

Protocol for prioritising with the Home Office the cases of individuals with uncertain immigration status who are rough sleeping in London

Background

It can be particularly difficult to find solutions for rough sleepers, mostly from outside the European Economic Area, who (appear to) have no recourse to public funds. Non-EEA nationals accounted for 13% of those seen sleeping rough in London in 2012/13. Their immigration status can result in or extend their presence on the streets. For this reason, the Home Office agreed, in spring 2013, that it would look into the cases of persistent rough sleepers with uncertain immigration status.

This document seeks to set out the process for this and the responsibilities of the GLA, London authorities and the Home Office.

It is important to note that, because these cases tend, by their nature to be complex, there is no guarantee that the cases can be processed quickly.

