

The Mayor's Rough Sleeping Plan of Action 2018

Rough sleeper sitting on the street

Key information

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Overview

The Mayor has published London's first ever Rough Sleeping Plan of Action to ensure a sustainable route off the streets for every single rough sleeper.

This sets out for the first time what the Mayor, the Government and others must do to end rough sleeping once and for all.

Purpose of the plan

The wide-ranging plan covers preventing rough sleeping and providing a rapid response, sustainable accommodation as well as solutions and support to ensure that people on the street can move on with their lives.

The plan outlines:

- what the Mayor will do now, within his current powers and resources
- what could be done with more Government investment
- what other changes to structures, legislation or other practices are needed.

Importantly, it also sets out a range of actions for the Government. These include investing £574m (£261m of revenue and £313m of capital) over five years on a range of much-needed new services, initiatives and programmes that the Mayor and other partners would deliver, as well making as a raft of wider changes.

In particular, the plan calls on the Government to:

- reverse welfare reforms that are fuelling homelessness and making it harder to solve

- support a new 'Places of Safety' network - immediate safe places for rough sleepers to go – and fund new assessment hubs where rough sleepers go next with outreach workers to develop a plan of support
- boost funding so councils can meet their duties under the Homelessness Reduction Act
- invest additional funding in developing new homes earmarked for rough sleepers, and obtain new funding to support rough sleepers once they are housed, as well as for a pan-London 'Housing First' initiative
- improve mental health and substance use services to rough sleepers.

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