



South Somerset District Council

Freedom of Information Act (2000) & Environmental Information Regulation (2004)

Information Request Reference Number: 302

RESPONSE

You have asked South Somerset District Council for the following information:-

- 1) How many individual rough sleepers have been identified in your area during the calendar year 2019 (January to December)?
South Somerset District Council does not record this information. The annual snapshot for 2019 was 8.
- 2) If known, how many individual rough sleepers have been identified in your area during the calendar years 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018? Please provide an answer for any of those years for which you have data.
South Somerset District Council does not record this information. The annual snapshot for 2015 was 6, 2016 was 8, 2017 was 4 and 2018 was 3.
- 3) If available, how many of the rough sleepers identified during 2019 were found accommodation?
South Somerset District Council does not record this information.
- 4) Please could you explain or link to what your authority does to identify rough sleepers and assist them to come off the streets.
We identify rough sleepers in a number of ways. South Somerset District Council relies on intelligence gathered from the general public via this [site](#), and from our partner agencies including Citizens Advice, the Police, and Street Pastors.

Staff from the Council's Council Housing staff are directly involved in the annual rough sleeper counts, and we receive information from other Council staff who are out in the community eg early morning street cleaners and staff managing our country parks.

The Council has a service level agreement with a Housing Association for a range of services including outreach and direct access hostel provision. We work with Yeovil Community Church who engage with our clients. The Council funds a homeless drop in centre, a drug and alcohol counselling service and a rough sleeper worker.

Please review the information on our website regarding the [re-use of Public Sector Information](#).