

Cold Weather Provisions

Rough Sleepers



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- The Welfare and Housing Service carried out the estimated Rough Sleeper count between the night of 14th November into the morning of 15th November 2018

- Services/organisations involved:

- Kerith centre
- Pilgrim Hearts Trust
- DAAT
- Bracknell Jobcentre
- Probation Service
- Thames Valley Community Rehabilitation Company
- CMHT
- Parks and Countryside
- CAB
- Look Ahead

- A total of 19 rough sleepers identified



MHCLG Cold Weather Fund

- The purpose of the Cold Weather Fund is to provide interventions as well as enhancements of existing services
- Fund has been secured from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) Total cap for BFC = £35,000 and part of this funding is to include sustainability plan for the rough sleepers.



Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP)

- The SWEP protocol sets out the arrangements and necessary steps that Bracknell Forest Council will put in place to ensure that all known rough sleepers have the opportunity to access shelter if it is believed that they are at risk due to sleeping rough during severe cold weather
- The aim of the policy is to ensure that no one dies or is seriously harmed and that every effort is made to engage with individuals so that they can access appropriate services



Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) 2018/19

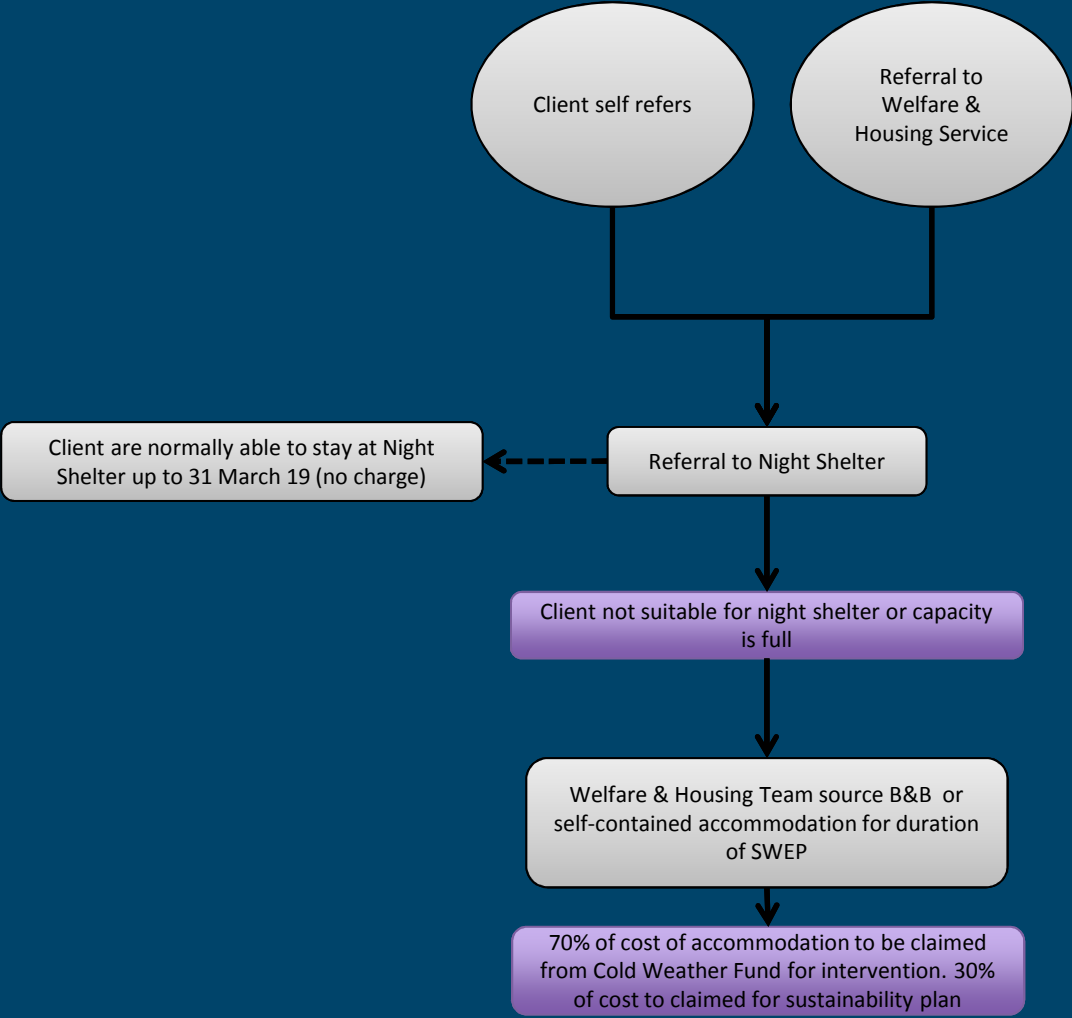
- Homeless Link guidance advise that SWEP should be activated by a weather forecast predicting 3 consecutive nights or more of temperatures below zero degrees Celsius
- BFC have seen that the support needs of clients have dramatically changed leading to more vulnerable clients
- BFC are taking a more proactive approach and in order to provide a better service propose that SWEP is to be activated by a weather forecast predicting 2 consecutive nights or more of temperatures below zero degrees Celsius. the Council has discretion to open SWEP in other adverse weather conditions and will be flexible



SWEP procedures

- Welfare and Housing Service receive daily weather update via Meteo Office
- SWEP to be activated if severe weather predicted for 2 or more consecutive days or any other predicted adverse weather conditions
- Welfare and Housing Service notifies Welfare and Housing duty team, key stakeholders and Emergency Duty Service of activation and de-activation





Sustainability Plan

- Specialist Housing Officer to be in post February to provide:
 - Outreach services
 - Source private rented accommodation
 - Floating support in order to sustain tenancy
 - Welfare & Housing service will work closely with partner charity to source suitable properties for longer term intervention



