

Adur and Worthing Councils

Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Assessment

November 2023

CordisBright



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We would also like to thank colleagues from the councils, Homelessness Prevention Board and Homelessness Forum who helped develop the methodology of this needs assessment and supported us to collect the necessary data.

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Executive summary

Introduction

This report provides the findings of a homelessness and rough sleeping assessment conducted for Adur and Worthing Councils. The purpose of the research is to inform the development of the councils' Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy, which aims to address the needs of those threatened with or experiencing homelessness.

The needs assessment has been produced through a mixed methods approach. The methods included a review of relevant documentation, interviews with strategic stakeholders from across the system and people with lived experience of homelessness, and analysis of national and local quantitative data.

Housing landscape

In terms of household tenure, home ownership levels in Adur, at 73%, were higher than the South East, at 67%, while Worthing more closely aligns with the South East at 69%. In both Adur and Worthing, the majority of housing is owned by the private sector, and there is no local authority owned housing in Worthing.

Median house prices increased by 41% in Adur and 39% in Worthing between 2013 and 2022, far exceeding income growth of 17%. Lower quartile house prices were over 10 times local earnings in both areas in 2022. The discrepancy between local wages and house prices highlights a significant barrier for households in Adur and Worthing that are wanting to get on the property ladder.

Housing development fell short of targets from 2012-2022 in Adur, with completions averaging 97 homes per year against a target of 177. In Worthing, completions averaged 312 versus a target of 200. Projections indicate that completions will exceed housing targets in Adur and Worthing in the short-term.

Demand for housing support

Adur had 906 applicants on the housing register and Worthing had 1,729, between January and March 2023. At the 2021-22 financial year end, Adur had 829 households on the housing waiting list, and Worthing had 1,551.

Between January 2022 and March 2023, there were 89 households in temporary accommodation in Adur, and 349 in Worthing. Use of temporary accommodation has risen sharply, increasing by 78% in Adur and 36% in Worthing between 2020 and 2022. Out-of-area placements are increasingly used due to limited local supply, creating financial pressures and disrupting support networks.

Analysis drawing on multiple sources indicates that there is substantial unmet affordable housing need, and our modelling estimates that there are 619 households in Adur and 1,298 in Worthing living in unsuitable housing and unable to afford market options without assistance.

Profile of cohort

The most common household type owed a prevention duty in Adur was single female parents with dependent children (41%). In Worthing, the most common household type was single adult males (30%). For households owed a relief duty, more than half of household types were single adult males in Adur and Worthing at 41% and 30% respectively.

A number of priority groups have been identified through this research: (1) single adult men, (2) people aged under 35, (3) older people, (4) people experiencing hidden homelessness, and (5) asylum and refugee seeking people.

Additionally, a number of needs of concern were identified. Mental health challenges and physical disability/ill health were the top two support needs in both areas. Financial challenges, substance misuse, and domestic abuse were also mentioned frequently. Stakeholders commented that it is becoming increasingly common for homeless people to have complex and multiple needs.

Drivers of homelessness

Numerous short-term factors were recognised as drivers of homelessness, including the current financial climate, housing affordability, and limited support service capacity across housing and health/social care services.

Longer-term drivers include the limited affordable housing supply, a mismatch between housing costs and local wage growth, and service budget cuts.

Support available

All local authorities have a duty to provide advice and information about housing and homelessness to anybody in the district, even those that are not currently homeless or threatened with homelessness. If a person is threatened with homelessness, they are eligible for a prevention duty which requires an authority to 'take reasonable steps to help the applicant to secure that accommodation does not cease to be available'.

Local authorities are also required to support people experiencing homelessness, if they are satisfied that an applicant is homeless and eligible for assistance, as a result of the relief or main duty. There are a range of housing options for applicants owed a relief or main duty, depending on a person's need. These include in-area, out-of-area, emergency, temporary, and supported accommodation.

A number of gaps in support were identified: limited temporary accommodation, transitional and step-down housing models, assistance for those with complex and multiple needs, as well as preventative early intervention initiatives.

Accessing support

The main pathways to access housing support include self-referral, duty to refer, and outreach services. However, these pathways were described as complex and complicated for service users.

Key access barriers include strained capacity across housing teams and partner agencies, inflexible service delivery models that exclude some groups, uncoordinated systems that fail to provide holistic assistance, restrictive eligibility thresholds, and generic pathways that do not address diverse needs. Those with complex intersecting issues face particular challenges securing adequate support.

Partnership working and collaboration

While services at a high level have shared values and goals around supporting people with their housing needs and ending homelessness, different sectors and services have distinct approaches and views about how best to support these ambitions, which in practice results in separate ways of working, a lack of shared responsibility, and potential inefficiencies in providing support.

There is not yet an integrated, multi-agency response to homelessness that recognises the complex nature of the issue; instead, many services operate in silos. However, there are positive examples of services working collaboratively which the wider system can learn from.

Priorities for the future

Several recommendations were offered by stakeholders to enhance the system response and improve outcomes for people with housing support needs:

- Providing wrap-around, holistic support
- Increasing the focus on prevention
- Supplying housing with the right support
- Introducing specific pathways for different groups
- Co-locating services
- Introducing systemwide learning events and training days

1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

This report provides the findings of a homelessness and rough sleeping assessment for Adur and Worthing, conducted by Cordis Bright.

The purpose of this research is to inform the development of Adur and Worthing Councils' Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy, which will aim to address the needs of those who find themselves threatened with homelessness and those who are homeless and rough sleeping, and identify gaps in local provision in meeting those needs through housing and support services. Following the approval of the preferred way forward, it is recommended that a full Housing Needs Assessment is undertaken of residents on the estate and an Equalities Impact Assessment prepared based on the information contained in the Housing Needs Assessment.

1.2 About the homelessness and rough sleeping assessment

This needs assessment has been produced through a mixed methods approach, agreed in collaboration with colleagues from the councils as well as the Homelessness Prevention Board and Homelessness Forum.

The methods included:

- **Review of documentation.** We reviewed documentation provided by council staff and wider strategic stakeholders. This included local plans, strategic documents, and policy papers.
- **20 semi-structured interviews with strategic stakeholders** across Adur and Worthing, conducted in July 2023. Interviewees were identified by colleagues from the councils, Homelessness Board and Homelessness Forum, and included representation from stakeholders from across the system, including housing teams, homelessness outreach, police and probation, substance misuse services, emergency care and VCSE organisations.
- **Seven semi-structured interviews with people with lived experience** of homelessness, conducted in August and September 2023.
- **Quantitative analysis of national data.** We have identified national, open-source data to help develop our understanding of housing and local need in Adur and Worthing. This included homelessness and housing statistics, census data, and data on registered provider social housing stock and rents.
- **Quantitative analysis of local data** provided by the councils' staff and wider strategic stakeholders. Data was shared with Cordis Bright securely and anonymously. The data sets we received were:

- Homeless and Housing statistics
- Supported housing evictions report
- Worthing – Hope Extract Homeless data
- Worthing – Housing Register application form
- Worthing – Housing Register Live & Housed Cases

1.3 Challenges and limitations

The key challenges and limitations of this research are outlined below.

- It is likely that local and national data underrepresents certain groups. In particular, this is likely for people who are at risk of homelessness but have not been in contact with support services, and the hidden homeless cohort.
- Making projections is difficult and cannot account for future local or national policy or social or economic changes. The relationships between the various factors are complex and largely unknown. Therefore, predictions throughout should be considered within this context.
- Evidence has been triangulated from multiple data sources, some of which are more recent than others. We have used the most recently available data available throughout, however, there are occasions where the data used is a year or multiple years out of date.
- A small sample of seven people with lived experience of housing support were interviewed as part of this research. This report may therefore only provide a partial picture of people's lived experience of the system.

These challenges, where possible, are mitigated by triangulating evidence to give greatest confidence in the findings, based on the evidence available.

1.4 Report structure

The remainder of the report is structured as follows:

- Chapter 2: Housing landscape
- Chapter 3: Demand for housing support
- Chapter 4: Profile of cohort
- Chapter 5: Drivers of homelessness
- Chapter 6: Support available
- Chapter 7: Accessing support
- Chapter 8: Partnership working and collaboration
- Chapter 9: Priorities for the future

2 Housing landscape

2.1 Overview

This chapter provides an overview of the housing landscape in Adur and Worthing.

2.2 Housing offer

2.2.1 Tenure profile by Households

The level of home ownership in Adur and Worthing was higher than the South East and England (see Figure 1). The tenure profile in Adur includes a relatively high level of home ownership at almost three quarters (73%) of all households; Worthing was more broadly in line with the South East as a whole.

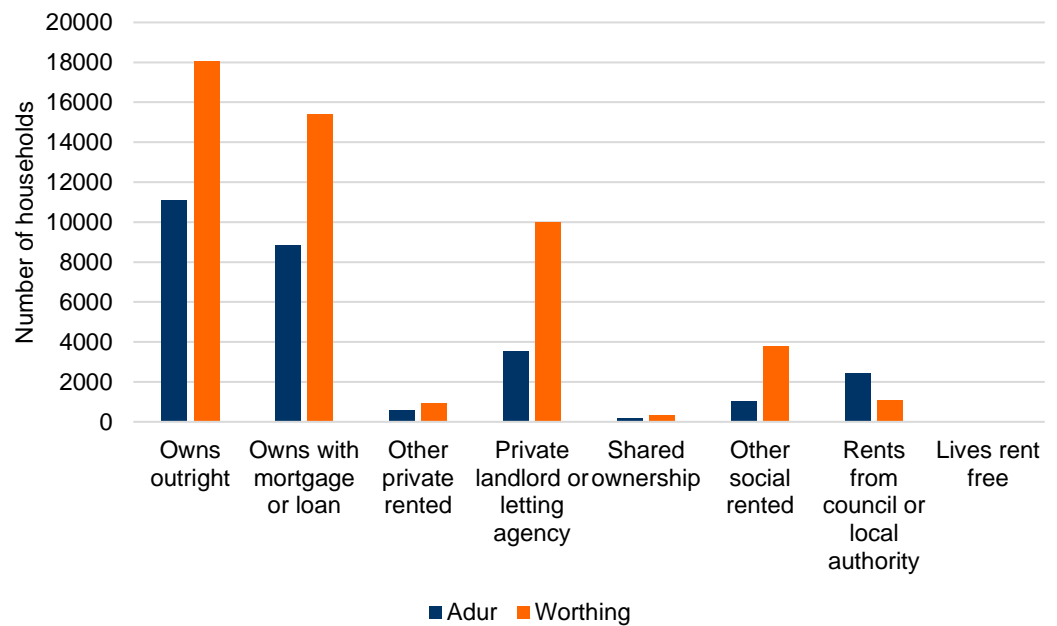
Adur and Worthing had fewer social renters than the national average of 17%, at 12% and 10% respectively, although closer to the proportion in the South East at 13%. The proportion of households in private rents was notably lower than the regional and national average in Adur at 15%, 6% less than the proportion nationally, whereas the proportion of households in private rents in Worthing was close to the national average at 22%. Further detail about the breakdown in tenure type is provided in Figure 2.

Figure 1 Tenure type

Tenure type	Adur	Worthing	South East	England
Owned	73%	69%	67%	62%
Social rents	12%	10%	13%	17%
Private rents	15%	22%	19%	21%

Source: ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

Figure 2 Tenure type



Source: ONS, Census 2021(2023)

In both Adur and Worthing, most of the housing is owned by the private sector at 87% and 91% respectively (see Figure 3). There is no local authority owned housing in Worthing.

Figure 3 Dwellings by tenure in 2020 – see appendix for further breakdown over previous years

Dwellings	Adur	Worthing
Local Authority Owned	2,534 (9%)	(0%)
Other Public Sector	1,089 (4%)	4,873 (9%)
Private Registered Provider	(0%)	(0%)
Private Sector	25,066 (87%)	46,598 (91%)
Total	28,689 (100%)	51,471 (100%)

Source: ONS, Dwelling stock by tenure (2022)

2.2.2 Social units

The Regulator of Social Housing provides a summary of affordable housing owned or part owned by Registered Providers. There are 19 providers in Adur and 24 operating in Worthing.

Figure 4 below shows that as of March 2022, there were:

- 3,126 general needs low-cost rentals in Adur, and 4,155 in Worthing.

- 478 supported housing/housing for older people rentals in Adur, and 729 in Worthing.
- 203 low cost-home ownership, and 203 in Worthing.

Figure 4 Social units

Social units	Adur			Worthing		
	LARP ¹ Units	PRP Units	All units	LARP Units	PRP Units	All units
Low-cost rental						
General needs	2,240	886	3,126	36	4,119	4,155
Of which, general needs self-contained	2,240	886	3,126	36	4,119	4,155
Of which, general needs non-self-contained	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supported housing/housing for older people	276	202	478	-	729	729
Low-cost home ownership (LCHO)						
Low-cost home ownership	-	203	203	-	203	203
Total	2,516	1,291	3,807	36	5,051	5,087

Source: Regulator of Social Housing, Registered provider social housing stock and rents in England 2021 to 2022 (2022)

2.2.3 House sizes and type

The most common accommodation type in Adur was semi-detached (38%, n=27,678). In Worthing, the most common accommodation type was purpose-built block of flats or tenements (24%, n=49,538) – see Figure 5.

¹ LARP: Local authority registered provider of social housing

PRP: Private provider of social housing

Figure 6 below shows that in both Adur and Worthing, the most common size of household was two people (35% and 34% respectively), followed by one person (30% and 34%).

Figure 5 Accommodation type

Accommodation type	Adur	Worthing
Detached	5,030 (18%)	10,539 (21%)
Semi-detached	10,567 (38%)	11,725 (24%)
Terraced	5,758 (21%)	9,788 (20%)
In a purpose-built block of flats or tenement	5,004 (18%)	11,817 (24%)
Part of a converted or shared house, including bedsits	638 (2%)	4,466 (9%)
Part of another converted building, for example, former school, church or warehouse	136 (0%)	442 (1%)
In a commercial building, for example, in an office building, hotel or over a shop	308 (1%)	746 (2%)
A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure	237 (1%)	15 (0%)
Total	27,678 (100%)	49,538 (100%)

Source: ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

Figure 6 Household size

Household size	Adur	Worthing
0 people in household	(0%)	(0%)
1 person in household	8,414 (30%)	16,764 (34%)
2 people in household	9,684 (35%)	17,066 (34%)
3 people in household	4,360 (16%)	7,455 (15%)
4 people in household	3,696 (13%)	5,837 (12%)
5 people in household	1,128 (4%)	1,729 (3%)
6 people in household	269 (1%)	495 (1%)
7 people in household	85 (0%)	132 (0%)

Household size	Adur	Worthing
8 or more people in household	41 (0%)	57 (0%)
Total	27,677 (100%)	49,535 (100%)

Source: ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

2.3 Profile of households

There were 27,678 households in Adur and 49,538 in Worthing at the point of the 2021 Census. The living arrangements of those households is shown in Figure 7 below, with a similar profile across both Adur and Worthing.

Figure 7 Living arrangements

Living arrangements	Adur	Worthing
Does not apply	11,462 (18%)	18,974 (17%)
Living in a couple		
Opposite-sex couple: Married or in a civil partnership	23,132 (36%)	38,875 (35%)
Same-sex couple: Married or in a civil partnership	350 (1%)	558 (1%)
Separated, but still married or in a civil partnership	64 (0%)	81 (0%)
Opposite-sex couple: Cohabiting	7,774 (12%)	13,166 (12%)
Same-sex couple: Cohabiting	378 (1%)	752 (1%)
Not living in a couple		
Single (never married and never registered a civil partnership)	11,651 (18%)	21,447 (20%)
Married or in a registered civil partnership	426 (1%)	758 (1%)
Separated (including those who are married and those who are in civil partnerships)	954 (1%)	1,819 (2%)
Divorced or formerly in a civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	4,037 (6%)	7,571 (7%)
Widowed or surviving partner from a civil partnership	3,626 (6%)	5,665 (5%)
Total	63,854 (100%)	109,666 (100%)

Source: ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

2.3.1 Occupation of households

A household is considered to be overcrowded where the accommodation has fewer bedrooms than required. The overall rate of overcrowding in England in 2021-22 was 3%.

In 2021, there were 835 (3%) households in Adur which were overcrowded; in Worthing, there were 1,645 (3%) overcrowded households (see Figure 8). This is the same as the overall rate of overcrowding in England in 2021-22.

In both Adur and Worthing, over two-thirds (70%) of households were under occupied, i.e. a household's accommodation had more bedrooms than required.

Figure 8 Occupation of households

Area	Under occupancy	Over occupancy
Adur	19,380 (70%)	835 (3%)
Worthing	32,285 (70%)	1,645 (3%)
South East	2,682,480 (70%)	131,350 (3%)
England	16,132,750 (69%)	1,024,6901 (4%)

Source: ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

The highest proportion of overcrowded households was found in social rented accommodation in both Adur and Worthing at approximately 9.5% (see Figure 9).

Figure 9 Percentage of overcrowded households by tenure

Area name	Owns outright	Owns with a mortgage, loan or shared ownership	Private rented or lives rent free	Social rented
Adur	0.9%	1.94%	5.70%	9.45%
Worthing	0.72%	2.13%	6.59%	9.50%

Source: ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

2.4 Rental trends, house prices and sales

2.4.1 House prices

The median house price in Adur was £375,000 in December 2022; 1.35% more than the South East median, but 39% more than the median for England and Wales – see Figure 10. The median house price in Worthing was £338,000, 9% less than the median for the South East but still 28% more than the median for England and Wales.

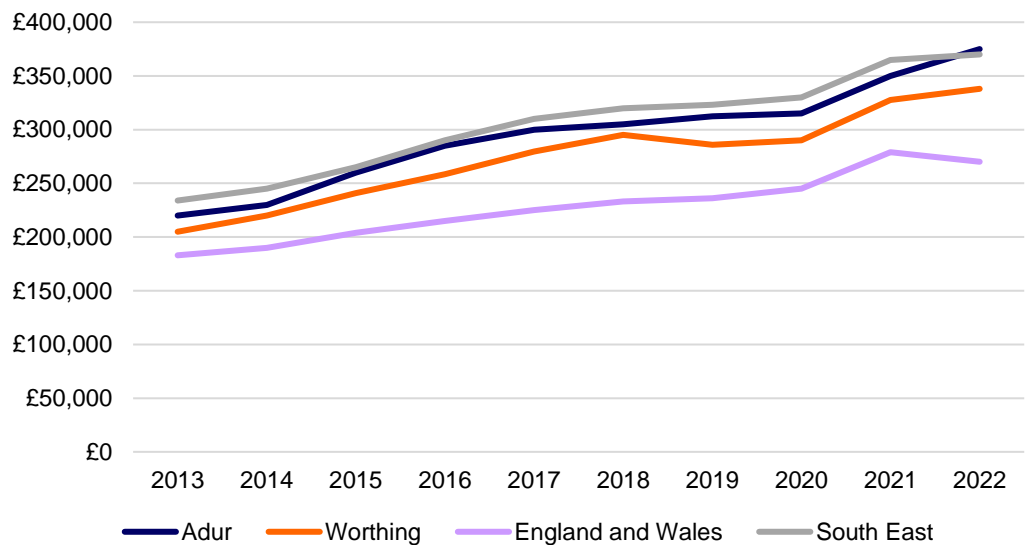
Figure 10 House prices in December 2022

Area	Median house price	Mean house price	Lower quartile price
Adur	£375,000	£425,994	£310,000
Worthing	£338,000	£ 381,546	£243,000
South East	£370,000	£467,254	£275,000
England and Wales	£270,000	£365,818	£182,500

Source: ONS, House prices for small areas in England and Wales year ending December 2022 (2023)

Figure 11 shows the trends in median house prices over the last decade. Between 2013 and 2022, median house prices in Adur rose from £220,000 to £375,000; an increase of 41%. In Worthing median house prices increased from £204,950 to £338,000; an increase of 39%. Median house prices have increased above the average rate of increase in the South East (37%) and England and Wales (32%).

Figure 11 Median house price trends, 2013-2022



Source: ONS, House prices for small areas in England and Wales year ending December 2022 (2023)

The mix of properties sold influences median house prices. Therefore, it is also important to consider house prices by profile of sales. We have examined sales by type of property for the year ending December 2022 in Figure 12, which shows that:

- House prices are higher in Adur than Worthing for all property types.

- Median house prices for all property types in Adur were more than the national median; the same applied to Worthing, apart from flats/maisonettes.
- Detached house prices in Adur and Worthing are lower than the South East average.
- Semi-detached and terraced house prices are higher in Adur and Worthing than the South East average.

Figure 12 Median house price by type

Area	Detached	Semi detached	Terraced	Flats/maisonettes
Adur	£547,500	£411,000	£375,000	£245,000
Worthing	£590,000	£416,000	£365,000	£224,000
South East	£625,000	£405,000	£330,000	£224,750
England and Wales	£426,000	£265,000	£228,000	£225,000

Source: ONS, House prices for small areas in England and Wales year ending December 2022 (2023)

2.4.2 Rental trends

The median rental values between April 2022 and March 2023 average £1,100 per calendar month (pcm) in Adur, and £950 pcm in Worthing – see Figure 13 below. Adur rates were above the South East average and notably above the national average of £825; Worthing rates were slightly below the South East average but were also markedly above the national average.

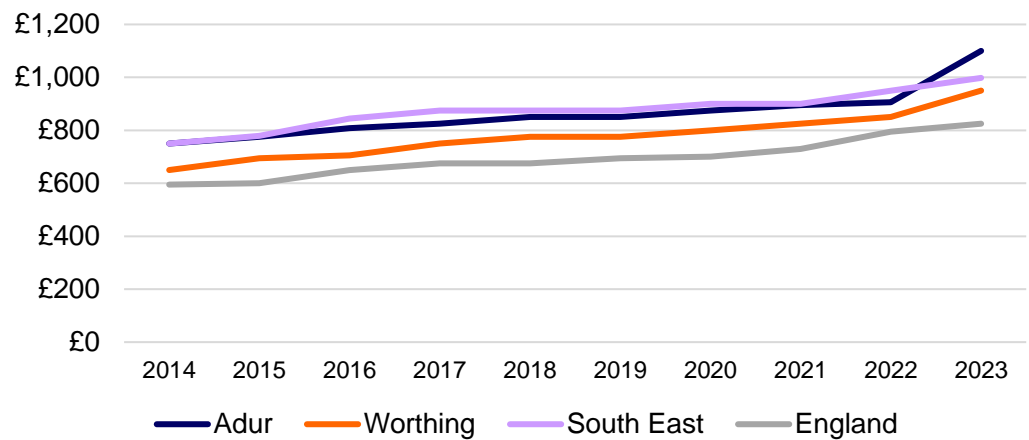
Figure 13 Median rents April 2022 to March 2023

Area	Median Average Rent (PCM)
Adur	£1,100
Worthing	£950
South East	£998
England	£825

Source: ONS, Private rental market summary statistics in England: April 2022 to March 2023 (2023)

Figure 14 shows the change in median private rents between 2013/14 to 2022/23. Over the period for both Adur and Worthing, median private rents have increased by 32%, more than the rate of increase for the region (25%) and nationally (28%).

Figure 14 Change in median private rents, 2013/2014 to 2022/23²

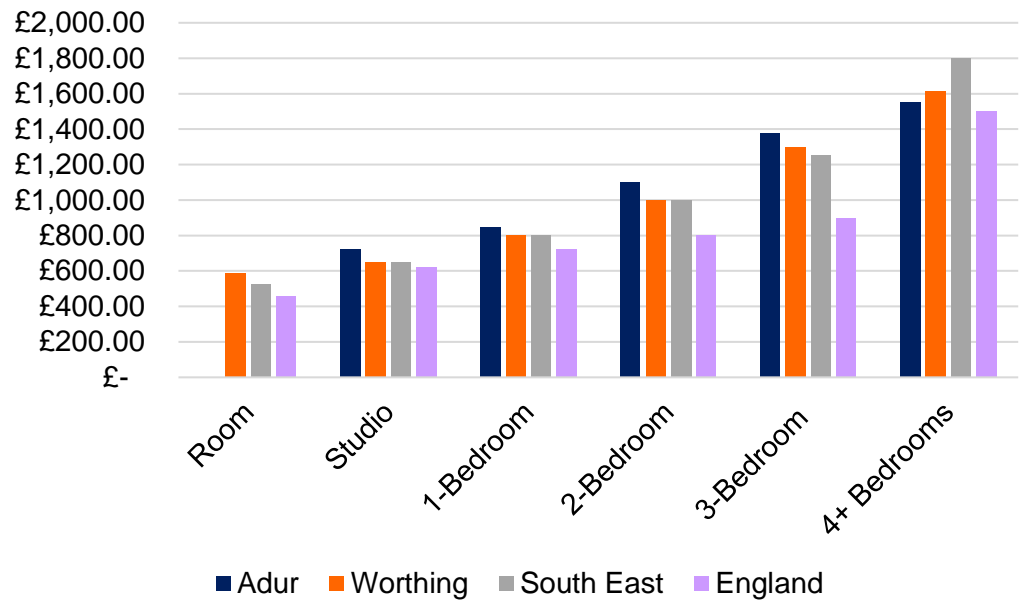


Source: ONS, House price to workplace-based earnings ratio (2023)

Median rental values by property size shows variation in prices across property size (see Figure 15). Studio, one-, two-, and three-bedroom properties in Adur have higher median rental values than the regional and national price, although lower than the South East for four-bedroom plus properties. Generally, median rental values are higher in Adur than Worthing, apart from four-bedroom plus properties.

² Please note that where statistics are derived from fewer than 5 observations, no data is shown (i.e. the room rate for Adur)

Figure 15 Median rental values by size, April 2022 to March 2023³



Source: ONS, House prices for small areas in England and Wales year ending December 2022 (2023)

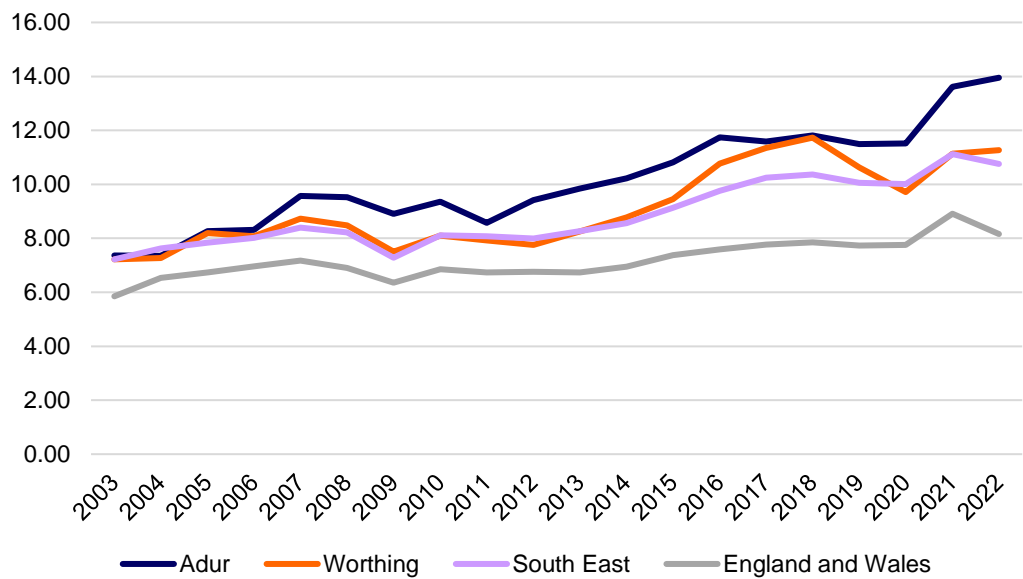
2.4.3 Housing affordability

Figure 16 below shows the change in the workplace based housing affordability, comparing house prices to earning of people working locally, between 2003 and 2022. It shows that affordability has declined in Adur and Worthing.

In 2003, house prices were 7.36 times earnings in Adur and 7.22 times in Worthing. Between 2003 and 2022, this has increased to 13.95 times in Adur and 11.26 in Worthing. This means that **market housing for sale is increasingly unaffordable.**

³ Please note that no data is shown where statistics are derived from fewer than 5 observations (i.e. the room rate for Adur)

Figure 16 Workplace-based Median Affordability Ratio, 2003-2022



Source: ONS, House price to workplace-based earnings ratio (2023)

Figure 17 shows the most recent median and lower quartile workplace-based affordability ratios at the year ending December 2022. As noted above, median house prices were 13.95 times median earnings in Adur and 11.26 times in Worthing.

Lower quartile house prices in Adur were 13.49 times earnings and 10.22 times in Worthing. The discrepancy between local wages and house prices highlights a significant barrier for households in Adur and Worthing that are wanting to get on the property ladder, particularly for young people and first-time buyers.

Young people are disproportionately impacted by the decrease in affordability. The increases in rent and housing costs makes accommodation increasingly out of reach. This makes it difficult for support services to move young people on from supported housing, resulting in them getting “stuck” as move-on options are inaccessible.

Figure 17 Affordability Ratio 2022 (Workplace Based)

Area	Lower quartile ratio	Median ratio
Adur	13.49	13.95
Worthing	10.33	11.26
South East	10.69	10.75
England and Wales	7.19	8.16

Source: ONS, House price to workplace-based earnings ratio (2023)

2.5 Housing supply trends

2.5.1 Housing completions

The Adur Local Plan was adopted in 2017 and sets out a housing target for the development of 3,718 homes over the 2011-32 plan period, an annual average of 177 homes per annum. Between 2012/12 and 2021/22, the annual average for net dwelling completions in Adur was 97. There have been fluctuations in the delivery rates per annum over the period. Adur's local monitoring data highlights that these fluctuations can, in part, be attributed to economic conditions. The availability, location and size of sites coming forward also plays a role. Yet, much of Adur's new development has traditionally been on small infill brownfield sites.

Worthing adopted a new Local Plan in March 2023. The previous Core Strategy from 1st April 2006 set a target of 200 additional net dwellings per annum. Between 2012/13 and 2021/22, the average for net dwelling completions was 312 per annum and as such, there has been a sustained period of over-delivery during this period against the 2006 target.

Please note that both the Adur and Worthing Local Plans have a shortfall of housing necessary to meet local housing needs.

The below figure provides the net number of additional dwellings in Adur and Worthing, which consists of new build dwellings minus demolitions plus conversions between 2012 and 2022.

Figure 18 Net additional dwellings 2012-2022 (Adur and Worthing Monitoring Reports)

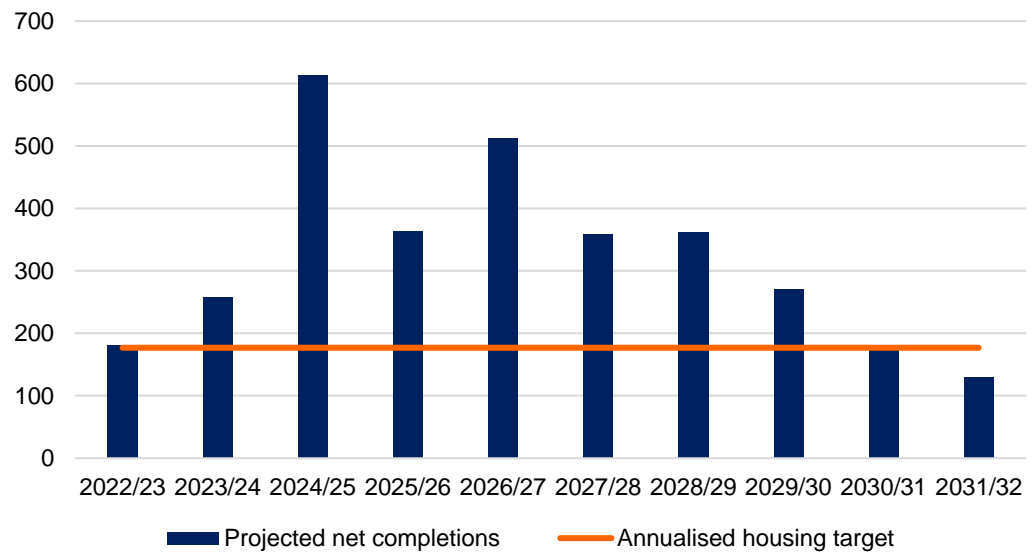
Year	Net additional dwellings	
	Adur	Worthing
2012- 2013	146	172
2013-2014	93	245
2014-2015	96	351
2015-2016	31	484
2016-2017	64	347
2017-2018	114	482
2018-2019	111	293
2019-2020	13	396
2020-2021	208	107
2021-2022	97	247
Total 2012-2022	973	3,124

Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2021-2022 (Adur and Worthing)

2.5.2 Housing projections

In Adur’s most recent annual monitoring report, there are 3,224 projected completions between 2022/23 and 2031/32. In all years apart from one, projections exceed the annualised housing target of 177. Figure 19 below highlights projected net completions.

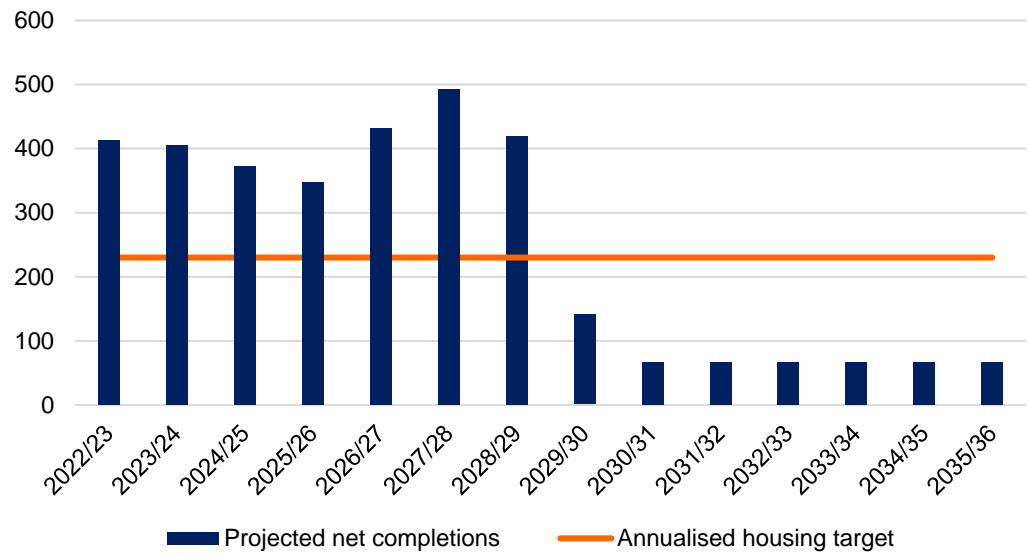
Figure 19 Adur housing projections 2022/23-2031/32



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2021-2022 (Adur)

In Worthing’s monitoring report, it is projected that 3,421 houses will be completed between 2022/23 and 2035/36. In the immediate future, until 2028/29, projected net completions greatly exceed the annualised housing target of 230, after which projected net completions dip notably below the target.

Figure 20 Worthing housing projections 2022/23-2035/36



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2021-2022 (Adur and Worthing)

3 Demand for housing support

3.1 Overview

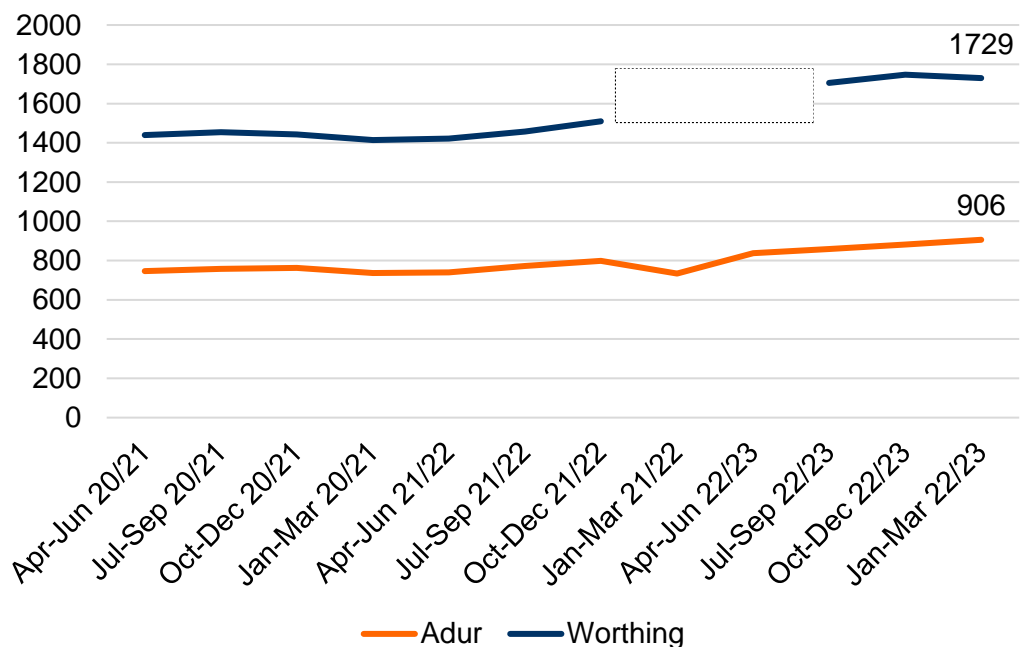
This chapter explores current demand for housing support, projected housing need, and current and future affordable housing need, following the National Planning Policy Framework.

3.2 Current demand for housing support

Figure 21 and Figure 22 show that:

- Between January and March 2023 there were 906 housing applications in Adur and there were 1,729 in Worthing.
- Over half of these applications were Band C in both Adur (53%) and Worthing (56%).
- Almost half of these applications were for one bedroom in both Adur (46%) and Worthing (48%), followed by two bedrooms (32% and 29% respectively).

Figure 21 Live housing applications⁴



Source: Local data received from councils

⁴ There is a gap in live housing applications data for Worthing between January and June 2023.

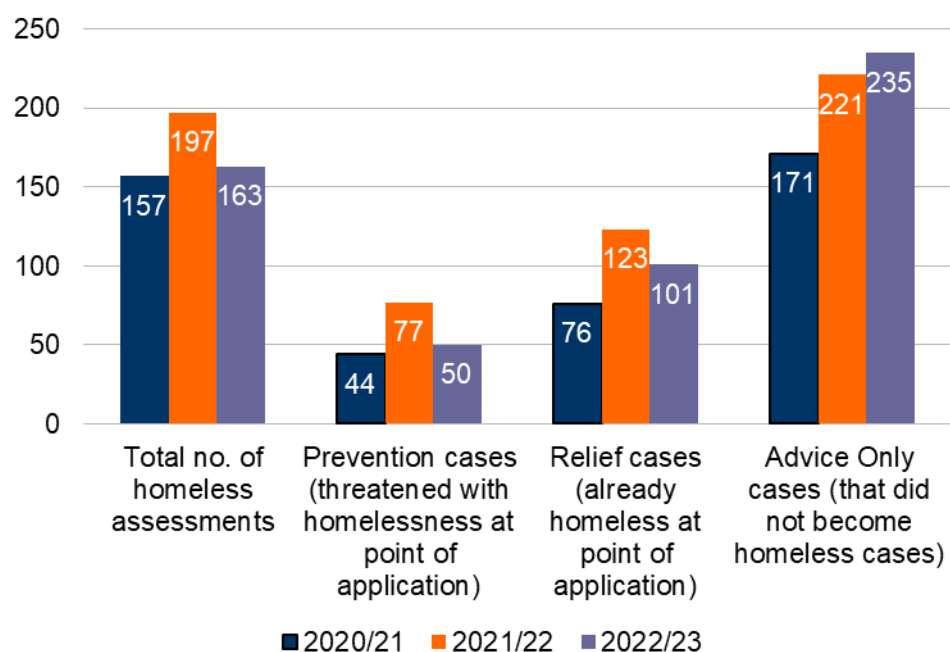
Figure 22 Live Housing Register Bands

Live Housing Register Cases	Adur	Worthing
Band		
Band A	126 (14%)	104 (6%)
Band B	45 (5%)	92 (5%)
Band C	480 (53%)	917 (53%)
Band D	255 (28%)	616 (36%)
Bedroom		
1 bed	416 (46%)	827 (48%)
2 bed	288 (32%)	496 (29%)
3 bed	175 (19%)	352 (20%)
4 bed	27 (3%)	54 (3%)
Total	906 (100%)	1,729 (100%)

Source: Local data received from councils

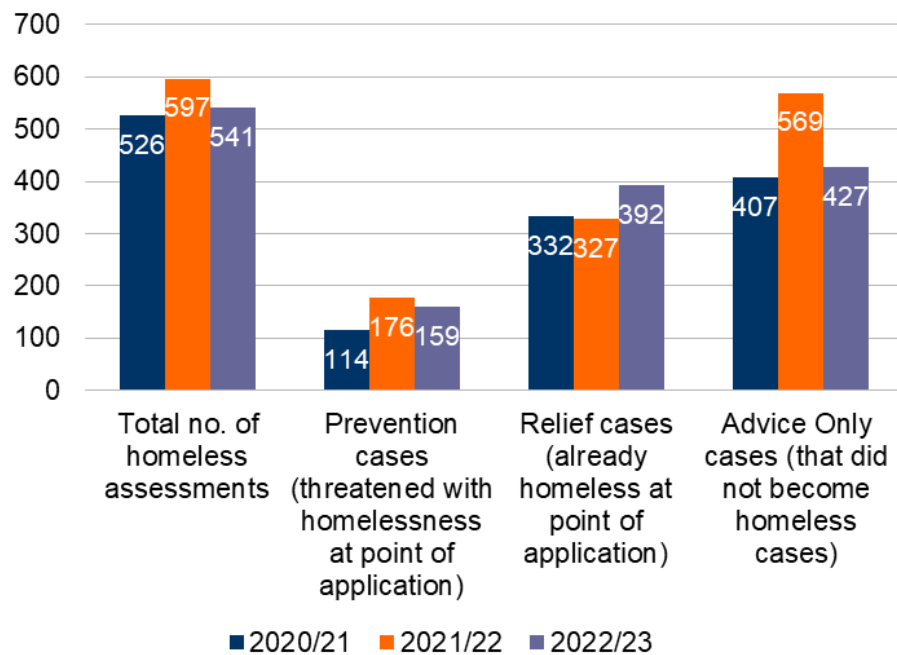
In 2022/23, there were 163 homeless assessments in Adur and 541 in Worthing (see Figure 23 and Figure 24 respectively).

Figure 23 Adur, demand on housing team



Source: Local data received from councils

Figure 24 Worthing, demand on housing team



Source: Local data received from councils

At the 2021-22 financial year end, Adur had 829 households on the housing waiting list, and Worthing had 1,551.

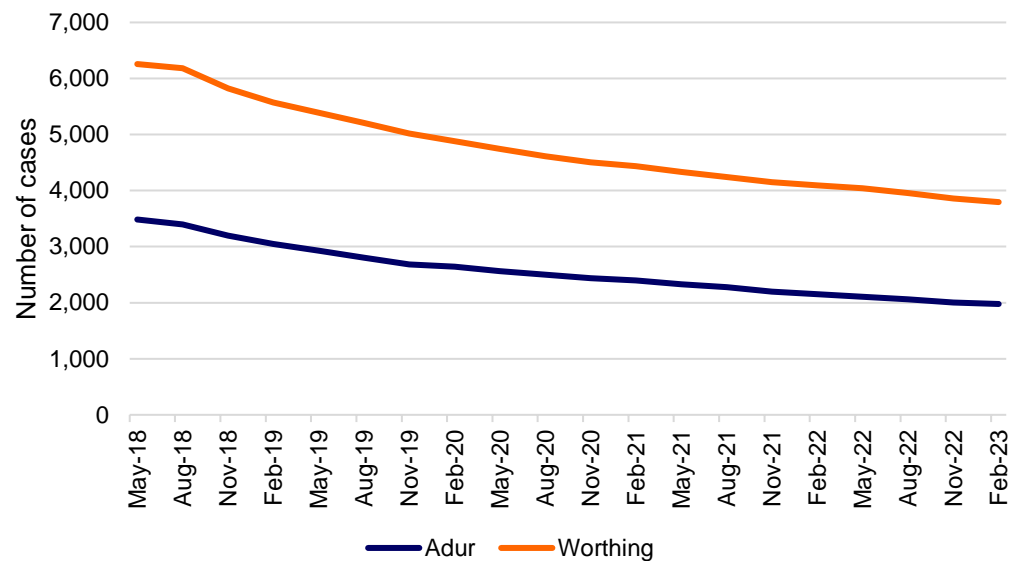
Figure 25 Housing waiting list (national data)

Allocations	Adur	Worthing
Housing waiting list		
Total households on housing waiting list	829	1,551
Number of bedrooms households required:		
1 bedroom	355	725
2 bedrooms	278	469
3 bedrooms	173	311
More than 3 bedrooms	23	46

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Local authority housing statistics data returns for 2021 to 2022 (2023)

Over the last five years, the number of people receiving housing benefit has declined in both Adur and Worthing. The number has declined by 57% in Adur and 61% in Worthing over this period – see Figure 26.

Figure 26 Housing benefit by caseload



Source: Stat-Xplore, Housing benefit by caseload (2023)

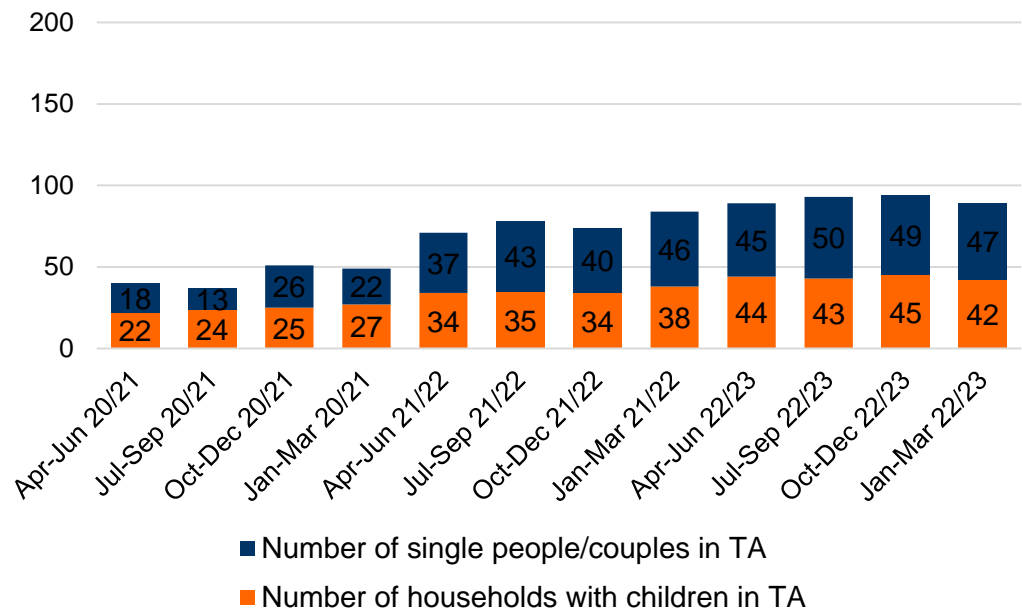
3.2.1 Use of temporary accommodation

Figure 27 and Figure 28 below show the number of households that were in temporary accommodation in Adur and Worthing based on the councils' housing register data. Between January 2022 and March 2023, there were 89 households in temporary accommodation in Adur, and 349 in Worthing. Between 2020/21 and 2021/22, the gross cost of expenditure on temporary accommodation increased by 78% in Adur and 36% in Worthing.

Stakeholders noted that Adur and Worthing councils rely on out-of-area emergency accommodation due to the limited stock and availability of temporary accommodation within the county. As well as this being very costly, clients placed in out-of-area accommodation may lose their local support system, and this can lead to disengagement. This is viewed as a particular concern for people with experience of street homelessness as they often have highly localised social links.

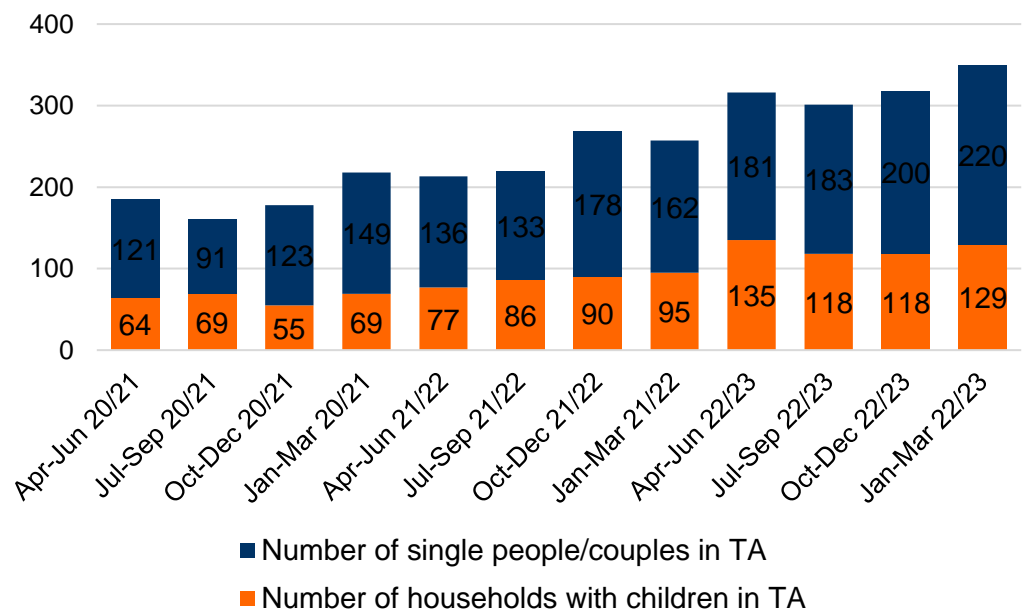
“We have a massive issue with people trapped in emergency accommodation, increasingly are being placed out of area. This is threatening to bankrupt us.”

Figure 27 Number of households in temporary accommodation in Adur



Source: Local data received from councils

Figure 28 Number of households in temporary accommodation in Worthing (Housing register)



Source: Local data received from councils

3.2.2 Projected housing need

Housing need has been calculated following the methodology outlined in the standard method, which is set out by the Government in Planning Practice Guidance. The standard method is an unconstrained assessment of homes

needed in an area. The actual number that can be delivered once constraints, such as land capacity, are considered will be addressed via the Local Plan process.

Setting the baseline

The baseline is drawn from the 2014-based Household Projections and explores the average household growth over a ten-year period, starting from the current year, i.e. 2023, to 2033. Over the period, the number of households increases from 30,285 to 31,858 in Adur (3,202 increase, 320 per annum) and from 53,825 to 60,233 in Worthing (6,419 increase, 642 per annum) – see Figure 29.

Figure 29 Household estimates

Household estimate	Adur		Worthing	
	Num	% change	Num	% change
2023	30,285	-	53,825	-
2028	31,858	5%	57,000	6%
2033	33,487	5%	60,224	6%

Source: ONS, Population projections for local authorities, 2014-based edition (2016)

Affordability Adjustment

An uplift has been applied to the demographic baseline, to take account of market signals, such as relative affordability of housing. The adjustment has increased the housing need where house prices are high relative to workplace incomes, by using published median affordability ratios from the ONS based on workplace-based median house price to median earnings ratio for the most recent year for which data is available. The latest (workplace-based) affordability data is for 2022 and was published by ONS in March 2023.

The annual projected household growth figure is adjusted based on the affordability of the area.

The Government's Guidance states that for each 1% increase in the ratio of house prices to earnings, where the ratio is above 4, the average household growth should be increased by a quarter of a per cent, with the calculation being as follows: $[Adjustment\ Factor = ((local\ affordability\ ratio - 4)/4) \times 0.25 + 1]$.

Based on this calculation, the local housing need with affordability adjustment is 518 in Adur and 931 in Worthing per annum for the period 2023 to 2033 – see Figure 30.

Figure 30 Local Housing Need per annum, 2023-2033 – Affordability Adjustment

	Adur	Worthing
2014-based Household Growth	320	642
Median Affordability Ratio 2022	13.95	11.26
Adjustment factor	1.62	1.45
Local Housing Need	518	931

Source: Data modelling

Capping the level of any increase

Lastly, the application of a cap on any increase is considered to ensure the figure does not exceed a level that can be delivered. There are two situations where a cap is applied:

1. An authority has received their plan or adopted a plan within the last five years. The need can be capped at 40% above the requirement figure set out in the plan.
2. If plans and evidence are more than five years old. A cap may be applied at 40% of the higher of the projected household growth or the housing requirements in the most recent plan.

The first consideration is relevant for Worthing, which has a plan for 2020-36 (adopted in March 2023). The second case is relevant for Adur, as their plan was adopted in 2017.

Taking the cap into account, the minimum local housing need is calculated as 448 per annum for Adur and 322 per annum for Worthing – see Figure 31.

Both adopted local plans have a shortfall in housing and stakeholders reported that this is likely to be the same for the emerging Adur local plan due to physical constraints. This is likely going to increase prices in the local area and increase pressure for social housing.

Figure 31 Local Housing Need – Capping the Increase

	Adur Households	Worthing Households
Plan housing requirement	177	230
1. Cap at 40% above Housing Requirement	248	322

2. Cap at 40% above Household Growth	448	899
Minimum Local Housing Need	448	322

Source: Data modelling

The Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) states that *“the cap reduces the minimum number generated by the standard method, but does not reduce housing need itself. Therefore strategic policies adopted with a cap applied may require an early review and updating to ensure that any housing need above the capped level is planned for as soon as is reasonably possible.”*⁵

3.2.3 Planning for a higher figure

The PPG clarifies that the standard method cannot predict the impact of future government policies, economic changes, or other factors. It suggests considering actual housing need in specific situations, such as when:

- Growth strategies with funding support are feasible.
- Strategic infrastructure improvements will drive local housing demand.
- Authorities accept unmet need from neighbours.

Addressing the first two points is straightforward; there are no relevant funding-driven growth policies or major infrastructure projects in Adur & Worthing. As for the third point, neither Adur nor Worthing is likely to meet their housing needs fully, given their coastal and built-up nature, and there is already a shortfall in housing in adopted local plans. This means there is currently no justification for adjusting the standard method figures upward, considering growth, infrastructure, and unmet needs from neighbouring authorities.

3.2.4 Demographic projections

The affordability adjustment must consider additional household formation and therefore adapted demographic projections have been developed to consider the formation of younger households to ensure there is sufficient population for the standard method.

The latest population projections were published by the ONS in 2020. The projections provide estimates of the future population of local authorities, assuming a continuation of recent local trends in fertility, mortality, and migration. The projections do not attempt to predict the impact that future governments or local policies, changing economic circumstances or other factors might have on demographic behaviour.

Figure 32 below shows projected population growth from 2023 to 2043 in Adur and Worthing. In Adur, it is estimated that the population will increase by 6% from

⁵ Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Housing and economic needs assessment (2020). Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/housing-and-economic-development-needs-assessments>

64,979 to 68,897 over the next twenty years. In Worthing, its estimated that the population will increase by 9% from 113,094 to 123,292.

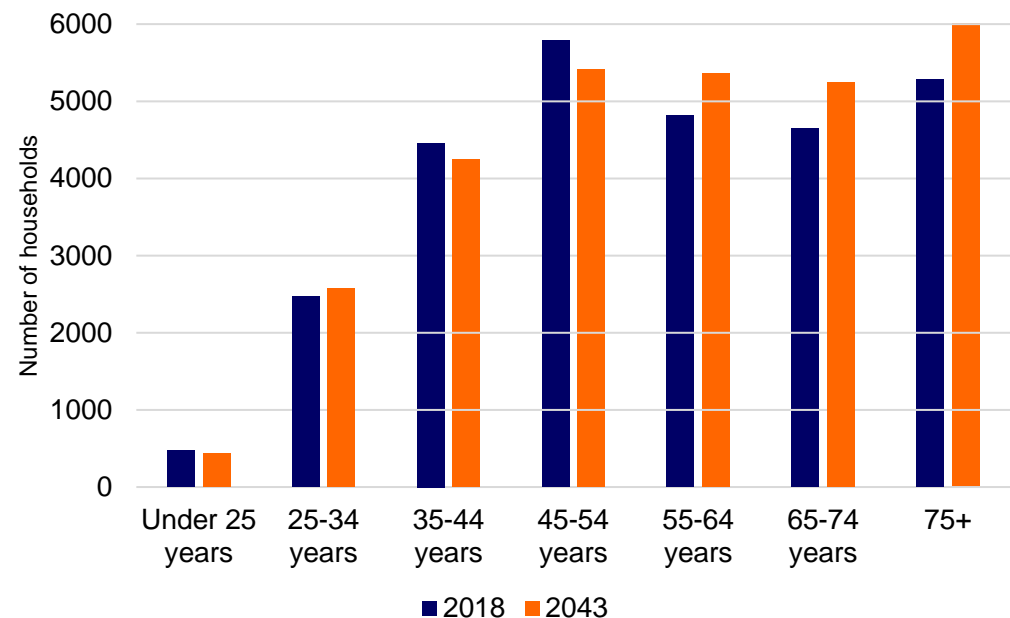
Figure 32 Projected population change, 2023-2043

Population estimate	Adur		Worthing	
	Num	% change	Num	% change
2023	64,978.705	-	113,093.487	-
2028	65,994.181	2%	115,780.163	2%
2033	66,816.777	1%	118,298.347	2%
2038	67,761.693	1%	120,765.664	2%
2043	68,897.079	2%	123,291.748	2%

Source: ONS, Population projections for local authorities, 2018-based edition (2020)

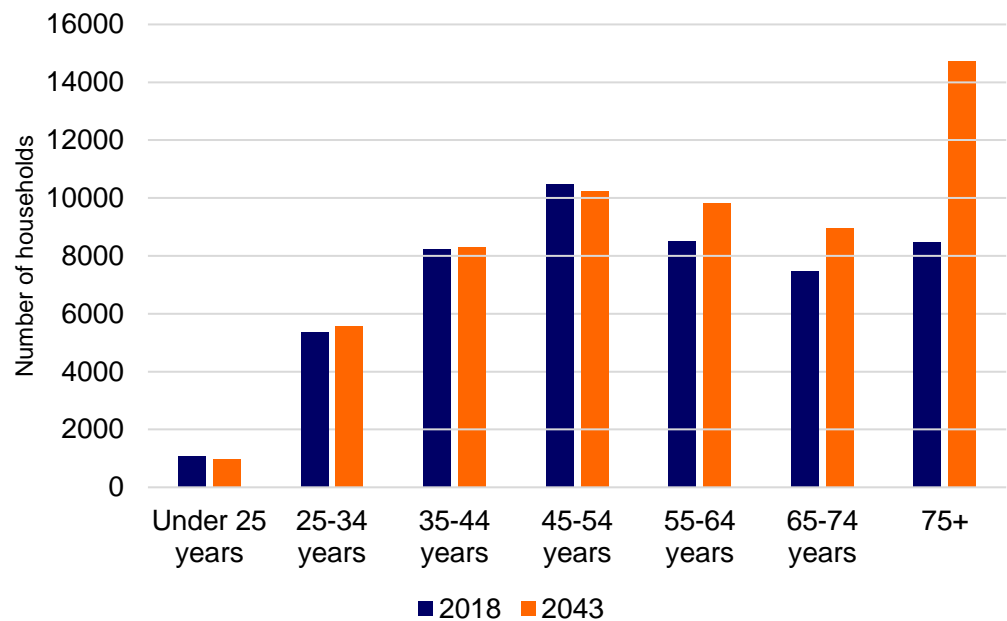
There is an ageing population in Adur and Worthing. In Adur and Worthing, projections indicate that there will be a decrease of 10% in Adur and 7% in Worthing in the proportion of people under the age of 25 between 2018 and 2043; while there is an increase of 37% and 42% respectively of people 75 and older – see Figure 33 and Figure 34.

Figure 33 Household projections by age, Adur 2018-2043



Source: ONS, Population projections for local authorities, 2018-based edition (2020)

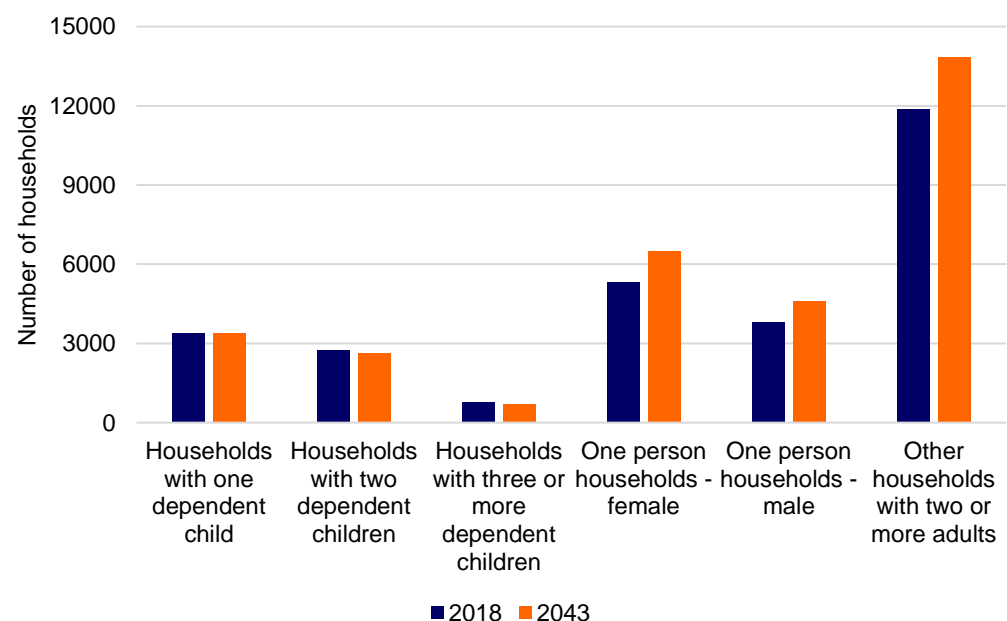
Figure 34 Household projections by age, Worthing 2018-2043



Source: ONS, Population projections for local authorities, 2018-based edition (2020)

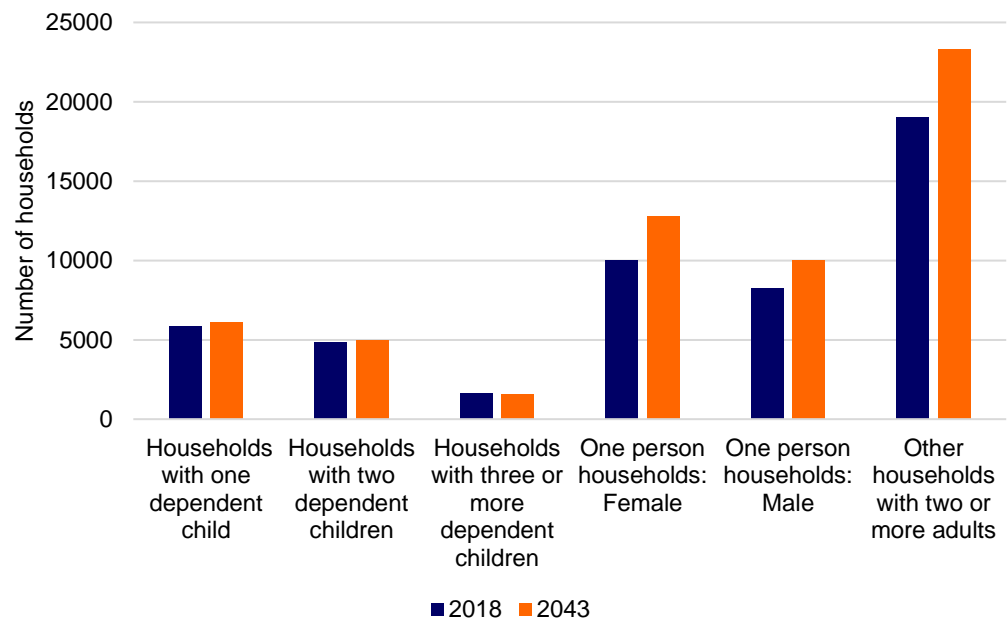
Household projections indicate that **there will be an increase of 20% in the proportion of single person households in Adur and Worthing** between 2018 and 2043, as well as increase of 18% in the proportion of households with two or more adults – see Figure 35 and Figure 36.

Figure 35 Household projections by household type, Adur 2018-2043



Source: ONS, Population projections for local authorities, 2018-based edition (2020)

Figure 36 Household projections by household type, Worthing 2018-2043



Source: ONS, Population projections for local authorities, 2018-based edition (2020)

3.3 Affordable housing need

3.3.1 Current unmet affordable housing need

Affordable housing is defined in the National Planning Policy Framework as ‘Housing for sale or rent, for those whose needs are not met by the market (including housing that provides a subsidised route to home ownership and/or is for essential local workers)’ (Revised NPPF 2021, Annex 2)

For this research, households assumed to be unable to afford housing include:

- Households that are currently homeless
- Households in temporary accommodation
- Overcrowded households
- Concealed households
- People in a reasonable preference category on the housing register

Taking these classifications into account, this indicates that 1,442 households in Adur and 2,850 in Worthing are living in unsuitable housing and are unable to afford their own housing – see Figure 37. In total, there are 4,292 households in housing need across both Adur and Worthing.

Figure 37 Unmet need classification

Unmet need classification	Adur	Worthing
Homeless	12	36

Unmet need classification	Adur	Worthing
Households in TA	120	403
Households in overcrowded housing	835	1645
Concealed households	385	529
Households living in unsuitable housing that cannot afford their own home:		
People who need to move on medical or welfare grounds, including grounds relating to a disability.	88	237
People who need to move to a particular locality in the district of the authority, where failure to meet that need would cause hardship	2	0
Total	1442	2850

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Local authority housing statistics data returns for 2021 to 2022 (2023); Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Homelessness statistic (2023); and ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

From the overall number in unsuitable housing, households living in affordable housing are excluded, as these households would release a dwelling on moving and so the net need for affordable housing will not increase. The analysis also excludes 90% of owner-occupiers under the assumption that the vast majority will be able to afford housing once savings and equity are taken into account.

Of the overcrowded households, 2.84% in Adur and 2.85% in Worthing were owner-occupiers.

Adur 2.84% of 27,678 = 814. 90% of 814 = 733

Worthing 2.85% of 49,538 = 1461. 90% of 1461 = 1315

Taking these calculations into account, **the number of households currently in unsuitable housing is 619 in Adur and 1,298 in Worthing** – see Figure 38.

Figure 38 Unsuitable housing taken forward

Unsuitable housing taken forward	Adur	Worthing
Homeless	12	36
Households in TA	120	403
Households in overcrowded housing	$835 - 733 = 102$	$1645 - 1315 = 330$
Concealed households	385	529
Total	619	1,298

Source: Data modelling

3.3.2 Newly formed households

The number of newly formed households has been estimated through demographic modelling (linked to the 2018-based subnational household projections). The volume of newly-forming households has been assessed by first considering the changes in households in specific 5-year age bands relative to numbers in the age band below, 5 years previously, to provide an estimate of gross household formation. Estimated household growth between 2023 and 2033 is then identified. Lastly, this difference is divided by 10 to get the per annum rate of growth.

The number of newly-forming households is limited to households forming who are aged under 45. This is consistent with 2007 Strategic Housing Market Assessment Guidance which notes after age 45 that headship (household formation) rates 'plateau'. There may be a small number of household formations beyond age 45 (e.g. due to relationship breakdown) although the number is expected to be fairly small when compared with formation of younger households.

This analysis suggests that there will be a decline in the number of newly forming households over the next decade, by 61 in Adur and 83 in Worthing (see Figure 39).

Figure 39 Estimated household formation

Area	2023	2033	Difference	Annual change
Adur	31,060	30,450	-610	-61
Worthing	55,342	54,515	-826	-83

Source: Data modelling

3.3.3 Proportion of newly arising households unable to buy or rent in the market

Market purchase

Affordability thresholds are assessed in relation to accessing both the rental and sales market, and the income gap between the two. We have reviewed typical gross household income multiples accepted for lending purposes with the presumption of a 10% deposit. For the purposes of this we have assumed that a household will be able to borrow four times their household income with a 10% deposit.

Market rent

The latest English Housing Survey report 2020-2021 (Private rented sector) indicates that on average households commit 33% of their household income, including Housing Benefit, on rent.

Entry level gross household income

For the purposes of the affordability assessment, it is assumed that the gross household income of existing households in need will be lower than Adur and Worthing overall. Hence the distribution must be adjusted to reflect a lower average income amongst households with an existing housing need as compared to all Adur and Worthing households.

Lower quartile house prices and rent prices in Adur and Worthing are presented in Figure 40 below.

Figure 40 Market housing price and rent

Area	Lower quartile house price	Lower quartile rent price
Adur	£310,000	£1,338
Worthing	£243,000	£1,200

Source: ONS, Lower quartile house prices for administrative geographies (2023); and ONS, Private rental market summary statistics in England: April 2021 to March 2022 (2023)

Figure 41 shows the indicative household income required to purchase/rent without additional subsidy. In Adur, a household income of £69,750 is required to purchase and £48,654.40 to afford market rent. In Worthing, £54,675 is required to purchase and £43,636.32 to afford market rent. This suggests that renting is the most affordable market option in Adur and Worthing

Figure 41 Housing affordability

Tenure	Adur		Worthing	
	Calculation	Household income required	Calculation	Household income required
Market purchase	$310,000 - 10\% = 279,000$ $279,000 / 4 = 69,750$	£69,750	$243,000 - 10\% = 218,700$ $218,700 / 4 = 54,675$	£54,675
Market rent	$1,338 / 0.33 = 4,054.55$ $4,054.55 \times 12 = 48,654.40$	£48,654.40	$£1,200 \times 0.33 = 3,636.36$ $3,636.36 \times 12 = 43,636.32$	£43,636.32

Source: Data modelling

These totals have been considered alongside the idea that a number of households may be able to afford market housing without the need for subsidy. To consider this, the annual survey of hours and earnings for the South East has

been used, as complete data was unavailable for Adur and Worthing, and the distribution has been adjusted to reflect a lower average income amongst households living in unsuitable housing – for the purposes of the modelling an income distribution that reduces the average household income to 90% in Adur and 85% in Worthing of the figure for all households has been used to identify the proportion of households whose needs could not be met within the market (for households currently living in housing). The percentile of households and annual earnings is shown in Figure 42.

Figure 42 Income distributions the South East

Percentile	Annual earning
10	£8,529.60
20	£15,264.00
25	£17,736.00
30	£19,435.20
40	£22,468.80
60	£29,548.80
70	£34,929.60
75	£38,500.80
80	£41,606.40
90	£55,593.60

Source: ONS, Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) (2023)

Figure 43 provides an estimate of the number of existing households currently living independently whose circumstances will change such that there is a requirement for affordable housing – 557 in Adur and 1,103 in Worthing.

Figure 43 Number of households in need unable to afford housing

	Adur	Worthing
Number of households in need	619	1,298
% unable to afford	90%	85%
Total in need	557	1103

Source: Data modelling

3.4 Future households falling into need

Using the projected number of newly forming households and the current number of households in need unable to afford housing, our modelling suggests that

there will be a fall in the number of future households in need by 55 in Adur and 71 in Worthing per annum over the next decade – see Figure 44.

Figure 44 Projected number of households in need unable to afford housing

Projected number of households in need unable to afford housing	Adur	Worthing
Number of new households	-61	-83
% unable to afford	90%	85%
Total in need	-55	-71

Source: Data modelling

4 Profile of cohort

4.1 Overview

This chapter explores the demographic information of people who were at risk of, or experiencing, homelessness in Adur and Worthing.

4.2 Demographic information

Figure 45 to Figure 52 explore demographic information about people assessed as being owed a prevention or relief duty in the 2022-23 financial year:

- In Adur and Worthing, most applicants were of working age (93%, n=152 and 95%, n=537)
- In Adur, the most common type of household owed a prevention duty was a single female parent with dependent children (41%, n=54). In Worthing, the most common household type was single adult males (30%, n=158).
- For households owed a relief duty, more than half of household types were single adult males in Adur (52%, n=98) and Worthing (56%, n=211).
- Most applicants in Adur and Worthing were white (83%, n=152 and n=537). Compared to the 2021 Census, ethnic minorities were overrepresented within housing applications by 10% in Adur and 8% in Worthing.
- Four-fifths of applicants in Adur (85%, n=152) and Worthing (86%, n=537) were heterosexual.

Figure 45 Age of main applicants owed a prevention or relief duty, April 2022 to March 2023

Age of main applicant	Adur	Worthing
16-17	(0%)	(0%)
18-24	25 (16%)	91 (17%)
25-34	44 (29%)	145 (27%)
35-44	32 (21%)	121 (23%)
45-54	20 (13%)	93 (17%)
55-64	21 (14%)	56 (10%)
65-74	7 (5%)	23 (4%)
75+	3 (2%)	8 (1%)
Total	152 (100%)	537 (100%)

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Statutory homelessness: Detailed local authority level tables, April 2022 to March 2023 (2023)

Figure 46 Household type of households owed a prevention duty, April 2022 to March 2023

Household type of households owed a prevention duty	Adur	Worthing
Single parent with dependent children – Male	(0%)	2 (1%)
Single parent with dependent children – Female	22 (41%)	33 (21%)
Single parent with dependent children – Other / gender not known	(0%)	(0%)
Single adult – Male	10 (19%)	48 (30%)
Single adult – Female	10 (19%)	25 (16%)
Single adult – Other / gender not known	1 (2%)	6 (4%)
Couple with dependent children	9 (17%)	28 (18%)
Couple / two adults without dependent children	(0%)	9 (6%)
Three or more adults with dependent children	1 (2%)	5 (3%)
Three or more adults without dependent children	1 (2%)	2 (1%)
Total	54 (100%)	158 (100%)

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Statutory homelessness: Detailed local authority level tables, April 2022 to March 2023 (2023)

Figure 47 Household type of households owed a relief duty, April 2022 to March 2023

Household type of households owed a relief duty	Adur	Worthing
Single parent with dependent children – Male	1 (1%)	3 (1%)
Single parent with dependent children – Female	12 (12%)	47 (12%)
Single parent with dependent children – Other / gender not known	(0%)	(0%)
Single adult – Male	51 (52%)	211 (56%)
Single adult – Female	19 (19%)	84 (22%)
Single adult – Other / gender not known	1 (1%)	5 (1%)
Couple with dependent children	7 (7%)	17 (4%)
Couple / two adults without dependent children	7 (7%)	12 (3%)
Three or more adults with dependent children	(0%)	(0%)
Three or more adults without dependent children	(0%)	(0%)
Not known	(0%)	(0%)
Total	98 (100%)	379 (100%)

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Statutory homelessness: Detailed local authority level tables, April 2022 to March 2023 (2023)

Figure 48 Ethnicity of main applicants owed a duty, April 2022 to March 2023

Ethnicity	Adur	Worthing
White	126 (83%)	445 (83%)
Black / African / Caribbean / Black British	2 (1%)	32 (6%)
Asian / Asian British	7 (5%)	13 (2%)
Mixed / Multiple ethnic groups	2 (1%)	9 (2%)
Other ethnic groups	2 (1%)	11 (2%)
Not known	13 (9%)	27 (5%)
Total	152 (100%)	537 (100%)

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Statutory homelessness: Detailed local authority level tables, April 2022 to March 2023 (2023)

Figure 49 Sexual identification of main applicants owed a duty

Sexuality	Adur	Worthing
Heterosexual	129 (85%)	461 (86%)
Homosexual (Gay/Lesbian)	5 (3%)	20 (4%)
Other	4 (3%)	11 (2%)
Prefer not to say	13 (9%)	45 (8%)
Not known	1 (1%)	(0%)
Total	152 (100%)	537 (100%)

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Statutory homelessness: Detailed local authority level tables, April 2022 to March 2023 (2023)

Figure 50 Household type of households owed a prevention duty, April 2022 to March 2023

Accommodation at time of application for those owed a prevention duty	Adur	Worthing
Private rented sector	30 (56%)	110 (70%)
Living with family	14 (26%)	22 (14%)
Social rented sector	6 (11%)	14 (9%)
Living with friends	2 (4%)	5 (3%)
Owner-occupier / shared ownership	1 (2%)	1 (1%)
Temporary accommodation	(0%)	3 (2%)
Refuge	1 (2%)	1 (1%)
Other / not known	(0%)	2 (1%)
Total	54 (100%)	158 (100%)

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Statutory homelessness: Detailed local authority level tables, April 2022 to March 2023 (2023)

Figure 51 Accommodation at time of application for those owed a relief duty, April 2022 to March 2023

Accommodation	Adur	Worthing
Private rented sector	16 (16%)	74 (20%)
Living with family	37 (38%)	72 (19%)
No fixed abode	5 (5%)	18 (5%)
Social rented sector	7 (7%)	48 (13%)
Living with friends	14 (14%)	37 (10%)
Homeless on departure from institution	5 (5%)	26 (7%)
Rough sleeping	3 (3%)	41 (11%)
Owner-occupier / shared ownership	(0%)	8 (2%)
Temporary accommodation	9 (9%)	41 (11%)
Refuge	(0%)	4 (1%)
Other / not known	2 (2%)	10 (3%)
Total	98 (100%)	379 (100%)

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Statutory homelessness: Detailed local authority level tables, April 2022 to March 2023 (2023)

Figure 52 Employment status of main applicants owed a duty, April 2022 to March 2023

Employment status	Adur	Worthing
Registered unemployed	40 (26%)	161 (30%)
Not working due to long-term illness / disability	42 (28%)	151 (28%)
Full-time work	20 (13%)	70 (13%)
Part-time work	25 (16%)	66 (12%)
Not seeking work / at home	10 (7%)	38 (7%)
Not registered unemployed but seeking work	1 (1%)	6 (1%)
Retired	4 (3%)	24 (4%)
Student / training	1 (1%)	3 (1%)
Other	6 (4%)	15 (3%)

Employment status	Adur	Worthing
Not known	3 (2%)	3 (1%)
Total	152 (100%)	537 (100%)

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Statutory homelessness: Detailed local authority level tables, April 2022 to March 2023 (2023)

4.3 Key priority groups

The quantitative and qualitative data provides insight into the different priority groups among those at risk of, or experiencing, homelessness in Adur and Worthing. These are:⁶

- **Single adult men experiencing homelessness.** This group was the largest group of applicants owed a relief duty; 52% in Adur and 56% in Worthing. Stakeholders also reported that the size of this cohort has been consistent for a long period of time, and that single adult men are often overrepresented in local homelessness statistics, particularly within the street homeless cohort. It was reported that this cohort can often feel marginalised and excluded from services.

“A main trend is a small, entrenched cohort that is feeling quite marginalised by services.”

- **People aged under 35** were reported to be a key priority group due to a growth in complexity and intensity of need, specifically mental health needs. Emergency and temporary accommodation for young people is limited, while young people also face unique challenges in finding stable housing and support. Young people have particular difficulties when trying to transition out of homelessness due to a lack of preparedness for independent living, and a lack of support tailored to their age group. Stakeholders also commented that there is a growing subgroup of young people ‘sofa-surfing’.
- **Older people.** There was growing concern about the ageing population within the homeless cohort, with stakeholders noting that as individuals “bounce” in and out of the system it is likely their needs will become increasingly complex. Older individuals often have additional health issues, which can make it more challenging to find suitable, long-term accommodation. Mainstream temporary and supported accommodation does not cater for the needs of older people. In general, the needs of older homeless people seem less well understood compared to other groups, and therefore there is a need for more focus on supporting this demographic.

⁶ Please note, these priority groups referring are from a housing perspective and other work is taking place to address the needs of priority groups outlined within the National Planning Policy Framework (2022), including, but not limited to, those who require affordable housing, families with children, older people, students, people with disabilities, service families, travellers, people who rent their homes and people wishing to commission or build their own homes.

- **People experiencing hidden homelessness.** There was concern about the hidden homeless population, which may not be visible on the streets but experiencing unstable or inadequate accommodation, such as sofa surfing. This group was identified by stakeholders as a key priority group, partly because of an increased awareness of the scale of the cohort following the COVID-19 pandemic. People living with family and friends represent 52% of applicants owed a relief duty in Adur and 29% in Worthing. Stakeholders noted that, although there are difficulties identifying and providing support for the hidden homelessness cohort, it is expected to continue to grow due to the current financial climate, discussed further in Section 5.2.
- **Asylum and refugee seeking people** were seen as a priority group by a small number of stakeholders, as a vulnerable cohort that has increased over the last few years due to the global political climate. There is a growing concern that individuals who have been granted asylum may no longer be offered accommodation, rendering them homeless.

“There’s a hidden issue of all the asylum and refugee families that are potentially an at-risk community.”

4.4 Needs of concern

Figure 53 below shows the support needs of households owed a prevention or relief duty in April 2022 to March 2023, in Adur and Worthing. This data has been triangulated with the qualitative insight from stakeholders to identify the most common needs of concern. These were:

- **Mental health needs.** A history of mental health problems was the most common support need in both Adur and Worthing for applicants owed a duty. Stakeholders reported that there has been a substantial increase in mental health challenges following the COVID-19 pandemic, especially for young people and individuals already experiencing mental health challenges. Mental health can be both a contributing factor to homelessness as well as a consequential need following homelessness. Complex emotional needs and personality disorders were raised by stakeholders as specific mental health needs of concern.



Mental health challenges were described by people with lived experience as the most acute and widespread issue experienced by homeless people. Mental health challenges were also seen as the cause of other issues, such as substance use.

- **Physical ill health and disability.** This was the second most common support need for applicants owed a duty in Adur and Worthing.



One person with lived experience reported that following an injury from a car accident, they were no longer able to continue working or afford to pay their rent, resulting in them becoming homeless.

- **Financial challenges** have increased in prevalence and complexity within the cohort. Stakeholders noted that due to the current financial climate and cost-of-living crisis, more households are struggling to afford basic amenities and housing. It has also become more common for people to present with complex, financial challenges that go beyond the scope of advice and support services.
- **Substance and alcohol misuse** was identified as a prevalent need among the homeless cohort. Substance and/or alcohol misuse when co-occurring with mental health challenges, or 'dual diagnosis', can act as an additional barrier to people in need of support, as fragmented care can lead to people falling through service gaps. Stakeholders reported that there is a gap in support of appropriate and flexible interventions, discussed further in Section 6.4.
- **Domestic abuse** was noted by stakeholders as both a common support need within this cohort as well as a frequent driver of homelessness. Stakeholders commented that individuals fleeing domestic abuse, particularly women, are a significant subgroup of clients in need of emergency and temporary accommodation. Stakeholders reported that many women experiencing homelessness have histories of domestic abuse. Domestic abuse is also linked to other issues experienced by this cohort, such as substance misuse.

Figure 53 Support needs of households owed a prevention or relief duty, April 2022 to March 2023

Support needs ⁷	Adur	Worthing
History of mental health problems	59 (36%)	205 (32%)
Physical ill health and disability	40 (24%)	107 (17%)
At risk of / has experienced domestic abuse	11 (7%)	30 (5%)
Offending history	4 (2%)	33 (5%)
History of repeat homelessness	4 (2%)	17 (3%)
Drug dependency needs	3 (2%)	44 (7%)
History of rough sleeping	1 (1%)	17 (3%)
Alcohol dependency needs	10 (6%)	48 (8%)
Learning disability	11 (7%)	32 (5%)
Young person aged 18-25 years requiring support to manage independently	6 (4%)	20 (3%)
Access to education, employment or training	(0%)	2 (0%)

⁷ 112 people in Adur had support needs and 385 people in Worthing. Totals add to more than the number of people, as people could have more than one support need.

Support needs ⁷	Adur	Worthing
At risk of / has experienced abuse (non-domestic abuse)	3 (2%)	12 (2%)
At risk of / has experienced sexual abuse / exploitation	2 (1%)	11 (2%)
Old age	4 (2%)	14 (2%)
Care leaver aged 21+ years	2 (1%)	11 (2%)
Care leaver aged 18-20 years	4 (2%)	20 (3%)
Young person aged 16-17 years	(0%)	2 (0%)
Young parent requiring support to manage independently	1 (1%)	(0%)
Former asylum seeker	1 (1%)	6 (1%)
Total	166 (100%)	631 (100%)

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Statutory homelessness: Detailed local authority level tables, April 2022 to March 2023 (2023)

4.4.1 Complex needs

Homeless people often have complex needs, such as mental health issues, substance misuse, and/or a history of trauma. Stakeholders mentioned that there has been an increase in complex and multiple needs across the system, and that it is increasingly common for people with housing needs to have a combination of one or more other support needs mentioned above in Section 4.4.

It can be challenging for people with multiple needs to access the support they need from services, as each service is predominantly designed to provide support for one need and has its own criteria. This means that people who do not fit a set of criteria can get lost in the system or disengage.

The level of additional needs for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness was discussed by stakeholders, and a number reported that it has become increasingly common to see people with high-level needs, which require support from multiple services. High-level needs were reported to act as a barrier in themselves for people trying to access support, as services may deem their needs as 'too-high' and therefore be unable to provide the required level of support.

“We are seeing people with more complex needs, maybe a combination of health issues and substance misuse as well as trauma, which have been refused housing because their support needs are considered too high.”

5 Drivers of homelessness

5.1 Overview

This chapter explores the drivers of homelessness in both the short- and long-term.

5.2 Pressures driving homelessness

5.2.1 Short-term

A number of short-term pressures driving homelessness were identified by stakeholders. These were:

- **The Cost of Living Crisis and current financial climate.** The recent economic situation has negatively and disproportionately impacted low-income households and people in receipt of benefits. The rising cost of living, particularly in the housing market, has exacerbated homelessness issues. Accessing affordable accommodation has become increasingly difficult, especially in the private sector. Private landlords in some areas are evicting tenants, potentially due to new laws and increased competition for housing. Rising rent and mortgage payments has meant that it has become increasingly difficult to afford to be housed. Stakeholders reported that the recent financial landscape has led to a growing trend of people presenting with rent arrears and additional debt.

“We’re seeing people turn up as a result of house repossession – this isn’t normal. Mortgages have doubled for some people.”

- **Limited availability of support.** Across the types of services that people at risk of, or experiencing, homelessness use, there are well-documented challenges with staff retention, recruitment, and capacity. As a result, stakeholders have observed that both housing services and other related services, such as health, have become increasingly difficult to access. This is having a direct impact on people trying to access services, as they often experience long waitlists or limited support once they have accessed services. Restricted availability of support and limited capacity of services has been having an impact for people at all stages of housing support. For example, people have been unable to get timely housing advice, been on the waitlist to access social housing for multiple years, and when placed, have struggled to access services for additional support needs, such as mental health.
- **Restrictive policies for social housing providers.** Some social housing providers have specific policies, including lifetime bans following eviction, which create additional barriers to providing accommodation to people that have previously been supported, reducing the availability of housing options. Similarly, stakeholders reported that many housing options are unavailable for people with additional challenges, such as substance misuse.

- **The COVID-19 pandemic.** Although efforts were made to provide temporary accommodations during the pandemic, the numbers of people that are street homeless have reportedly increased since, and some individuals who were housed during the pandemic are now living on the street again. Stakeholders reported that the pandemic exacerbated many of the support needs experienced by people at risk of, or experiencing, homelessness, particularly mental health challenges, as well as increasing the prevalence of relationship breakdown and domestic abuse. The pandemic also caused high levels of disruption for young people, impacting their education, social connection, and emotional wellbeing.

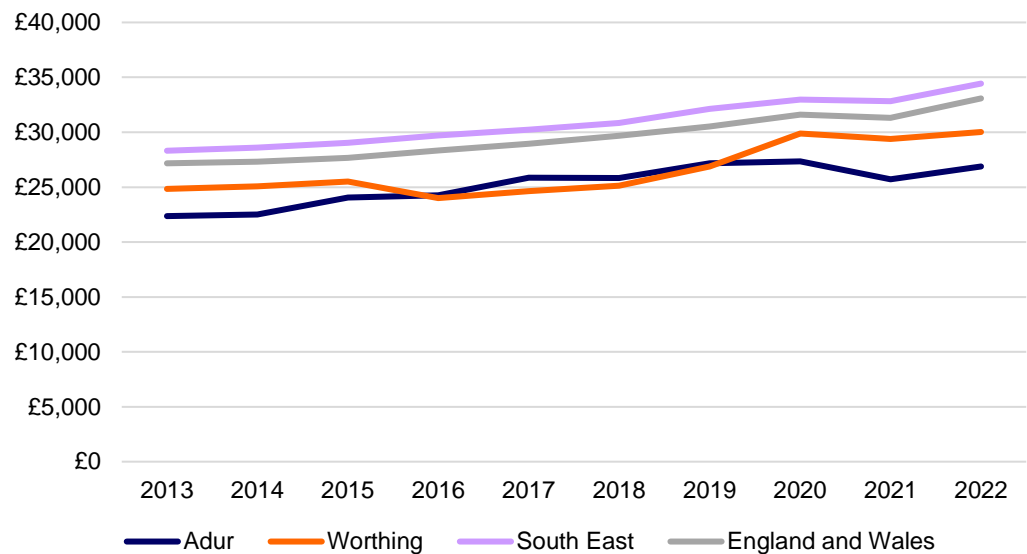
5.2.2 Long-term

Stakeholders also highlighted long-term pressures which contribute to homelessness:

- **Limited housing stock.** In Adur and Worthing, there are not enough available homes to meet the high demand for social housing, and on average, most people wait three years to be offered housing. There is competition for housing stock from the private market. Stakeholders reported that there is a significant gap between the supply of and demand for affordable housing.
- **Frozen local housing allowance (LHA).** The government has frozen LHA since April 2020, despite rising rents and living costs. Therefore, it has become increasingly challenging for people who rely on LHA to pay their rent.
- **Local wages have not risen in-line with the housing market.** This has made it increasingly difficult for residents in Adur and Worthing to afford to rent in the area or buy property. Between 2013 and 2022, median annual incomes have increased by 17% in both Adur and Worthing (see Figure 54); whereas median house prices have increased by 41% and 39% respectively, and median rents have increased by 32% in both Adur and Worthing.

“I think one of the big things [driving homelessness] is the renting market in Worthing. The cost of rent within Worthing is ever increasing and it’s getting higher and higher and higher. A lot of individuals that we work with are low-income households, but there is no rent control and a lack of social housing for people who need it.”

Figure 54 Median gross annual (where available) workplace-based earnings



Source: ONS, House price to workplace-based earnings ratio (2023)

- Limited-service capacity.** As mentioned above, limited-service capacity was identified by stakeholders as both a short- and long-term driver of homelessness. Many services have had to adopt protective organisational practices which has resulted in increased thresholds and more siloed working. Stakeholders reported that people have been increasingly unable to access services when they need to, leading to an escalation of need.
- Funding and service cutbacks.** Stakeholders reported that a number of services have experienced reduced budgets in recent years and some services have been entirely cut. This has been most noticeable in services that provided early-intervention and prevention support, which has led to a growing intensity and complexity of need within the homelessness cohort. Cutbacks have particularly affected the provision of wraparound services that supplement the generic housing provision and which are often more appropriate for individuals with multiple, complex needs.

“We have services in the third sector having their funding slashed so now less people are interacting with these individuals despite how vulnerable they are. By the time services are getting involved, there’s much more to unpick.”

- Changing policies and political approaches to immigration.** In the future, changing political approaches to immigration are likely to impact the number of people in need of housing support. Stakeholders reported that many asylum seeking and refugee people who have previously been accommodated in Adur and Worthing are no longer offered housing support.

“We have a number of asylum and immigration communities who are told they cannot be accommodated in hotels anymore; it has essentially made them homeless.”

6 Support available

6.1 Overview

This chapter discusses the support available for people at risk of homelessness and experiencing homelessness, as well as current limitations and gaps in support.

6.2 Provision of support

6.2.1 Support for people at risk of homelessness

All local authorities have a *duty to provide advice and information* about housing and homelessness to anybody in the district, even those that are not currently homeless or threatened with homelessness. Adur and Worthing Councils provide advice through a range of avenues, including their website. Housing advice can also be sought through a variety of services that support needs such as rent or mortgage arrears, domestic abuse, relationship breakdowns, tenancy problems, and health concerns within a household.

If a person is threatened with homelessness, they are eligible for a *prevention duty* which requires an authority to 'take reasonable steps to help the applicant to secure that accommodation does not cease to be available'.⁸

Stakeholders also highlighted additional services that they are aware of that provide support for people at risk of homelessness:

- **Pathways Home** is a housing support service for people aged 18+ who need housing support to sustain independent living or prevent homelessness.
- **Citizen's advice** is an independent organization that provides free, confidential, and impartial advice to assist people with legal, debt, consumer, and housing problems.
- **Job centres** provide financial and employment advice.

6.2.2 Support for people experiencing homelessness.

Local authorities are required to support people experiencing homelessness, if they are satisfied that an applicant is homeless and eligible for assistance, as a result of the *relief duty*. This obliges authorities to 'take reasonable steps to help the applicant to secure that suitable accommodation becomes available for the applicant's occupation' for at least six months.⁹

⁸ s.195(2) Housing Act 1996 as substituted by s.4(2) Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.

⁹ s.189B(2) Housing Act 1996 as inserted by s.5(2) Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.

An applicant is owed the *main duty* when the duty to relieve homelessness has ended and the local authority is satisfied that an applicant is (1) eligible for assistance, (2) in priority need, and (3) not intentionally homeless. Most homeless applicants owed the main duty will be placed in temporary accommodation initially. The local authority may require the applicant to move from one temporary accommodation to another before a permanent offer is made.¹⁰

There are a range of housing options for applicants owed a relief or main duty, depending on a person's need. These include in-area, out-of-area, emergency, temporary, and supported accommodation. It includes bed and breakfasts, hotels, and hostels. There are 19 social stock owning providers in Adur and 24 in Worthing. Examples include *Turning Tides*, which provides a range of supported housing options in West Sussex, as well as *Southdown Steps* which provides accommodation, housing management and tenancy support for people who have been homeless or living in temporary or supported accommodation, including hostels.



People with lived experience shared diverse observations about their housing situations. For one person, the process of seeking help from the council resulted in a quick placement, with temporary accommodation secured in just two days.

While in temporary accommodation, people with lived experience noted that they received support from an outreach worker but that there was a lack of additional support, particularly in relation to mental health.

The duration of stay in temporary accommodation greatly varied. Most commonly people described being housed in temporary accommodation for several months, and sometimes the stay was significantly over a year before they were able to move to supported accommodation or independent living. Some reported that staying in temporary accommodation for an extended period had a negative impact on their mental health.

There is a range of additional support for people experiencing homelessness in Adur and Worthing. Stakeholders that we spoke to identified the following:

- **Foodbanks, soup kitchens and soup runs.** There are multiple foodbanks in Adur and Worthing that provide support for people in need, including Adur Community Café and Worthing Foodbank.
- **Community hubs.** For example, St. Clare's Community Hub is a day centre in Worthing opened 6 days a week which provides homeless people with support, advice, assessment, and referrals.

¹⁰ Godson v Enfield LBC [2019] EWCA Civ 486; R v Brent LBC ex p Awua (1995) 27 HLR 453, HL.

- **Emerging Futures** is a charity that provides high-quality housing and structured therapeutic support for people affected by homelessness, drug and alcohol problems and physical and mental health needs.
- **Storm Ministries** is a community, charity and church that collects and give away food to the homeless, lonely, insecurely housed and anyone who would benefit from it twice a week.
- **Street outreach.** The outreach workers employed by Adur and Worthing Councils identify rough sleepers and provide flexible support to improve their health and housing situation. This involves collaborating with partner agencies to help rough sleepers access the appropriate housing and health services, including emergency accommodation placements and supported housing.

Additional support from the system

People at risk of or experiencing homelessness often have a range of additional needs, which extend beyond the direct remit of housing, including mental health and substance use challenges. Support for these needs is provided through a variety of different public and voluntary services including drug and alcohol support services, emergency departments, primary and secondary mental health services, and the Department of Work and Pensions.

6.3 Limitations to current support

Stakeholders highlighted a number of limitations to the current provision of support:

- **Current supported accommodation is often ‘too generic’ and ‘low level’** for the complex and challenging needs of the cohort. This was a repeated sentiment from stakeholders across the sector and who are serving various demographics. For example, stakeholders noted that although there is supported accommodation for young people, it is not equipped to manage challenging behaviour.
- **Difficulties transitioning people out of supported accommodation.** Once individuals enter the homelessness sector, it is often challenging for them to transition out. Complex living environments with substance misuse issues and mental health challenges can exacerbate their situations, leading to prolonged stays within the temporary or supported accommodation.
- **The current support offer is not suitable for everyone.** There was a sense that the system works better for some people than others. Stakeholders reported that current provision is not reflective of everyone in the community it aims to serve, and that support is not always suitable for minority groups, particularly ethnic minorities and neurodivergent people. It was suggested that this may be because there is a lack of diversity at the strategic level. There was also a sense that support was not suitable for other groups, however, there was not agreement across stakeholders about which groups experience the biggest gaps in support. For example, some reported that there is a gap in

support for single men, aged 35 and over, while other stakeholders reported that there is limited provision for individuals under the age of 25, and that a lack of suitable housing interventions for this age group can lead to instability and trauma.

“We need more diversity in decision makers and include ex- or current service users so that they have a say.”

“I think the system works better for people that are in families or are younger people. I think there’s a gap for 35 and older, single homelessness men since there is no issue of vulnerability or Care Act.”

- **Services do not always follow a trauma informed approach.** Stakeholders highlighted a gap in trauma informed practice within the current housing support and across the system more broadly. As one stakeholder noted, any service interacting with people experience homelessness are interacting with clients who are vulnerable and traumatised. Therefore, it is essential for service workers to be trained and trauma informed to prevent further harm.

“We need genuinely trauma informed approaches for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness. It’s crucial for people in crisis or with multiple disadvantages.”

- **Insufficient/over-stretched support services.** The availability of support services is crucial for individuals experiencing homelessness. This includes mental health support, addiction treatment, job training, and social services. There was concern that demand for these services often exceeds their availability, leaving many individuals without the support they need to address the causes of their homelessness. Many services are stretched and have limited capacity. Mental health support was mentioned most frequently and stakeholders reported that it is under-resourced, with long wait lists, lengthy assessments, and challenging transitions between primary and secondary mental health services. Similarly, while outreach workers were praised by people with lived experience for the support they provide, they often have high caseloads and restricted capacity which made it difficult to provide the assistance some people required.



People with lived experience highlighted that poor communication is a significant challenge with services. Several individuals described instances where they have been placed on waiting lists without a clear understanding of the process, resulting in extended periods of uncertainty before suddenly being informed of a new housing opportunity requiring them to relocate in a short timeframe.

“People say am I on the housing register, I think I’ve done it, but I don’t have a clue.”

One person described their experience of trying to find out what was happening with their housing support:

“There is a need for more people on the phone – having to press loads of buttons and then you get disconnected. It can be super frustrating. You keep getting the same message or you get through to the wrong department. Sometimes they say they will call you back, but they never do.”

6.4 Gaps in support

The following gaps in the current provision of support were identified:

- **Limited temporary accommodation.** As mentioned in Section 3.3.1, our analysis indicates that there are 1,442 households in Adur and 2,850 in Worthing that are currently living in unsuitable housing and are unable to afford their own housing. Stakeholders noted that there is limited temporary accommodation outside of bed and breakfasts and hotels. Stakeholders were concerned by this gap as people experiencing homelessness are in a challenging period of their life which may require intensive support which larger facilities such as hotels are not always able to provide. Similarly, there was concern that existing temporary accommodation is not always suitable for specific groups, such as people with experience of domestic abuse.

“My focus would be smaller, temporary accommodations. We keep putting everyone in the same place when they are at a very chaotic time of their lives.”



A number of people with lived experience were housed in out-of-area temporary accommodation due to a shortage of accommodation in Adur and Worthing. This was described negatively, and people outlined a number of challenges they encountered as a result, including having to travel long distances for work and health related appointments, and having reduced access to family and friends. As one person said:

“I went kicking and screaming to Eastbourne. My mum had just died and it took me away from my family and support system. After a while, about six weeks, because the hotel staff and outreach team were good, I got over the shock and got my head around it. A lot of people don’t though and stay in a rut.”

- **Lack of semi-supported accommodation.** There is a lack of step-down, semi-supported accommodation for people that are not ready for independent living, which means people can become ‘trapped’ in emergency and temporary accommodation. Stakeholders reported that people may be moved to independent living before they are ready and without the appropriate level of support in place, and this may lead to people subsequently being evicted or becoming voluntarily homeless. This cycle exacerbates the pressure placed on emergency accommodations and limits further choice for independent living as evictions may lead to lifetime bans from social housing.
- **Limited support for people with multiple needs.** As discussed in Section 4.4.1, stakeholders identified that there is growing complexity of need across

the homeless cohort. Nonetheless, stakeholders raised concerns regarding the limitations to the service provision for individuals with complex needs, including both individuals with high need and high complexity as well as those with low level need and high-risk behaviours. There is a gap in the system response for individuals requiring support that goes beyond services targeting a singular, moderate to severe need. Furthermore, stakeholders were concerned about potential negative impacts when people with low-support needs are placed with people with high-level and complex support needs.

“Services are almost universally unable and unwilling to deal with complex, high risk and low need. Systems are much better with people who can actively engage and present as low risk or are better understood by the system, like having access to mental health services or social care.”



People with lived experience emphasised the importance of tailoring support to different cohorts of people and support needs. This was because concern was expressed about people commonly being housed in unsuitable accommodation. For example, one person shared that it was common for young adults to be housed with ex-offenders and people with substance use challenges.

“Drugs are rife at these places. I made myself scarce as I didn’t want to be there all the time.”

“You can’t put drug addicts in with people who just have a disability.”

- **Lack of holistic, wrap-around support.** The above challenge is compounded by a lack of wrap-around support. One stakeholder commented that homelessness is ‘*complex and a symptom of another need*’ and therefore requires a combination of support and services. At present, clients are responsible for coordinating their own support and stakeholders reported that there is a need for specific roles that can advocate and coordinate services on behalf of clients, as seen in neighbouring areas, such as the My Team Around Me approach and navigator model.

“If you are homeless, you probably need wrap-around support. We aren’t very good at offering holistic support.”

- **Lack of preventative support.** Stakeholders noted that there is a gap in the provision that focuses on preventative work and early interventions to prevent individuals becoming homelessness or reaching crisis.

“We need to invest in the lower and medium risks to prevent them from ever getting to that high-risk point. We need to invest in the future.”

“I think it’s the fabric [of services] around homelessness that is disintegrating. We are not spotting people at risk of homelessness at the earliest opportunity.”

6.4.1 Projected gaps

Stakeholders made several suggestions about potential future gaps in provision:

- **Limited housing stock.** The limited housing stock was raised as a projected gap of concern, as stakeholders expect that it will worsen overtime as demand for accommodation increases. This may lead to further reliance on out-of-area accommodation, leading to financial strain on Adur and Worthing as well as poor outcomes for individuals.
- **Supported accommodation for people aged under 35 with complex emotional needs.** Stakeholders reported that they expect to see a further increase in young people’s mental health needs and the cohort of young people experiencing homelessness.

“For young people, there is a gap for psychologically informed environments for people with complex emotional needs. There’s only one service locally that caters to young people with complex needs.”

- **Financial advice and training.** Although services providing financial advice do currently exist, there is an expectation that demand will continue to grow due to the Cost-of-Living Crisis and current financial climate. Stakeholders noted that more individuals with complex financial situations will need practical and intensive support to avoid becoming at risk of homelessness. Therefore, financial advice and training, especially for individuals who have not lived independently before, will be essential in preventing the escalation into homelessness.

“It’s all about financial training. We need that preventative work.”

- **Services focused on sustaining tenancy and preparation for independent living.** Stakeholders expressed that there will be an increased need for services focused on sustaining tenancy and preparation for independent living. This is due to changing population trends within the homelessness cohort as increasingly young people are appearing as hidden homeless. These services will also be essential in preventing evictions for people moving out of temporary accommodation that have been repeatedly or entrenched homeless and may not have the skills to live alone.

“We need to be proactive and get the earliest intervention in. We need to focus on helping sustain tenancy.”

“We need to give people the skill to live independently, rebuild their self-worth and identity.”

The projected gaps in provision are representative of a need for supportive accommodation that is equipped to manage the changing needs and population trends of the homeless cohort as well as preventative services that can help individuals avoid homelessness or enable them to remain housed.

7 Access to support

7.1 Overview

This chapter explores access to support for people at risk of becoming, or experiencing, homelessness. It looks at the different pathways to support, how people at risk are identified, and challenges to accessing support.

7.2 Pathways to support

There are a range of pathways to housing and homelessness support. Stakeholders reported that most commonly there are three main pathways to accessing support:

- **Self-identification** to the housing authority as being at risk of becoming homeless or currently homeless to trigger prevention and relief duties, respectively.
- **Duty to refer** to the housing authority from public authorities (e.g., social services, prisons, probation services, youth offending institutions, emergency services, and urgent treatment centres) if an individual is at risk of, or is currently, homeless.
- **Signposting** to the housing authority or additional support services from services outside of the duty to refer such as outreach workers.

Figure 55 below shows the services people were referred from for households that were assessed by the housing team in 2022/23.

Figure 55 Households assessed as a result of a referral, including under the Duty to Refer, April 2022 to March 2023

Households assessed as a result of a referral, including under the Duty to Refer	Adur	Worthing
Total households assessed as a result of a referral	18 (38%)	80 (36%)
Total households referred under the Duty to Refer	12 (25%)	60 (27%)
Adult Secure Estate (prison)	(0%)	1 (0%)
National Probation Service	2 (4%)	20 (9%)
Hospital A&E, Urgent Treatment Centres or in-patient care	5 (10%)	7 (3%)
Mental Health in-patient care	2 (4%)	9 (4%)
Adult Social Services	3 (6%)	4 (2%)

Households assessed as a result of a referral, including under the Duty to Refer	Adur	Worthing
Children's Social Services	(0%)	19 (9%)
Households referred by an agency (not subject to the Duty to Refer)	4 (8%)	18 (8%)
Households referred by another local authority	2 (4%)	2 (1%)
Total	48 (100%)	220 (100%)

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Statutory homelessness: Detailed local authority level tables, April 2022 to March 2023 (2023)

7.2.1 Identifying people at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

In addition to the pathways to support outlined above, people at particular risk can be identified in a number of ways. These include:

- **Outreach support.** Adur and Worthing Councils employ a team of four outreach workers to identify and provide support for rough sleepers.
- **Using data to proactively identify people at risk.** People at risk of, and experiencing, homelessness have been identified by the councils proactively. The councils have recently started utilising data on low-income households and claims for benefits such as universal credit to identify households that may be struggling with financial hardship and need additional support. The council contacts people to check whether the household is receiving all the support they are entitled to, and to signpost to other services where appropriate.
- **Engaging with other services.** Stakeholders reported that other services which people receive support from play an important role in identifying people at risk and experiencing homelessness. Examples of this include individuals that present at statutory services such as A&E, in-patient facilities, and health and wellbeing teams, who may be identified as having insecure accommodation or at risk of homelessness and are then referred on to the housing team. Additionally, families are often identified by professionals in school and children's social care.
- **Multi-agency meetings.** Services across the system often come together to discuss people at risk, such as the local police who discuss with partners people that are vulnerable to crime, including people at risk of "cuckooing" or people exhibiting anti-social behaviour. Similarly, professionals from across the system also attend MARAC (multi-agency risk assessment conference), where information is shared on the highest risk domestic abuse cases and a plan is developed to safeguard the victim, of which housing is often a central consideration.

Stakeholders working across services commented that these approaches to identifying people at risk of or experiencing homelessness rely on individuals being transparent about their housing need.

7.3 Navigating referrals

Overall, stakeholders reported that the referral processes to housing services are not widely understood nor streamlined for efficiency.

“People find it quite difficult. It’s not a simple referral pathway, more like a scattergun of referrals to services to cover all your bases. But housing is fundamental, so everyone should know it.”

There was mixed understanding of the pathways to housing support among professionals. Stakeholders reported that professionals that have been working in the local area for a number of years and regularly work with housing services, are likely to understand the different pathways to support. This was facilitated by positive working relationships with people working in housing services. However, for new staff and professionals that interact with housing less often, stakeholders reported that the pathways to support can be confusing. This was because there are multiple different ways that people can access housing support and several services providing support, such as the councils, housing providers, and VCSE organisations. Stakeholders acknowledged that it is challenging to produce guidance which can reflect all aspects of the system, however, there was agreement that general knowledge on housing pathways could be improved across the system. This gap in knowledge is likely to be worsened by limited capacity across services and overwhelmed caseloads which prevents staff from being able to become acquainted with other service structures and pathways.

“It’s really difficult. If I don’t understand it, how will [a frontline worker] know? There needs to be clear guidelines, particularly from local authorities around referral pathways.”

Pathways to support can be confusing and complicated for service users. There was a consensus amongst stakeholders that pathways to housing support, were overly complicated for service users. Additionally, stakeholders reported that they have received many complaints from service users who have had to complete multiple forms and online assessments to navigate the statutory processes. These forms and assessments often further disadvantage the most socially excluded and those without digital literacy.

“I think it’s probably really confusing for clients. There are so many routes in and out depending on what duty you qualify for. We aren’t very good at communicating the whole journey.”



The experience of accessing support varied for the people with lived experience that we spoke with. Some were directly referred from other services, most commonly the hospital which was able to coordinate support with the housing authority.

“I got emergency accommodation as I had nowhere to live, because of the nature of my accident. Don’t know how long people normally wait but Southampton trauma unit did everything. When I turned up on Monday at council, I mentioned name and three hours later had a place sorted.”

Accessing support was more challenging for people that self-identified due to the complexity of the system and a lack of knowledge about where to seek help and what support was available. For one person, they decided to go without support because they found it too difficult to access.

“I found it difficult to access support because I didn’t know who to go to. I struggled to make the phone calls – if you google stuff a million things come up and you don’t know who to discuss stuff with.”

7.4 Challenges to accessing support

Five main barriers to accessing support for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness were highlighted by stakeholders:

- Capacity of services.
- Models of practice within services.
- Coordination of services.
- Thresholds to access support services.
- Pathways to support.

7.4.1 Capacity

In recent years, there has been a reduction in the number of available housing officers, as stakeholders reported that budgets have been reduced. This has meant housing teams have high caseloads and reduced capacity. As a result, people are waiting long periods of time without support, even when eligible for a duty. Similarly, the housing specialists have limited availability to assist other services with navigating the housing pathways.

“We encourage people to let us know as soon as they are at risk, to give us time to intervene, but the scale of the issue means it’s taking us a while to get back to people.”

Issues around capacity are not unique to the housing team. There was a consensus amongst stakeholders that many services have experienced

decreased budgets, overwhelmed workloads, and limited capacity. This has led to individuals being placed on lengthy wait lists to receive appointments for services across the system. For example, stakeholders noted that some clients had waited almost a month for an appointment for general financial advice.

7.4.2 Models of practice within services

Across the types of services people at risk of, or experiencing, homelessness utilise, there were examples of inflexible practices and policies that act as barriers for people accessing support. Stakeholders highlighted several concerns, many of which relate to the restrictive policies outlined in Section 5.2.1. These were: (1) limited service opening hours, such as just the morning can make it difficult for people to attend; (2) discontinuing support if a client misses an appointment; and (3) discontinuing support or evicting a client if they break specific rules, such as having someone in their accommodation or substance misuse. These concerns can make it challenging for certain people to access service users, particularly people with experience of multiple disadvantage.

“If you don’t attend your appointment at 10am, then you missed it. Services need to change a lot more to suit their client needs, especially for the homeless cohort.”

Furthermore, Adur and Worthing have limited ethnic and racial diversity, which some stakeholders reported may lead to services to be inherently focused on western cultures and values, thereby introducing systemic barriers for individuals from other countries and cultures. It was noted that barriers may also be experienced by those who need accommodations in their engagement with services, such as people who are neurodivergent.

Stakeholders reported that services need to be flexible and provide different approaches to support, depending on the client’s background and needs.



People with lived experience reported mixed views about different models of practice within services. One person was evicted from a hostel because they went into someone else’s room, making them homeless and it took a while before they could be rehoused.

However, a couple of people reported that temporary accommodation can be a difficult environment to live in, and it is therefore important that the rules and boundaries are enforced, or the situation could further deteriorate.

7.4.3 Coordination of services

Stakeholders noted that housing support is often not considered or delivered in parallel to the other support needs that a person is experiencing. This means that people at risk of, or experiencing, homelessness are required to access different services for each of their support needs, resulting in people having to retell their story multiple times, which can be retraumatising and contribute to disengagement.

“If you are homeless, you probably need wraparound support. We aren’t very good at offering that holistic support. Instead, we refer people to 3,4, or 5 organization and its overwhelming. Then we classify them as hard to engage for disengaging with all the services”

7.4.4 Thresholds

Stakeholders reported that there are high thresholds for many services that this cohort need, such as mental health support. People are therefore unable to access services because they are not currently in crisis and/or their needs are too ‘low level’. As a result, people are unable to access the services that they need, or they are referred to alternative services that are unable to provide the required support.

“The crisis mental health threshold is so high. We had a guy who cut his ears off because he wanted to stop the voices in his head. It took the crisis team hours to get there and when they did, they couldn’t take him.”

7.4.5 Pathways to support

Many stakeholders noted that the pathway to homelessness or housing support is too generic and does not take into consideration that certain needs require specific support, particularly complex needs.

“Everyone gets funnelled into this general pathway, but each group needs something specific to their needs.”



This challenge was also acknowledged by people with lived experience who shared that sometimes people are not in a position where they can engage with support, even if it is available. There is therefore a need to ensure that services work flexibly to consider how to assist people with different support needs.

“The help is there for people [in supported accommodation]; with a library and charities you can work at. If your mental health is bad, you’re not going to be able to engage with this. There needs to be a programme at the start for a month to six weeks to concentrate.”

8 Partnership working and collaboration.

8.1 Overview

This chapter explores the extent to which services currently work together and collaborate, focusing on the positive examples of joint working and assessment, and the challenges to further collaboration.

8.2 The current system approach to homelessness

Most stakeholders reported that at a high level, services across the system have shared values and goals around *‘helping our vulnerable communities’*, supporting people with their housing needs, and ending homelessness. However, different sectors and services have distinct approaches and views about how best to support these ambitions, which in practice results in separate ways of working, a lack of shared responsibility, and potential inefficiencies in providing support.

There is limited capacity amongst services supporting people at risk of or experiencing homelessness, as well as limited capacity in other services that address needs that can contribute to homelessness such as mental health services and substance misuse services.

The system is currently ‘firefighting’ according to stakeholders; responding to high level need once individuals are in crisis, which has meant there is limited resource available for preventative support. At present, it is common for services to only respond to someone in need when they have reached crisis point. Stakeholders reported that they would like to see a shift towards prevention and early intervention to avoid the escalation of need.

“In some cases, Adur and Worthing end up firefighting and that’s when it becomes problematic. The services are all there, but they are accessing people too late and that’s when crisis happens.”

8.3 Joint working and assessments

It was noted that there is not yet an integrated, multi-agency response to homelessness that recognises the complex nature of the issue; instead, many services operate in silos. Across services, stakeholders would like to ensure there is collaboration and coordination among service providers and local government as the current fragmented system is challenging for people to navigate and receive the support they need.

“The structures and pathways to homelessness are complex and multifaceted. Therefore, the pathways out of homelessness must be multifaceted as well.”

Nevertheless, there is recognition across the system of the need to work collectively and stakeholders were able to highlight positive examples of services

working collaboratively and implementing joint assessments at both a strategic and operational level:

- **The discharge hub** operates in West Sussex and works with individuals who are identified as having indicators of homelessness through the hospital's discharge form. Community based settings can also refer to the discharge hub through their housing triage form which is conducted by clinical staff and designed to identify clients with housing needs.

“When someone is admitted to the hospital, they fill out a discharge form and a housing form which allows clinical staff to ask questions that could indicate homelessness. That is sent to the discharge hub which allows a housing worker to meet with that person and do an assessment and give them their housing options.”

- **Rough sleepers' team** works with a variety of partners to support and inform work with rough sleepers in the community such as Sussex Police, Probation services, Turning Tides, Emerging Futures, and several other charities.
- **Co-location of housing specialists** in the Trust teams. Stakeholders working in the Trust noted that co-location of housing specialists has encouraged a sharing of system knowledge and assisted in the coordination of support. Prior to COVID-19, housing specialists were also co-located in Early Help and job centres but are now no longer available in those sites.

“I think the housing specialists in the team brings that expertise. They have greater knowledge about individual cases, housing law, and a greater sense of provision and capacity. They have that level of knowledge, and we are able to find that information out much easier.”

- **Strategic multidisciplinary teams** such as ASBRAC (anti-social behaviour risk assessment conference) and MAPPA (multi-agency public protection arrangements) forum. Stakeholders noted that these conferences and forums enable joint working and assessment of complex cases.

“I think those sorts of forums, like ASBRAC and MAPPA, helps to embody the principles of good working individuals. We understand why we are there and what the intention is. We are focused on the safety plans of those cases.”

- **Strategic homelessness group includes** representation from probation, health, social care, and other professionals.
- **The probation services use of a 'common assessment form'** which collects information that both the probation team and local authority requires. There was also hope for continued improvement to joint assessment with the implementation of a joint housing protocol.

8.3.1 Limitations to joint working and assessments

Although stakeholders were able to identify positive examples of joint working and assessment, this is not always common practice across the system, and two key limitations were mentioned:

- **Involvement and implementation of joint working and assessment often falls on individual workers.** Although strategic multidisciplinary teams such as ASBRAC and MAPPA forum were noted, stakeholders would like to see more structural support (e.g., workshops, system wide training days, networking events) to build links between services.

“It falls more on the individual to recognize those [miscommunication] problems and build relationships across the sectors. I’m told that several relationship building events were done before COVID but have ended. People are trying to pick it back up and restore those relationships.”

- **There is limited systematic joint working at the operational level.** One stakeholder commented that this joint working cannot be done at just the strategic level. Instead, there needs to be consistent, structural support for joint working at the operational level too. This is especially important due to high turnover rates in operational staff which can function as a barrier to the facilitation of shared system knowledge and joint working.

“While we are good strategically, sometimes it doesn’t trickle down, especially with our turnover of staff. We are only as good as the person who knows the least.”

8.4 Data sharing

Due to the multi-faceted and vulnerable nature of homelessness, stakeholders emphasised the importance of efficient data sharing across the sector to identify and engage all relevant services.

However, many services across the homelessness sector operate on different data systems. This presents an obstacle for partnership working as different professionals are unable to easily obtain all the relevant information about individuals, especially if they have been through the homelessness cycle multiple times. These delays are especially problematic for this cohort due to their level of vulnerability.

“The important thing for me is data sharing, especially when someone is really vulnerable.”

Stakeholders also highlighted how different data systems lead to difficulty in mapping the ‘whole journey’ of people experiencing homelessness. This makes it hard to know which services have been involved as well as which interventions have been offered to the client.

“We could do more data sharing. I wish there was some kind of database where you could see what services have been accessed by an individual.”

Efforts related to information sharing and collaboration were described as a work in progress, indicating that there’s ongoing work to improve these processes and that this is an area with room for improvement.

8.5 Challenges to achieving more partnership working and collaboration

A number of barriers to partnership working and collaboration were identified:

- **Collaboration complexity:** Collaboration becomes more complex as more agencies and personalities are involved. Different organisations operate on various systems, and this diversity can lead to miscommunication or the loss of important messages.
- **‘Protective organisational cultures’** have developed in response to the limited resources, different funding mechanisms, and competition for housing stock. Tension between services due to protective organisational cultures was particularly noted between health and social care as responsibility for complex clients is often bounced between these services as they dispute what the ‘primary need’ is.

“Because there’s competition for funding, people can be quite protective of their organizations and how they deliver things. I would like to see a bigger conversation around the wider impact.”

- **Limited-service capacity.** Stakeholders reported that across services there is limited capacity, which can result in professionals *“bury[ing] their heads in the sand”* and a reduced focus on partnership working. It was reported that siloed working becomes more common when services are under pressure.
- **Varied performance indicators and outcomes.** Services often have their own outcomes, which can be linked to specific funding or reporting requirements. This furthers silo working and pulls resources away from a joint approach.

“We need to work with the central government so that we aren’t working in silo and relying on so many grant funding pots. We all want to focus on our vulnerable community, it’s so interlinked. When you look at [funding], it ends up being spent in the same areas and on the same people, but with different outcome measurements.”

- **The two-tiered government.** West Sussex County Council governs West Sussex and contains seven district and borough councils, including Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council. In 2007, Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council decided to work in partnership and the single senior officer team was created in April 2008. Since then, all services (except Adur Homes, Worthing Leisure and Worthing revenues and benefits) have

become joint teams, providing joint services to the people of Adur and Worthing. Stakeholders reported that it can be unclear where responsibility lies between West Sussex County Council or Adur and Worthing Councils. This can further difficulty in arranging a shared, systemwide response to homelessness.

“There’s always a challenge in two-tiered authorities around who owns what. We all have different responsibilities and funding streams. How do we maintain standards while recognizing we are all here to do the same thing?”

- **Pressure from the local community.** Stakeholders noted that another potential barrier to a shared response is push back from the wider community regarding housing people experiencing homelessness. Stakeholders commented that there is often community opposition to housing people experiencing homelessness within shared, private accommodation as well as to building new temporary accommodation in residential neighbourhoods. It was noted that the public response to homelessness changes quickly and is often seasonal (for example, communities feel more supportive towards efforts to accommodate people experiencing homelessness in winter than at other times of year), which offers a challenge for securing community buy in.

“We’re trying to get our own emergency accommodation so we can stop spending money on hotels. If planning is required, the residential kick back is ridiculous. People don’t want it in their back yard.”

- **The VCS sector is underdeveloped.** There is a very small number of rough sleeping charities in Adur and Worthing as well as just two domestic abuse charities. Supplementing these services are smaller charities focused on local needs with very few working on a pan-Sussex basis. Therefore, there is a limited range of services and in turn limited opportunities for partnership working and collaboration across the VCS sector.
- **Client consent.** Generally, consent from clients is obtained to share information with housing departments and other relevant parties. However, stakeholders raised challenges related to confidentiality, particularly regarding what information can and cannot be shared. There are restrictions on information sharing, particularly when clients have not given consent to discuss their case with external parties. These restrictions limit what professionals can discuss outside of their organisation’s internal systems.

9 Priorities for the future

The stakeholders that we spoke to offered several recommendations to enhance the effectiveness of the system and improve outcomes for people with housing support needs:

- **Providing wrap-around, holistic support.** Many stakeholders highlighted that homelessness is often both a symptom and a cause of other needs such as mental health, substance misuse, domestic violence, etc. However, the current approach to homelessness treats it as a singular challenge. For example, stakeholders noted that providing accommodation does not address the needs that have led to homelessness. Homelessness needs to be treated holistically, with a recognition of the needs that individuals experiencing homelessness may have.

“You take the homelessness problem away when you give them a room, but all those problems that led them to being homelessness are still here.”

- **Increasing the focus on prevention.** Stakeholders unanimously agreed that there needs to be a shift in focus towards prevention. There is a need for services that are resourced to identify and support people with the causes of homelessness, including poverty, abuse, and deprivation. Currently there is limited support available for people with lower support needs, and as a result, level of need is escalating.

“My top priority is the earliest intervention possible because once someone is homeless, it’s already too late.”

- **Introducing specific pathways for different groups.** There is a need to create specific pathways for different populations experiencing homelessness, such as those leaving acute care, rough sleepers, young people, and individuals not accessing public funds. This involves tailoring services to meet the unique needs of each group. For example, stakeholders did not mention a coordinated approach to meeting the housing and care needs of the ageing homeless population, which suggests a gap in long-term planning and provision.
- **Supplying housing with the right support.** Stakeholder reported that housing needs to be accompanied with a range of support, recognising that homelessness often coexists with mental health issues. The focus is not just on providing physical housing but also on helping individuals maintain their tenancy and rebuild their lives. Some reported that this could be achieved by transitioning away from hostel-based models towards smaller accommodation options, to make it easier to support people effectively.
- **Co-locating services.** Locating more housing specialist with professionals working across the system would provide access to information about housing support.

- **Introducing systemwide learning events and training days.** These events could focus on specific aspects of housing policy and the different services available.



Several of these suggestions reflected the main concerns raised by people with lived experience. In addition, they called for **clear and easily accessible guidance on housing support** for service users. This was due to the confusing and complicated nature of the system, which means that it is common for people not to know what support is available or how best to access it.

People with lived experience reported that there is a need for clear guidance for people who are at risk of, or experiencing, homelessness. It was suggested that a booklet could be created that explains what support is available, who it is suitable for, and how it can be accessed.

10 Appendix 1: Additional quantitative analysis

10.1 Overview

This appendix presents additional analysis that was produced from the national and local data but was not included in the main body of the report.

10.2 Population data for Adur and Worthing

In 2021, Adur had a population of 64,544 (population density of 1534.4) and Worthing had a population of 111,338 (population density of 3423.7). Figure 56 to Figure 63 explore the demographics characteristics of this population.

Figure 56 Age

Age	Adur	Worthing
Under 18	13,009 (20%)	21,377 (19%)
18-24	3,768 (6%)	7,115 (6%)
25-34	6,818 (11%)	13,354 (12%)
35-44	8,071 (13%)	14,147 (13%)
45-54	9,155 (14%)	15,741 (14%)
55-64	8,487 (13%)	14,650 (13%)
65-74	7,617 (12%)	12,469 (11%)
75+	7,622 (12%)	12,485 (11%)
Total	64,547 (100%)	111,338 (100%)

Source: ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

Figure 57 Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Adur	Worthing
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	1,395 (2%)	4,387 (4%)
Bangladeshi	369 (1%)	727 (1%)
Chinese	269 (0%)	572 (1%)
Indian	303 (0%)	1,097 (1%)
Other Asian	365 (1%)	1,723 (2%)

Ethnicity	Adur	Worthing
Pakistani	89 (0%)	268 (0%)
Black, Black British, Black Welsh Caribbean or African	530 (1%)	1,281 (1%)
African	359 (1%)	893 (1%)
Caribbean	110 (0%)	250 (0%)
Other Black	61 (0%)	138 (0%)
Mixed or multiple ethnicities	1,627 (3%)	2,854 (3%)
Other Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	470 (1%)	792 (1%)
White and Asian	535 (1%)	981 (1%)
White and Black African	316 (0%)	533 (0%)
White and Black Caribbean	306 (0%)	548 (0%)
Other ethnic group	697 (1%)	1,107 (1%)
Any other ethnic group	489 (1%)	861 (1%)
Arab	208 (0%)	246 (0%)
White	60,294 (93%)	101,709 (91%)
English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	57,390 (89%)	94,680 (85%)
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	105 (0%)	82 (0%)
Irish	488 (1%)	942 (1%)
Other White	2,258 (3%)	5,811 (5%)
Roma	53 (0%)	194 (0%)
Total	64,543 (100%)	111,338 (100%)

Source: ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

Figure 58 Household language

Household language	Adur	Worthing
All adults in household have English in England, or English or Welsh in Wales as a main language	26,542 (96%)	46,218 (93%)
At least one but not all adults in household have English in England, or English or Welsh in Wales as a main language	628 (2%)	1,410 (3%)
No adults in household, but at least one person aged 3 to 15 years, has English in England or English or Welsh in Wales as a main language	142 (1%)	355 (1%)
No people in household have English in England, or English or Welsh in Wales as a main language	366 (1%)	1,555 (3%)
Total	27,678 (100%)	49,538 (100%)

Source, ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

Figure 59 Gender identity

Gender identity	Adur	Worthing
All other gender identities	42 (0%)	114 (0%)
Does not apply	(0%)	(0%)
Gender identity different from sex registered at birth but no specific identity given	60 (0%)	145 (0%)
Gender identity the same as sex registered at birth	50,314 (95%)	86,941 (94%)
Not answered	2,477 (5%)	5,000 (5%)
Trans man	26 (0%)	74 (0%)
Trans woman	37 (0%)	79 (0%)
Total	52,956 (100%)	92,353 (100%)

Source, ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

Figure 60 Sexual orientation

Sexual orientation	Adur	Worthing
All other sexual orientations	153 (0%)	350 (0%)
Bisexual	623 (1%)	1,380 (1%)
Does not apply	(0%)	(0%)
Gay or Lesbian	1,015 (2%)	1,983 (2%)
Not answered	3,426 (6%)	6,786 (7%)
Straight or Heterosexual	47,736 (90%)	81,855 (89%)
Total	52,953 (100%)	92,354 (100%)

Source, ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

Figure 61 Disability

Row Labels	Adur	Worthing
Disabled under the Equality Act: Day-to-day activities limited a little	7,552 (12%)	12,592 (11%)
Disabled under the Equality Act: Day-to-day activities limited a lot	5,025 (8%)	8,711 (8%)
Does not apply	(0%)	(0%)
Not disabled under the Equality Act: Has long-term physical or mental health condition but day-to-day activities are not limited	5,189 (8%)	8,923 (8%)
Not disabled under the Equality Act: No long-term physical or mental health conditions	46,778 (72%)	81,112 (73%)
Total	64,544 (100%)	111,338 (100%)

Source, ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

Figure 62 General health

General health	Adur	Worthing
Very good health	29,272 (45%)	50,406 (45%)
Good health	22,573 (35%)	39,682 (36%)
Fair health	9,108 (14%)	15,418 (14%)
Bad health	2,800 (4%)	4,526 (4%)
Very bad health	791 (1%)	1,308 (1%)
Does not apply	(0%)	(0%)
Total	64,544 (100%)	111,340 (100%)

Source, ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

Figure 63 Religion

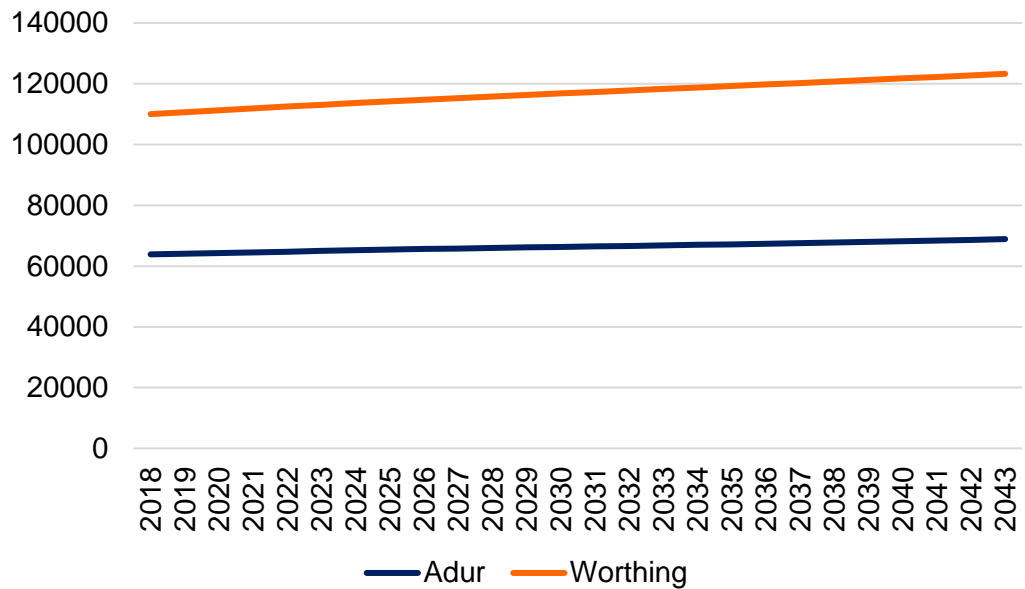
Religion	Adur	Worthing
Buddhist	274 (0%)	704 (1%)
Christian	27,836 (43%)	48,897 (44%)
Hindu	209 (0%)	739 (1%)
Jewish	249 (0%)	274 (0%)
Muslim	840 (1%)	1,912 (2%)
No religion	30,890 (48%)	50,895 (46%)
Not answered	3,820 (6%)	7,013 (6%)
Other religion	392 (1%)	778 (1%)
Sikh	31 (0%)	124 (0%)
Total	64,541 (100%)	111,336 (100%)

Source, ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

10.2.1 Population changes

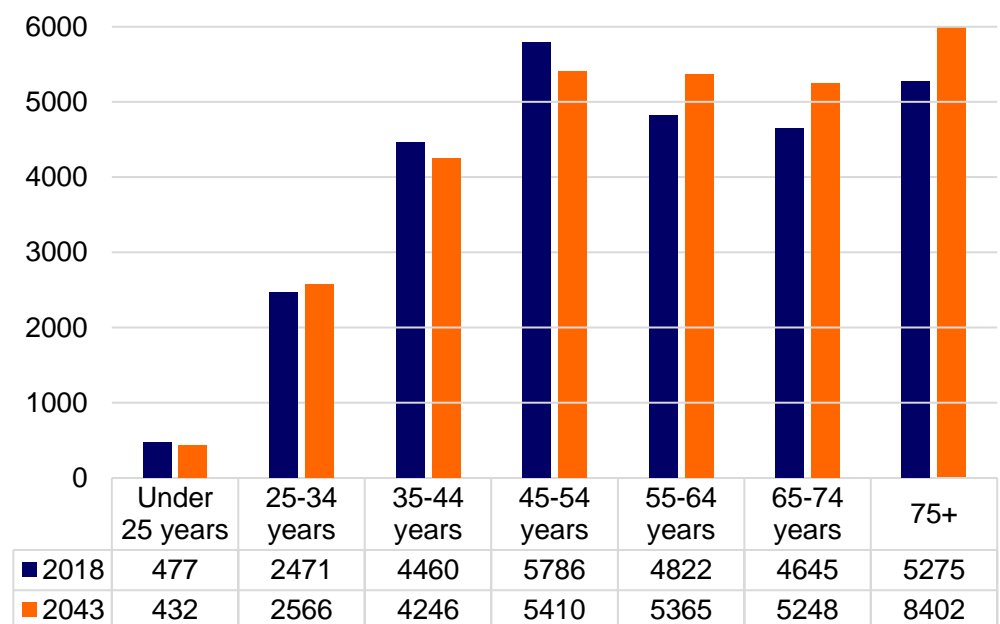
Figure 64 to Figure 69 below the projected change in population in Adur and Worthing.

Figure 64 Projected population change, all ages 2018-2043



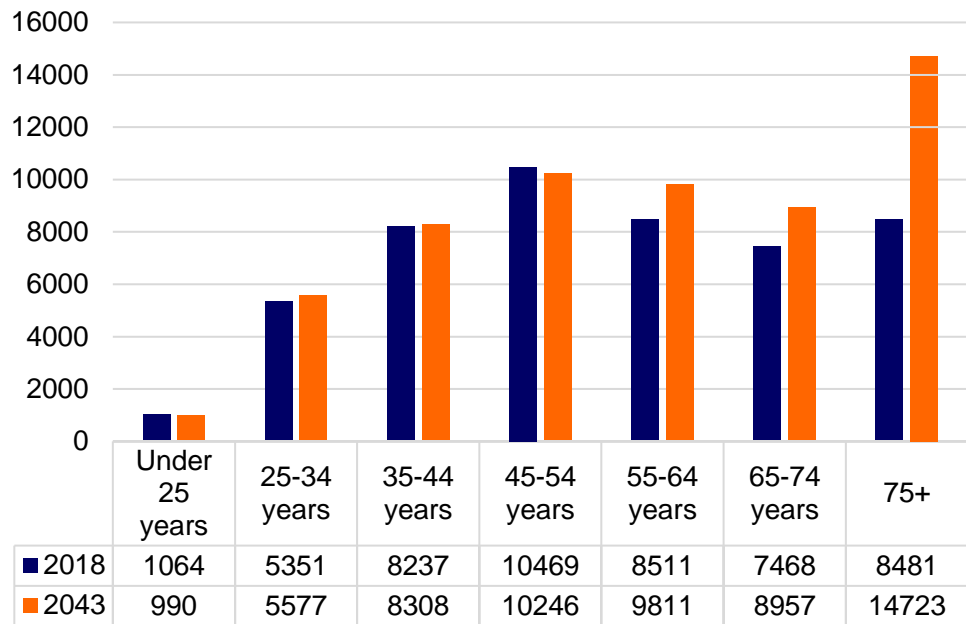
Source: ONS, Population projections for local authorities, 2018-based edition (2020)

Figure 65 Adur, Household projections by age of household reference person



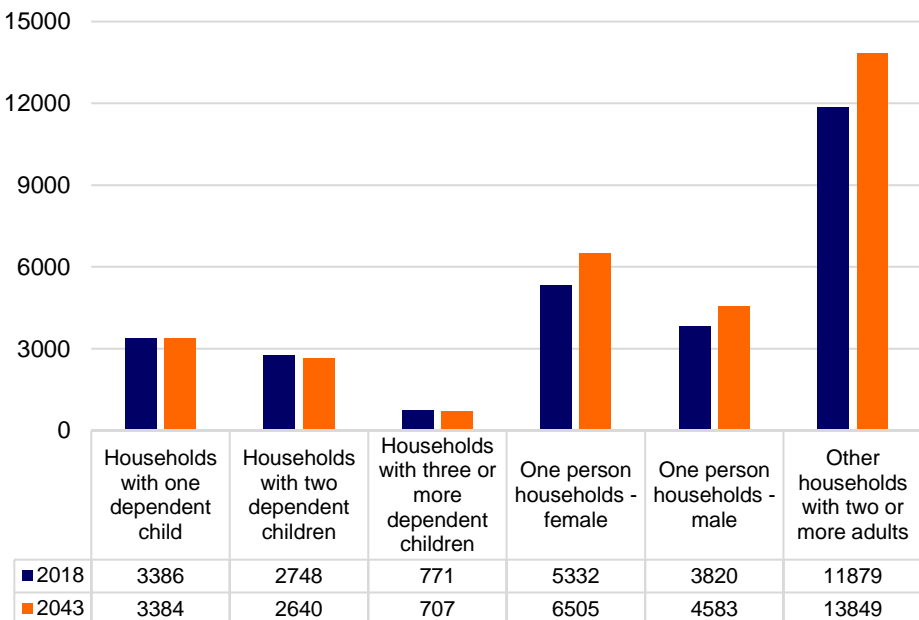
Source: ONS, Population projections for local authorities, 2018-based edition (2020)

Figure 66 Worthing, Household projections by age of household reference person



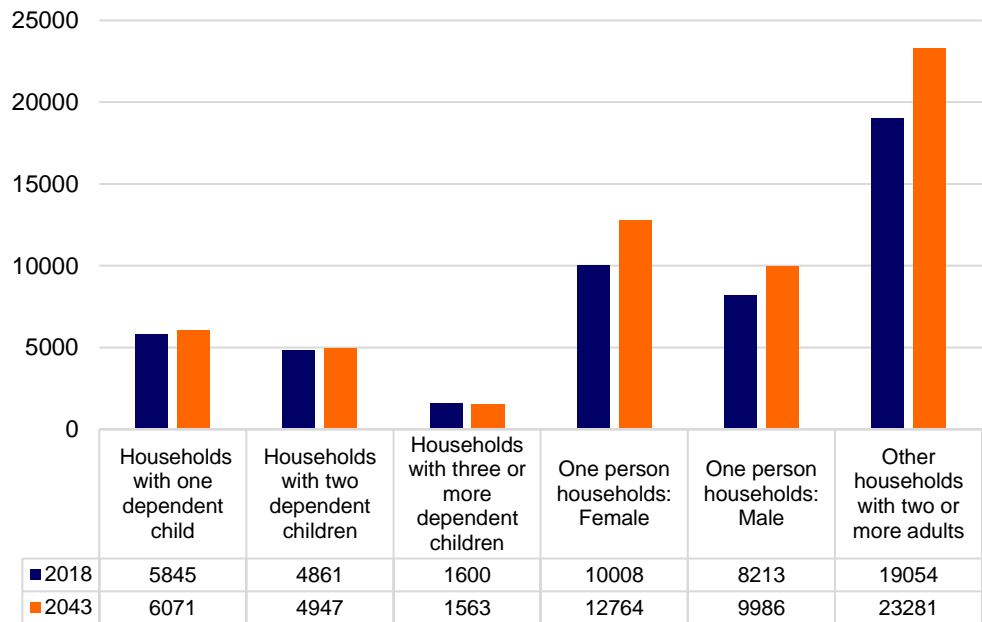
Source: ONS, Population projections for local authorities, 2018-based edition (2020)

Figure 67 Adur, Household projections by household type



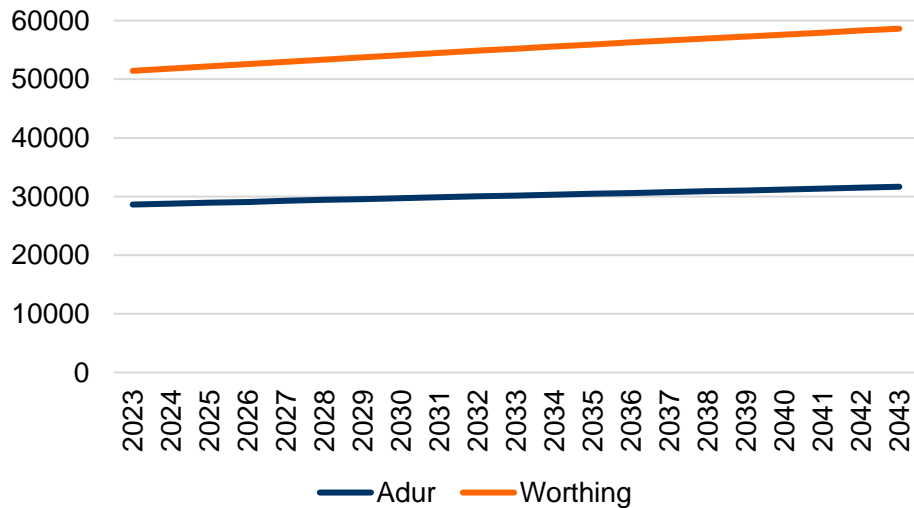
Source: ONS, Population projections for local authorities, 2018-based edition (2020)

Figure 68 Worthing, Household projections by household type



Source: ONS, Population projections for local authorities, 2018-based edition (2020)

Figure 69 Number of households, 2023-2043



Source: ONS, Population projections for local authorities, 2018-based edition (2020)

10.3 Housing type and provision

Figure 70 to Figure 87 provide further information about the housing type and provision in Adur and Worthing.

Figure 70 Residence type

Residence type	Adur	Worthing
Lives in a household	63,852 (99%)	109,661 (98%)
Lives in a communal establishment	692 (1%)	1,677 (2%)
Total	64,544 (100%)	111,338 (100%)

Source, ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

Figure 71 Tenure

Tenure	Adur	Worthing
Owned: Owns outright	11,101 (40%)	18,052 (36%)
Owned: Owns with a mortgage or loan	8,835 (32%)	15,388 (31%)
Shared ownership: Shared ownership	184 (1%)	322 (1%)
Social rented: Rents from council or Local Authority	2,431 (9%)	1,051 (2%)
Social rented: Other social rented	1,005 (4%)	3,794 (8%)
Private rented: Private landlord or letting agency	3,537 (13%)	10,012 (20%)
Private rented: Other private rented	558 (2%)	904 (2%)
Lives rent free	27 (0%)	15 (0%)
Total	27,678 (100%)	49,538 (100%)

Source, ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

Figure 72 Household composition

Household composition	Adur	Worthing
One-person household: Aged 66 years and over	4,714 (17%)	7,844 (16%)

Household composition	Adur	Worthing
One-person household: Other	3,700 (13%)	8,919 (18%)
Single family household: All aged 66 years and over	3,196 (12%)	5,105 (10%)
Single family household: Married or civil partnership couple: No children	2,738 (10%)	4,895 (10%)
Single family household: Married or civil partnership couple: Dependent children	3,811 (14%)	6,603 (13%)
Single family household: Married or civil partnership couple: All children non-dependent	1,577 (6%)	2,398 (5%)
Single family household: Cohabiting couple family: No children	1,635 (6%)	3,309 (7%)
Single family household: Cohabiting couple family: With dependent children	1,478 (5%)	2,279 (5%)
Single family household: Cohabiting couple family: All children non-dependent	244 (1%)	284 (1%)
Single family household: Lone parent family: With dependent children	1,587 (6%)	2,925 (6%)
Single family household: Lone parent family: All children non-dependent	1,185 (4%)	1,864 (4%)
Single family household: Other single family household: Other family composition	130 (0%)	301 (1%)
Other household types: With dependent children	617 (2%)	1,013 (2%)
Other household types: Other, including all full-time students and all aged 66 years and over	1,067 (4%)	1,800 (4%)
Total	27,679 (100%)	49,539 (100%)

Source, ONS, Census 2021 (2023)

Figure 73 Dwellings in Adur by tenure, 2013 to 2022

Adur	Local Authority (incl. owned by other LAs)	Private Registered Provider	Other public sector	Private sector (P)	Total (P)
2022	2,516 (9%)	1,088 (4%)	(0%)	25,183 (87%)	28,787 (100%)

Adur	Local Authority (incl. owned by other LAs)	Private Registered Provider	Other public sector	Private sector (P)	Total (P)
2021	2,534 (9%)	1,089 (4%)	(0%)	25,066 (87%)	28,689 (100%)
2020	2,542 (9%)	1,101 (4%)	(0%)	24,841 (87%)	28,484 (100%)
2019	2,552 (9%)	1,073 (4%)	(0%)	24,850 (87%)	28,475 (100%)
2018	2,568 (9%)	1,044 (4%)	(0%)	24,754 (87%)	28,366 (100%)
2017	2,576 (9%)	1,008 (4%)	(0%)	24,672 (87%)	28,256 (100%)
2016	2,601 (9%)	996 (4%)	(0%)	24,600 (87%)	28,197 (100%)
2015	2,609 (9%)	996 (4%)	(0%)	24,565 (87%)	28,170 (100%)
2014	2,632 (9%)	936 (3%)	(0%)	24,509 (87%)	28,077 (100%)
2013	2,644 (9%)	942 (3%)	(0%)	24,403 (87%)	27,989 (100%)

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Live tables on dwelling stock (2023)

Figure 74 Dwellings in Worthing by tenure, 2013 to 2022

Worthing	Local Authority (incl. owned by other LAs)	Private Registered Provider	Other public sector	Private sector (P)	Total (P)
2022	(0%)	4,848 (9%)	(0%)	46,869 (91%)	51,717 (100%)
2021	(0%)	4,873 (9%)	(0%)	46,598 (91%)	51,471 (100%)
2020	(0%)	4,846 (9%)	(0%)	46,503 (91%)	51,349 (100%)
2019	(0%)	4,805 (9%)	(0%)	46,134 (91%)	50,939 (100%)
2018	(0%)	4,811 (10%)	(0%)	45,821 (90%)	50,632 (100%)
2017	(0%)	4,831 (10%)	(0%)	45,304 (90%)	50,135 (100%)
2016	(0%)	4,797 (10%)	(0%)	44,977 (90%)	49,774 (100%)
2015	(0%)	4,779 (10%)	(0%)	44,502 (90%)	49,281 (100%)
2014	(0%)	4,730 (10%)	(0%)	44,181 (90%)	48,915 (100%)

Worthing	Local Authority (incl. owned by other LAs)	Private Registered Provider	Other public sector	Private sector (P)	Total (P)
2013	(0%)	4,723 (10%)	(0%)	43,932 (90%)	48,655 (100%)

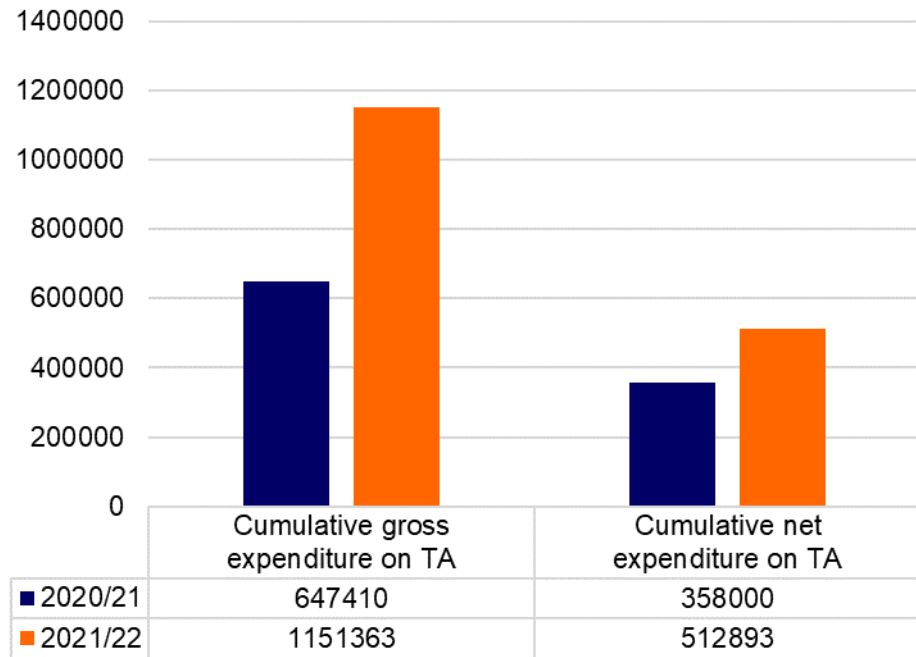
Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Live tables on dwelling stock (2023)

Figure 75 Number of approaches due to being served a notice or evicted from supported housing (2022)

No. approaches due to being served notice or evicted from supported housing	Adur	Worthing
Under 25s	5 (71%)	29 (42%)
Under 20s (included in fig. above)	4 (57%)	17 (25%)
Of which Care Leavers	3 (43%)	22 (32%)
Total	7 (100%)	69 (100%)

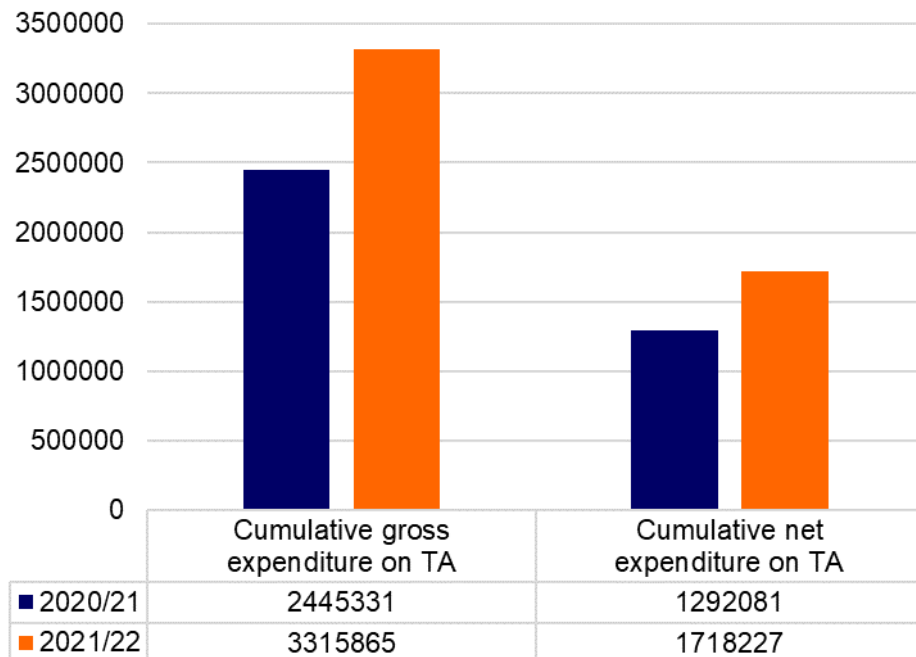
Source: Local data received from councils

Figure 76 Expenditure on temporary accommodation in Adur



Source: Local data received from councils

Figure 77 Expenditure on temporary accommodation in Worthing



Source: Local data received from councils

Figure 78 Dwelling stock

Dwelling stock	Adur	Worthing
Total number of dwellings located in local authority area		
Local authority owned	2516	0
Other public sector	0	0
Total dwellings owned by local authority as of March 31st, 2022		
Total number, including PFI & shared ownership	2516	-
Social rent	2516	-
Affordable rent	0	-
Total value of stock at January 1999 prices (in millions of pounds)	145.157	-
Total value of social rent stock at January 1999 prices (in millions of pounds)	145.157	-
Changes to local authority owned stock over 2021 - 2022		
Number of demolitions	21	-
Number of demolitions of which were supported homes	21	-
Number of conversions resulting in an increase in dwellings	0	-
Number of conversions resulting in a decrease in dwellings	0	-
Number of acquisitions	0	-
Number of any other additions to local authority stock	0	-
Number of any other losses to local authority stock	0	-

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Live tables on dwelling stock (2023)

Figure 79 Lettings and nominations

Letting and nominations	Adur	Worthing
Dwellings let to existing social housing tenants transferring into LAs own stock from a social housing dwelling		
Total lettings to existing social tenants	20	-
Dwellings let to new tenants to social housing		
Total lettings to new tenants	35	-
Dwellings let through mutual exchanges		
Total lettings through mutual exchanges	0	0
Total local authority dwellings let		
Total dwellings let	55	-
Of which, lettings within general needs housing	46	103
Of which, lettings within supported housing	9	-
Nominations taken up		
Private Registered Provider dwellings let to households in response to a nomination	7	130
Other social landlord dwellings (not PRP) let to households in response to a nomination	0	0
Lettings and nominations to UK armed forces		
Number of households with a member of the UK armed forces community given additional preference that have been let a dwelling	0	0

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Live tables on dwelling stock (2023)

Figure 80 Vacant property information

Vacant	Adur	Worthing
Dwellings in the local authority		
Local authority owned (including those owned by other local authorities)	72	-
Dwellings vacant for 0 – 6 weeks		
Vacant but available for letting	11	-
Vacant but are not available for letting	1	-
Total	12	-
Dwellings vacant for between 6 weeks and 6 months		
Vacant but available for letting	29	-
Vacant but not available for letting	9	-
Total	38	-
Dwellings vacant for over 6 months		
Vacant but available for letting	14	-
Vacant but not available for lettings	8	-
Total	22	-
Total dwellings vacant		
Vacant but available for letting	54	-
Vacant but not available for letting	18	-
Total	72	-

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Live tables on dwelling stock (2023)

Figure 81 Affordable housing supply

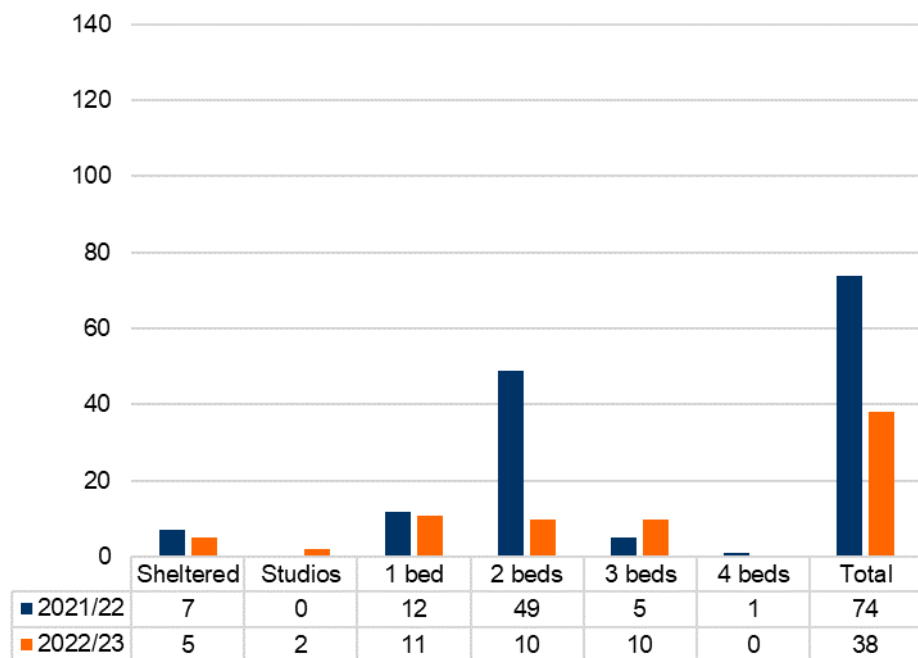
Affordable housing supply	Adur	Worthing
New build affordable housing: Owned by local authority, not reported to Homes England or the GLA		
Social rent	0	0
Affordable rent	0	0
Intermediate rent	0	0
Ownership	0	0
Shared Ownership	0	0
First homes	0	0
Total units	0	0
New build affordable housing: Owned by private registered providers (including Has) not reported to Home England or the GLA		
Social rent	0	0
Affordable rent	0	0
Intermediate rent	0	0
Ownership	0	0
Shared Ownership	0	11
First homes	0	0
Total units	0	11
New build affordable housing: Owned by non-registered providers		
Social rent	0	0
Affordable rent	29	0
Intermediate rent	0	0
Ownership	0	0
Shared Ownership	6	0
First homes	0	0
Total units	35	0
Provision of additional affordable housing other than new build (acquisitions)		

Affordable housing supply	Adur	Worthing
Total owned by local authority (not reported to Homes England)	0	0
Total owned by Private Registered Providers (not reported to Homes England)	0	0
Total owned by non-registered provider	0	0
Affordable units granted final planning permission during the year		
For social rent	120	20
For affordable rent	4	32
For intermediate rent	19	0
For affordable home ownership	99	0
For shared ownership	1	14
For first homes	0	0
For unknown affordable tenure	0	0
For total number of units	243	66
Housing		
Amount of discounted or free land received during last year (hectares)	0	0
Financial contributions from planning obligations (s106) held at the start of the year (£000s)	0	0
Financial contributions from planning obligations (s106) received during financial year (£000s)	0	2116
Financial contributions from planning obligations (s106) spent during financial year (£000s)	0	168

Affordable housing supply	Adur	Worthing
Scheme grants		
Total number of grants	0	0
Total expenditure (£000s)	0	0

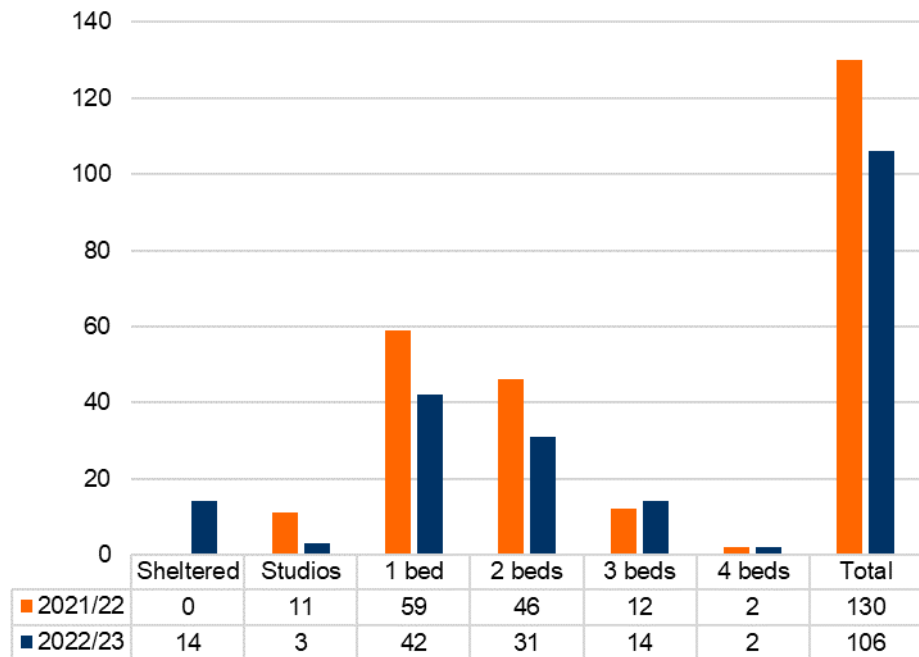
Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Live tables on dwelling stock (2023)

Figure 82 Number of properties let in Adur



Source: Local data received from councils

Figure 83 Number of properties let in Worthing.



Source: Local data received from councils

Figure 84 Breakdown of social stock owning providers in Adur

Social stocks owning providers in Adur		Number of additional LAs PRP operates in	Total Social Stock (unweighted)	% Total Social Stock in area
All units:			3,807	100%
Adur District Council	LARP	-	2,516	66.1%
Clarion Housing Association Limited	Large	173	200	5.3%
Habinteg Housing Association Limited	Large	79	7	0.2%
Home Group Limited	Large	188	4	0.1%
Housing 21	Large	206	51	1.3%

Social stocks owning providers in Adur		Number of additional LAs PRP operates in	Total Social Stock (unweighted)	% Total Social Stock in area
Hyde Housing Association Limited	Large	46	188	4.9%
London & Quadrant Housing Trust	Large	127	1	0.0%
Metropolitan Housing Trust Limited	Large	127	1	0.0%
Moat Homes Limited	Large	93	1	0.0%
Optivo	Large	58	16	0.4%
Orbit Group Limited	Large	80	3	0.1%
Sanctuary Housing Association	Large	216	25	0.7%
Southdown Housing Association Limited	Small	11	8	0.2%
Southern Housing Group Limited	Large	83	369	9.7%
Stonewater Limited	Large	113	42	1.1%
The Fellowship Houses Trust	Small	3	21	0.6%
The Guinness Partnership Limited	Large	140	224	5.9%
Westmoreland Supported Housing Limited	Small	59	4	0.1%

Social stocks owning providers in Adur		Number of additional LAs PRP operates in	Total Social Stock (unweighted)	% Total Social Stock in area
Worthing Homes Limited	Large	5	126	3.3%

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Live tables on dwelling stock (2023)

Figure 85 Breakdown of social stock owning providers in Worthing

Social stocks owning providers in Worthing		Number of additional LAs PRP operates in	Total Social Stock (unweighted)	% Total Social Stock in area
All units:			5,087	100%
Worthing Borough Council	LARP	-	36	0.7%
Ability Housing Association	Small	30	17	0.3%
Anchor Hanover Group	Large	255	65	1.3%
Clarion Housing Association Limited	Large	173	205	4.0%
Golden Lane Housing Limited	Large	199	7	0.1%
Guild Care	Small	-	42	0.8%
Home Group Limited	Large	188	55	1.1%
Housing 21	Large	206	44	0.9%
Hyde Housing Association Limited	Large	46	76	1.5%
London & Quadrant Housing Trust	Large	127	2	0.0%
Moat Homes Limited	Large	93	3	0.1%
Optivo	Large	58	295	5.8%

Social stocks owning providers in Worthing		Number of additional LAs PRP operates in	Total Social Stock (unweighted)	% Total Social Stock in area
Pearson's & St Elizabeth's Cottage Homes	Small	-	74	1.5%
Places for People Homes Limited	Large	207	134	2.6%
Sanctuary Housing Association	Large	216	163	3.2%
Saxon Weald	Large	12	101	2.0%
Southdown Housing Association Limited	Small	11	39	0.8%
Southern Housing Group Limited	Large	83	596	11.7%
Stonewater Limited	Large	113	117	2.3%
The Fellowship Houses Trust	Small	3	6	0.1%
The Guinness Partnership Limited	Large	140	14	0.3%
Two Saints Limited	Small	12	9	0.2%
Worthing Homes Limited	Large	5	2,958	58.1%
YMCA Downslink Group	Small	6	29	0.6%

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Live tables on dwelling stock (2023)

Figure 86 Stock management

Stock management	Adur	Worthing
Management of local authority stock		
Average relet time (days)	101.3	0
Evictions obtained by local authority landlords		
Number of evictions during the period	3	0

Stock management	Adur	Worthing
Of which, for rent arrears	2	0
Of which, for anti-social behaviour	0	0
Of which, for both	1	0
Of which, for other reason	0	0

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Live tables on dwelling stock (2023)

Figure 87 Rent and rent arrears (national access)

Rent and rent arrears	Adur	Worthing
Current tenants' cumulative arrears of rent at the end of the last full collection period excluding arrears of council tax, water rates and heating/service charges (in £s)	492,680.95	-
Former tenants' cumulative arrears of rent at the end of the last full collection period excluding arrears of council tax, water rates and heating/service charges (in £s)	524,677.21	-
Rent arrears written off the HRA	0	-
Total value of rent roll (including rent rebates) (in £s)	12,682,024.07	-
Rent reductions and refunds (in £s)	0	-
Rent loss on void dwellings (in £s)	60,551.4	-
Rent income to HRA (i.e., total rent collectable) (in £s)	12,621,473	-
Total cumulative arrears as a percentage of rent roll	8	-
Rent collection rate expressed as a percentage	100	-

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Live tables on dwelling stock (2023)

10.3.1 Demand

Figure 88 to Figure 90 provide further information about the demand for housing in Adur and Worthing.

Figure 88 Application status - Worthing (Housing Register Live & Housed Cases)

Housing register live application status	Count	%
Housed	1791	32%
Live	1769	32%
Removed	1375	25%
Awaiting further info	392	7%
REG - do not validate	89	2%
Suspended	51	1%
COC- Awaiting Information	34	1%
Unassigned	12	0%
REG-Assigned	10	0%
Workflow	4	0%
REG - Incomplete	4	0%
COC - Incomplete	3	0%
Homeless Duty Accepted	1	0%
Total	5535	100%

Source: Local data provided from the councils

Housing waiting list		
	Adur	Worthing
Waiting list criteria		
Includes a residency test and/or local connection test	Both	Both
Years required in local authority to pass residency test	2 years	2 years
Disqualifies households with rent arrears	No	No

Housing waiting list		
	Adur	Worthing
Reasonable preference group		
Total households on the housing waiting list in a reasonable preference category	143	323
People who are homeless regardless of whether there is a statutory duty to house them	0	0
People owed duty by any local housing authority are occupying accommodation secured by any such authority under the Act	0	0
People occupying insanitary or overcrowded housing or otherwise living in unsatisfactory housing conditions	2	0
People who need to move on medical or welfare grounds, including ground relating to a disability	88	237
People who need to move to a particular locality in the district of the authority, where failure to meet that need would cause hardship to themselves or others	2	0
Additional preference group		
Number of households in reasonable preference groups with urgent housing needs given additional preference	0	79
Number of households of reasonable preference groups with members of the Armed Forces community	0	0

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Live tables on dwelling stock (2023)

Figure 89 Social and affordable rent

Rents	Adur					Worthing				
	LARP		PRP		Average	LARP		PRP		Average
	Net rent (per week)	Unit count	Net rent (per week)	Unit count	Net rent (per week)	Net rent (per week)	Unit count	Net rent (per week)	Unit count	Net rent (per week)
Social rent										
General needs	£95.50	2,240	£115.15	721	£100.28	£117.16	36	£104.09	3,726	£104.22
Bedsit	£70.59	126	-	-	£70.59	£95.00	1	£74.52	113	£74.70
1 Bedroom	£83.65	455	£93.53	77	£85.08	£110.24	26	£88.67	1,010	£89.21
2 Bedroom	£94.69	874	£108.19	256	£97.75	£139.61	9	£104.76	1,228	£105.01
3 Bedroom	£106.90	751	£122.85	358	£112.05	-	-	£116.45	1,302	£116.45
4 Bedroom	£114.72	33	£138.15	30	£125.88	-	-	£131.60	68	£131.60
5 Bedroom	£136.55	1	-	-	£136.55	-	-	£123.39	2	£123.39
6+ Bedroom	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£134.77	3	£134.77
All self-contained	£95.50	2,240	£115.15	721	£100.28	£117.16	36	£104.09	3,726	£104.22
Supported housing/housing for older people	£84.80	276	£87.92	190	£86.80	-	-	£91.15	529	£91.15

Non-self-contained	-	-	£93.20	17	£93.20	-	-	£112.02	35	£112.02
Bedsit	£73.31	22	£75.40	54	£74.80	-	-	£77.60	107	£77.60
1 Bedroom	£85.04	245	£91.08	111	£86.92	-	-	£91.23	360	£91.23
2 Bedroom	£95.24	6	£110.71	4	£101.43	-	-	£116.53	24	£116.53
3 Bedroom	£129.25	3	£124.19	4	£126.36	-	-	£119.18	3	£119.18
4+ Bedroom	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All self-contained	£84.80	276	£87.41	173	£85.81	-	-	£89.68	494	£89.68
Affordable rent										
General needs	-	-	£163.86	132	£163.86	-	-	£154.61	246	£154.61
Non-self-contained	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bedsit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 Bedroom	-	-	£138.90	23	£138.90	-	-	-	-	-
2 Bedroom	-	-	£166.38	69	£166.38	-	-	£120.48	61	£120.48
3 Bedroom	-	-	£174.30	38	£174.30	-	-	£157.04	145	£157.04
4 Bedroom	-	-	£165.27	2	£165.27	-	-	£188.65	31	£188.65
5 Bedroom	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£229.42	9	£229.42

6+ Bedroom	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All self-contained	-	-	£163.86	132	£163.86	-	-	-	-	-
Supported housing/housing for older people	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Regulator of Social Housing, Registered provider social housing stock and rents in England 2021 to 2022 (2023)

Figure 90 Reason for evictions

Main reasons for eviction or notice being served	Adur	Worthing
Under 25		
Rent arrears	2	0
LTR granted / turned 18 / tenancy ready	2	15
ASB	1	6
Safety at risk	0	3
Over 25s		
ASB	1	17
Drug/alcohol behaviours	0	10
Drug/alcohol relapse	0	9
Rent arrears	0	5

Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Local Authority Housing Statistics dataset, England 2021-22 (2022)

10.4 Profile of cohort

Figure 91 to Figure 100 provide demographic information about applicants to the housing register in Worthing.

Figure 91 Age (housing register applicants)

Age	No.	%
Under 18	1,425	4%
18-24	708	4%
25-34	934	8%
35-44	743	10%
45-54	460	13%
55-64	253	15%
65-74	101	18%
75+	51	29%
Total	4,675	100%

Source: Local data received from councils

Figure 92 Gender (housing register applicants)

Gender	No.	%
Female	2,264	48%
Male	2,331	50%
Other	3	0%
Prefer not to say	1	0%
Unknown	9	0%
(blank)	67	1%
Total	4,675	100%

Source: Local data received from councils

Figure 93 Number of children (housing register applicants)

Number of children	No.	%
0	2,020	43%
1	401	9%
2	260	6%
3	93	2%
4	26	1%
5	12	0%
6	2	0%
7	1	0%
9	1	0%
(blank)	1,859	40%
Total	4,675	100%

Source: Local data received from councils

Figure 94 Duties owed to applicant (housing register applicants)

Duties owed to applicant	No.	%
Already homeless – Relief Duty owed (include accepted local connection referrals)	1718	37%
Legacy case – (pre HRA also includes pre HRA reapplications)	35	1%
Not eligible / no longer eligible	4	0%
Not threatened with homelessness within 56 days	102	2%
Threatened with homelessness – Prevention Duty owed	682	15%
Threatened with homelessness due to service of valid Section 21 Notice – Prevention Duty owed	253	5%
Withdrew application before assessment	3	0%
(blank)	1,878	40%
Total	4,675	100%

Source: Local data received from councils

Figure 95 Ethnicity (housing register applicants)

Ethnicity	No.	%
Any other Axxxx background	21	0%
Any other Black/African/Caribbean background	10	0%
Any other ethnic group	21	0%
Any other Mixed/Multiple ethnic background	6	0%
Any other White background	113	2%
Any other White background Any other White background	1	0%
Axxxx/Axxxx British: Bangladeshi	21	0%
Axxxx/Axxxx British: Chinese	5	0%

Ethnicity	No.	%
Axxxx/Axxxx British: Indian	3	0%
Axxxx/Axxxx British: Pakistani	7	0%
Black/ African/Caribbean/Black British: African	76	2%
Black/ African/Caribbean/Black British: Caribbean	14	0%
Don't know / refused	110	2%
Don't know / refused Don't know / refused	4	0%
Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups: xxxx and Axxxx	11	0%
Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups: xxxx and Black African	5	0%
Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups: xxxx and Black Caribbean	12	0%
Other ethnic group: Arab	11	0%
Other ethnic group: Arab White: English/Welsh/xxxxish/Northern Irish/Briti White: English/Welsh/xxxxish/Northern Irish/Briti	1	0%
White: English/Welsh/xxxxish/Northern Irish/Briti	29	1%
White: English/Welsh/xxxxish/Northern Irish/Briti White: English/Welsh/xxxxish/Northern Irish/Briti	11	0%
White: English/Welsh/xxxxish/Northern Irish/British	2328	50%
White: English/Welsh/xxxxish/Northern Irish/British White: English/Welsh/xxxxish/Northern Irish/Briti White: English/Welsh/xxxxish/Northern Irish/Briti	10	0%
White: English/Welsh/xxxxish/Northern Irish/British White: Irish White: Irish	1	0%
White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller	8	0%
White: Irish	6	0%

Ethnicity	No.	%
(blank)	1,830	39%
Total	4,675	100%

Source: Local data received from councils

Figure 96 Sexual orientation (housing register applicants)

Sexual orientation	No.	%
Applicant Prefers not to say	360	8%
Applicant Prefers not to say Heterosexual / Straight Heterosexual / Straight	1	0%
Bisexual	7	0%
Gay / Lesbian	52	1%
Heterosexual / Straight	2386	51%
Heterosexual / Straight Heterosexual / Straight	10	0%
Heterosexual / Straight Heterosexual / Straight Heterosexual / Straight	7	0%
Other Other	1	0%
Other sexual orientation	30	1%
Other sexual orientation Heterosexual / Straight	1	0%
Other sexual orientation Other sexual orientation	1	0%
Prefer not to say	1	0%
(blank)	1,818	39%
Total	4,675	100%

Source: Local data received from councils

Figure 97 Employment status (housing register applicants)

Employment status	No.	%
Not working because of long term sickness or disability	813	17%
Registered unemployed	703	15%
Working: 30 hours a week or more (contracted, regular or guaranteed)	329	7%
Working: less than 30 hours a week (contracted, regular or guaranteed)	312	7%
At home/not seeking work (including looking after the home or family)	277	6%
Retired (including retired early)	115	2%
Don't know / Refused	83	2%
Not registered unemployed but seeking work	68	1%
Other	41	1%
Full-time student	19	0%
Registered employed but currently off work due to ill health / disability on reduced or SSP	14	0%
Working: irregular hours with variable or irregular pay	14	0%
Training Scheme / apprenticeship	7	0%
Registered employed but currently off work on maternity/paternity / adoption leave on reduced or statutory pay (i.e. SMP)	5	0%
(blank)	1,875	40%
Total	4,675	100%

Source: Local data received from councils

Figure 98 Benefits claimed by household towards housing costs (housing register applicants)

Benefits claimed by household towards housing costs	No.	%
Housing Benefit	1,077	23%
No benefits	1,020	22%
Universal Credit	457	10%
Don't know / refused	121	3%
(blank)	2,000	43%
Total	4,675	100%

Source: Local data received from councils

Figure 99 Benefits claimed by household towards other living costs (housing register applicants)

Benefits claimed by household towards other living costs	No.	%
Universal Credit	1,484	32%
No benefits claims made / refused to answer	458	10%
Employment and Support Allowance	271	6%
Tax Credits (WTC, CTC)	209	4%
Disability Benefits (PIP, DLA, AA, IB, IIDB)	187	4%
State Pension and/or Pensioner Credit (PC)	108	2%
Income Support / CA	42	1%
Jobseeker's Allowance	28	1%
Bereavement Benefits (BP, WPA, BA, BSP)	1	0%
(blank)	1,887	40%
Total	4,675	100%

Source: Local data received from councils

Figure 100 Current accommodation (housing register applicants)

Housing register application: Current accommodation	Count	%
N/A	3,594	65%
Flat	871	16%
House	628	11%
Room	147	3%
Other	102	2%
Studio	85	2%
Bungalow	71	1%
Maisonette	28	1%
Caravan/non-traditional dwelling	8	0%
Night Shelter	3	0%
Total	5537	100%

Source: Local data received from councils



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