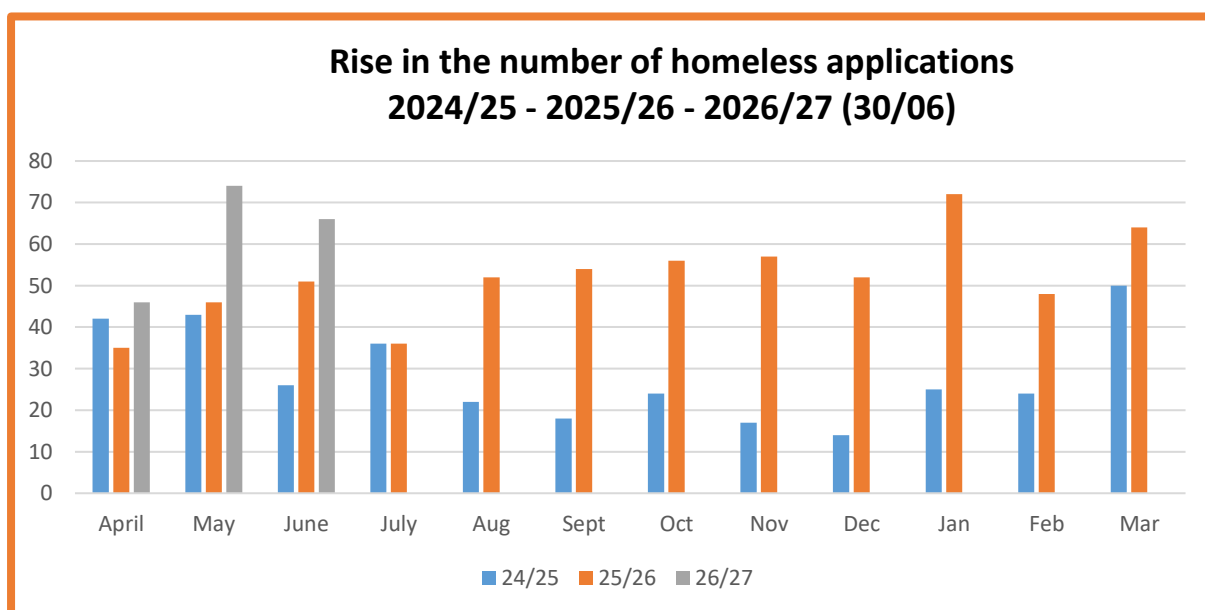
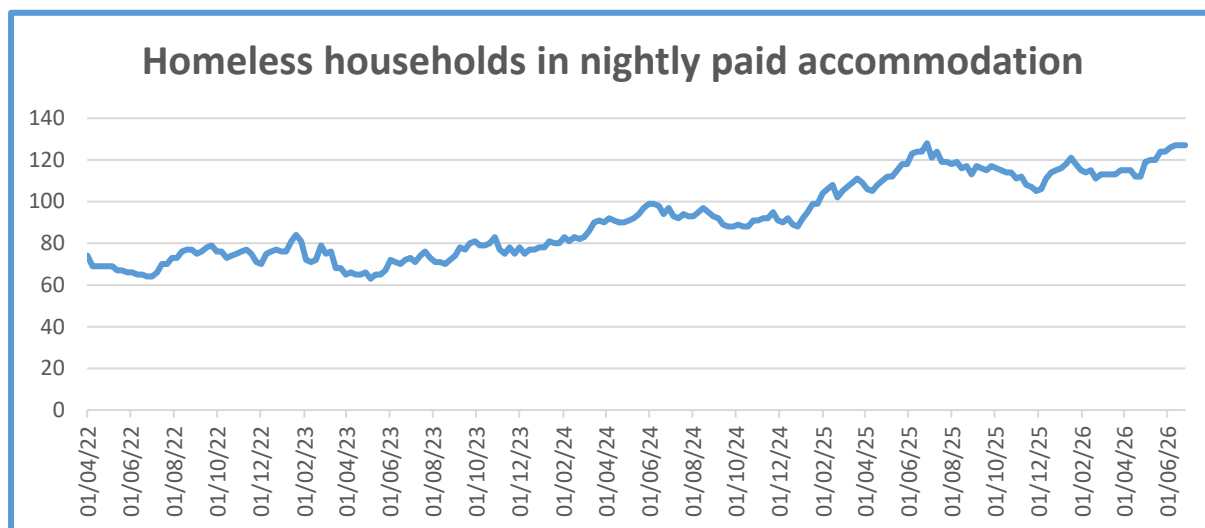


Temporary Accommodation Q1 Performance

The updated forecast for end June 2026 is a net adverse variance of £0.250m, due to the continued elevated numbers of households in temporary accommodation (TA).

The tables below show the total number of homeless households in nightly paid accommodation over the past four years and the huge rise (86%) in homelessness applications over the past two years.



A report detailing the expenditure and an action plan is going to the Community and Wellbeing Committee on 6th October 2026. This report includes a summary of the measures which housing are implementing following the service review, specifically in relation to homelessness prevention and move-on from temporary accommodation, with the aim of reducing not only the numbers but also the length of time spent in temporary accommodation (TA).

Nevertheless, there is concern that homelessness numbers will remain high and possibly rise still further, particularly with the onset of winter, which historically sees increased demand. The root causes are both national and local, including a prolonged shortage of newly

developed affordable housing, such that no new affordable housing was delivered during the past year.

The review of service delivery, highlights that without access to sufficient affordable accommodation, and with much of the private rental sector remaining unaffordable, temporary accommodation (TA) usage may increase further.

This situation has developed over several years and reflects broader systemic issues. Continued efforts to improve service delivery are ongoing, but structural housing challenges remain a significant barrier. The service review seeks to address some of the challenges.

It is worth noting that £750k growth budget was put into the nightly paid service for 2026/27 to address some of the structural deficit in this area. Furthermore, the budget has been further increased by £128.5k in year, funded from the inflationary provision.

Housing & Homelessness Service Update

The main aspects of the housing service review, focussed on where the pressures are most acute, where resources are most stretched and where the proposed changes could have the most significant impact. The review focusses on the length of time spent in temporary accommodation rather than solely the total number of households.

The review proposes a more proactive and creative approach to spending the Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Domestic Abuse Grant in line with government guidance to spend the majority share on prevention-based activity.

The approach advocated by the review is in the process of being implemented and progress against the main points listed below.

- *Realigned the focus of the rent deposit officer post to take a more proactive approach with landlords and households in long-term TA. The post will work closely with the existing and new move on officer posts and commenced early September.*
- *Improved referral process to ETHOS, employment support project, to increase the employment prospects and income of households in TA, which will subsequently increase their options in the private rented sector.*
- *New post created to cover hospital discharge to cover both physical and mental health discharge commenced July 2026, in order to reduce the number and complexity of referrals.*
- *Housing adviser upskilled and moved to the housing options team, to ensure more effective triage with earlier intervention and better quality advice.*
- *Increased resource for the management of temporary accommodation placements and the administration of the housing needs register, to help improve the link between temporary and settled accommodation, and to process the increase in housing register related activity.*
- *New standard operating procedures produced and implemented, in order to improve the management and, where necessary, the termination of temporary accommodation placements.*