & faith groups.

Every year Local Authorities in England provide a figure for how many people they believe are sleeping rough on a typical night between 1 October and 30 November.

GCC and the MHCLG understand that this is not a complete figure for the number of people rough sleeping throughout the year; but is designed as a 'snapshot figure' to record levels on a typical night.

In Gloucester estimates have been used for the last few years, therefore a count is being conducted for 2018.

We are working in partnership with local agencies & charities to undertake the count. We are working with Volunteers from these agencies to assist counting on the night to make sure we have a clear and transparent process.

Intelligence is also gathered on those not included in RS definition to inform GCCs Assertive Outreach Team and further work. This includes Squats and transitional spaces.

All information is verified by Homeless link. Verifiers attend counts and estimate meetings.



You can get further information on the Rough Sleepers count/estimate by visiting:

[Homeless.org.uk/connect/blogs/2018/sep/20/rough-sleeping-counts-and-estimates-all-you-need-to-know](https://homeless.org.uk/connect/blogs/2018/sep/20/rough-sleeping-counts-and-estimates-all-you-need-to-know)

Homeless Link will publish National & Local Statistics in January 2019.