



FIRM **FOUNDATION** PROVISION • SUSTAINABILITY • PREVENTION

Winter Night Shelter Report 2019

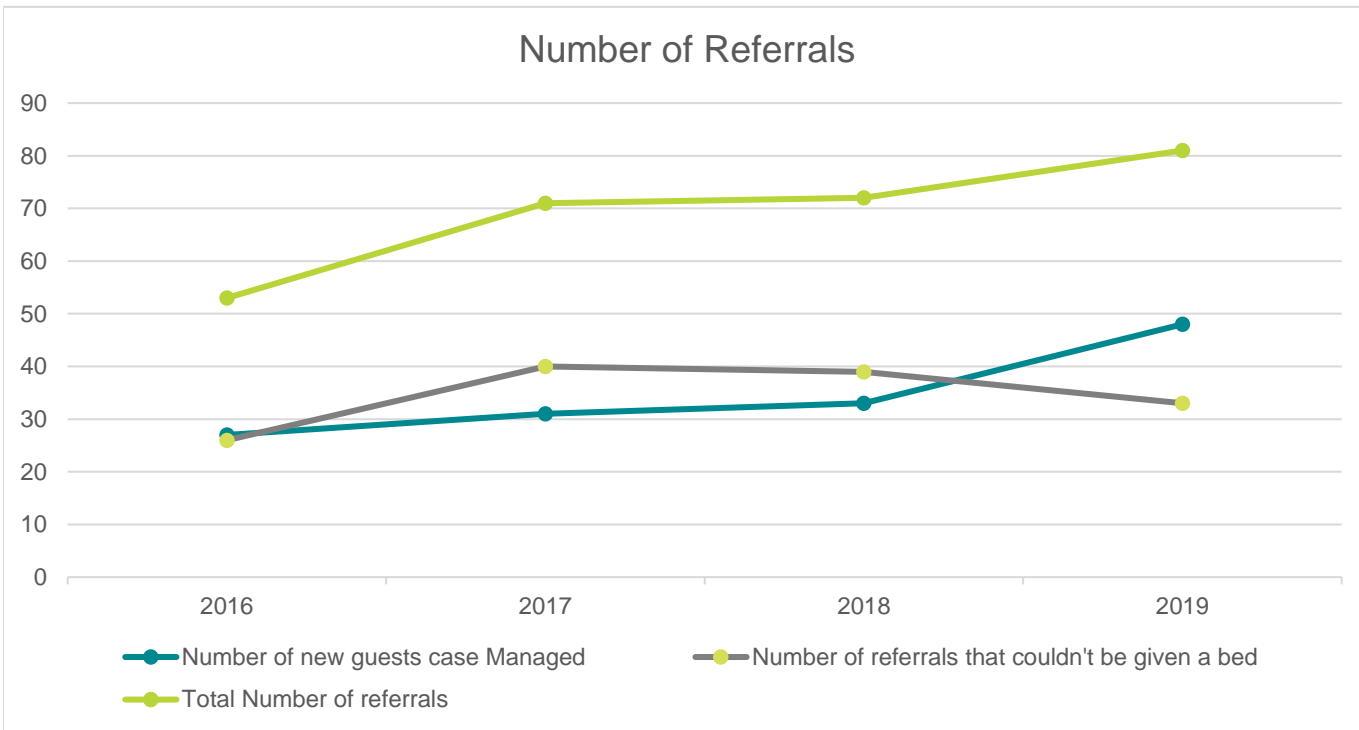
FirmFoundation's 9th Annual Winter Night Shelter

The Shelter

We have been serving People experiencing Homelessness in Harrow for 9 Years

Our Largest Shelter To Date

This year was FirmFoundation's largest Shelter running from December 30th 2018 and concluding March 31st 2019. This year saw more bed spaces available than ever before, 15 beds for men and 8 for women, with a total capacity of 23. The Shelter received a total of 81 referrals, the most since the Night Shelter began 9 years ago.



The Night Shelter has continued to grow in size to meet the increased need. The additional bed spaces has also meant that more of our referrals have been given beds. The result is that those who were not successful in securing a bed has fallen for the second year.

Volunteers

This year our volunteers gave over **2,800** hours of their time to serve at the shelter. This is a total of **£29540** at the London Living Wage.

After serving over **1,300** amazing meals and offering incredible hospitality we would like to thank everyone who played a part in the success of this year's shelter.

Special appreciation is given to our Overnight Volunteers. We had 32 Males and 24 Females stay one or more nights this year.

Special Thanks to our Volunteers and Funders

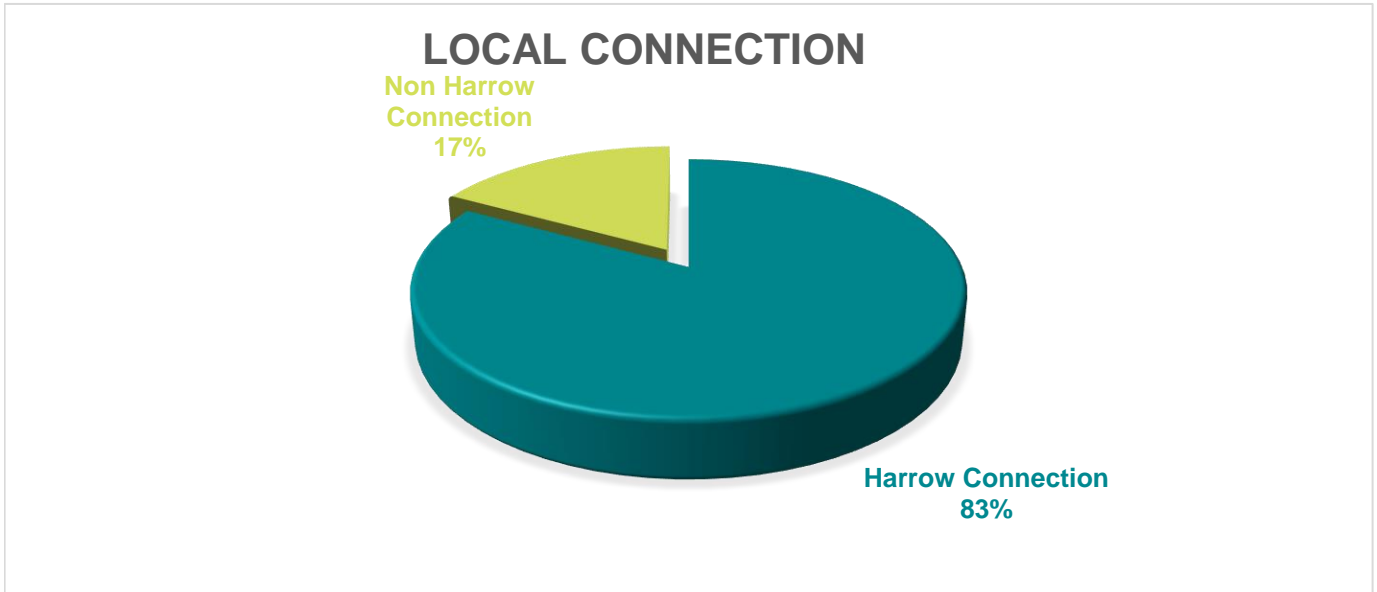
- Agape Church
- All Saints Church
- Beatrice Laing Trust
- Catch the Fire London
- Central Harrow Churches
- Cornerstone Church
- Drapers Charitable Trust
- Enfield Church
- Harrow Baptist Church
- Hatch End Baptist Church
- HICC
- Housing Justice
- ICC Missions
- Kings Church
- Kolchai Synagogue
- London Diocesan Fund
- Marsh Christian Trust
- Methodist Church
- Our Lady Church
- Persula Foundation
- Pret Foundation
- Rayners Lane Baptist Church
- Six Crown Street Harrow on the Hill
- South Harrow Baptist
- St Johns Church (Harrow)
- St Johns Church (Stanmore)
- St Joseph's Church
- St Lawrence Church
- St Mary's Church
- St Michaels Church
- St Paul's Church
- St Peters Church
- Stanmore Baptist Church
- Street Pastors
- The Albert Hunt Trust
- The Hatch End Singers
- The R Callingham Foundation

We would also like to give a huge appreciation to **Trinity Church** who made available their facilities and buildings for the duration of the shelter once again.

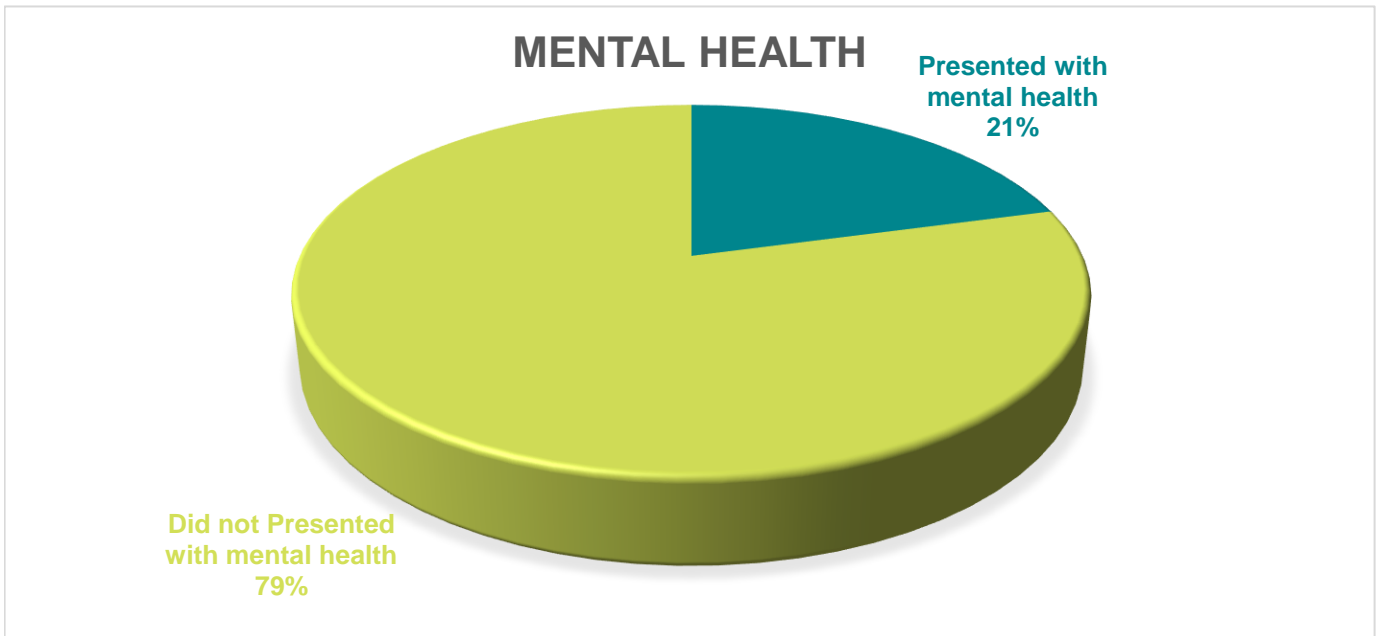
Our Guests

A total of 47 Guests 38 men and 9 women

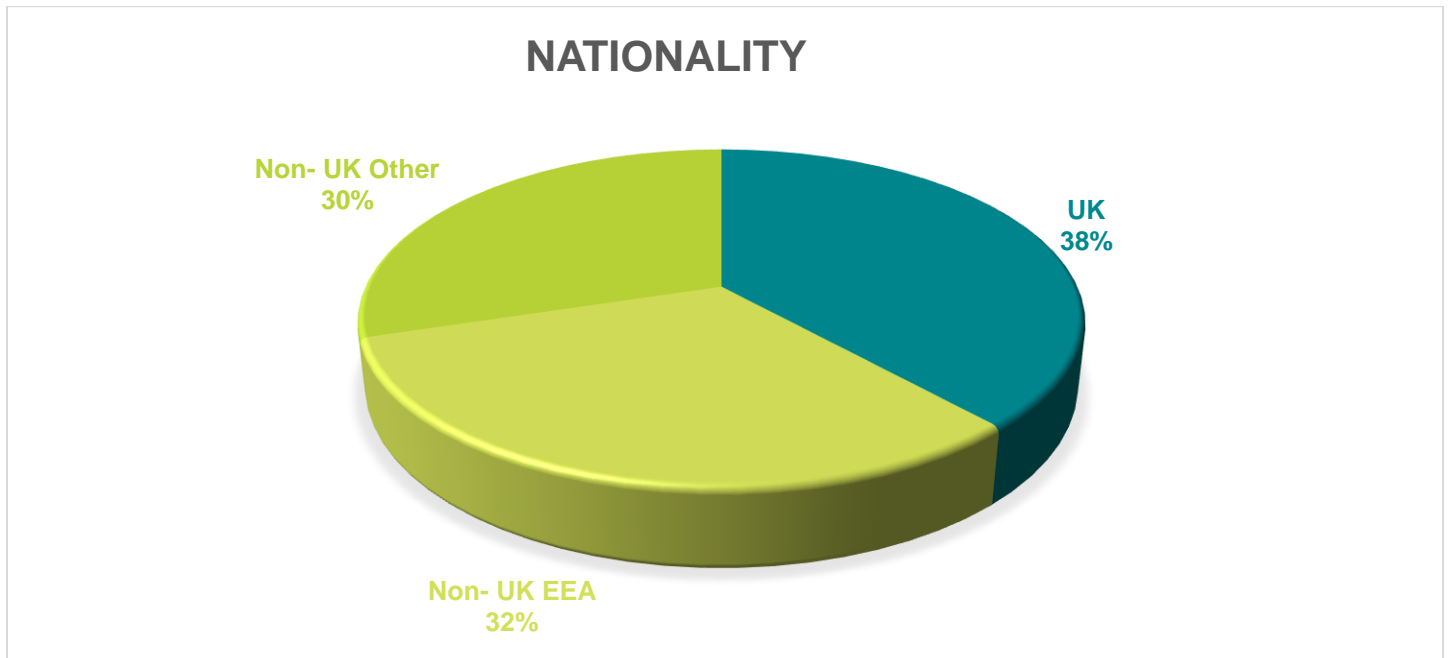
As in previous years the majority of our guests were local to Harrow. This has continued to be the case with 83% having local a connection. The Shelter also provided a safe space for conversations and a sense of community.



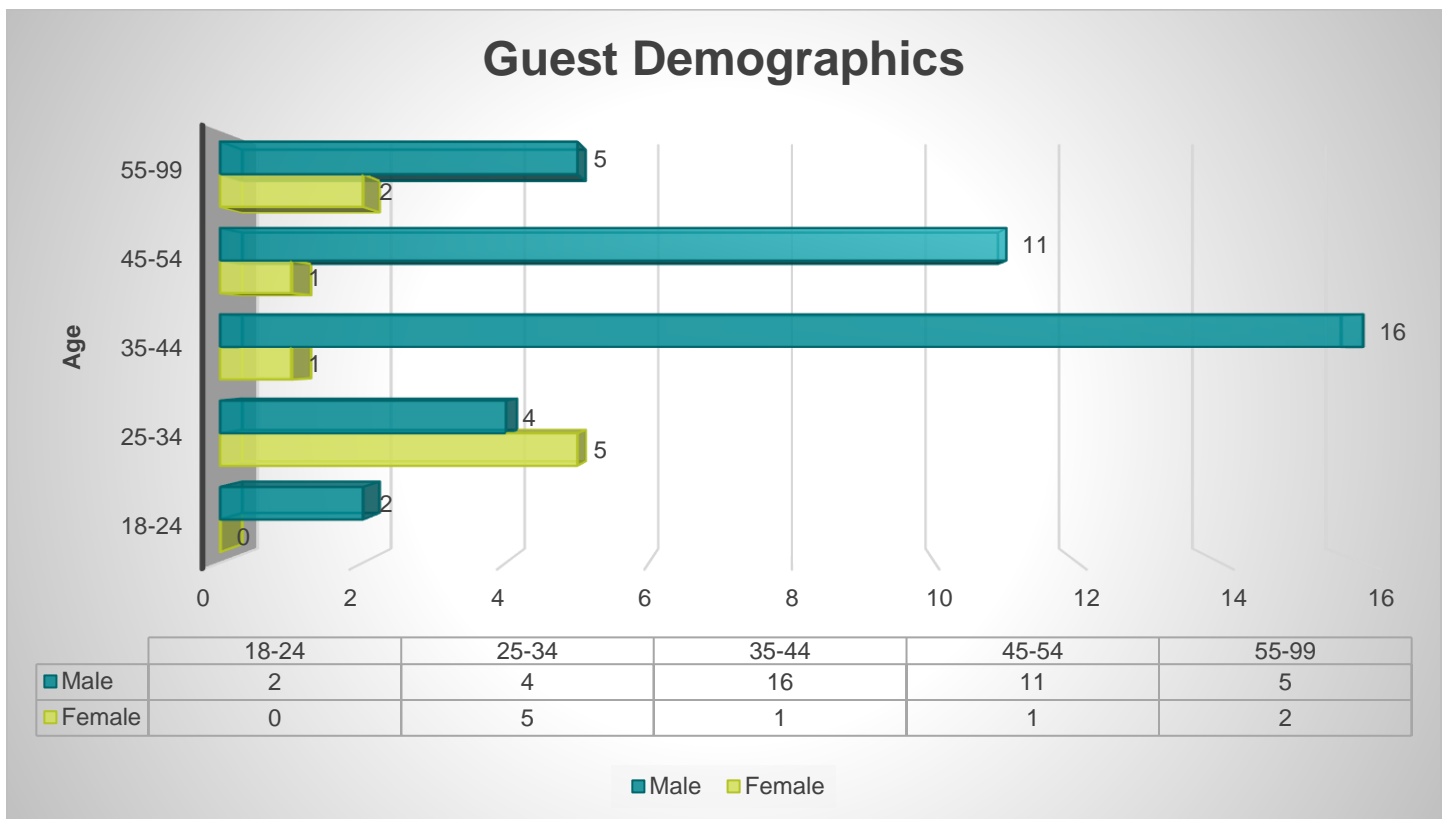
21% of our guests presented with mental health issues.



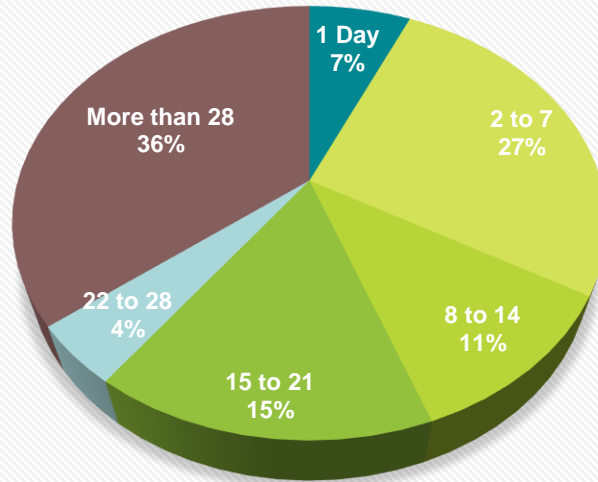
Guests from the UK made up just under 40% of the Shelter a 20% decrease from the previous year. Non-UK rose by 18% and EEA Nationals by 2%.



The Shelter provided bed spaces for a total of 38 men and 9 women. Our youngest guest was aged 18 years to our oldest at 67 years old.



Length of stay (DAYS)



■ 1 Day ■ 2 to 7 ■ 8 to 14 ■ 15 to 21 ■ 22 to 28 ■ More than 28



A total of 1318 bed spaces were used over the Shelter period.

A fantastic 18 guests were housed or had good outcomes.

2 of our guests are now in Hope Place, FirmFoundation's Supported Accommodation.

Gallery



Bob Blackman MP for Harrow East visited the Shelter again this year.



FirmFoundation is proud to have been chosen as one of the Mayor's charities and received a visit from the Mayor of Harrow.



A visit from the Harrow Boys School and teachers.



Thank you for all the support from the Pret Foundation Trust again this year.



Cllr Keith Ferry, Cllr Sue Anderson and Cllr Jeff Anderson



**Our fantastic
Catering Teams**

Case Studies



A 34 year old female who had been rough sleeping for over two years and with mental health issues used the Shelter. Working with mental health services and FirmFoundation resulted in an appropriate hospital admittance and receiving the assistance she needed.



An 18 year old care leaver sleeping rough was given a bed space while accommodation was being located through Harrow Council. He was then offered a space at the YMCA young person's service.



A 38 year old male sleeping rough and wanting to return to his country of origin, stayed at the Shelter. His documentation had been lost/stolen and was not able to travel. FirmFoundation arranged the correct documents which enabled him to return home with our assistance.

Conclusion

The 2019 Night Shelter has been FirmFoundation's ninth consecutive Shelter. Originally, with spaces for 10 males, we have grown the service to meet the increasing numbers of rough sleepers. This year we were able to offer twenty-three bed spaces, eight for women and fifteen for men.

This has been our largest Shelter to date, the duration of the Shelter was extended, and the number of bed spaces increased. Over the thirteen-week project FirmFoundation received eighty-one referrals which is up from 2018 and were able to offer bed spaces to forty-seven guests, nine women and thirty-eight men. This is an increase from 2018 and saw good outcomes for eighteen of our guests.

In previous years we have witnessed a rise in guests presenting with mental health issues and so in this year's Shelter we partnered with an organisation specialising in mental health and rough sleepers. This was a successful partnership and we will be looking to extend this service to support our guests in the future.

Some of the Shelter's challenges this year have been the increase in numbers and the subsequent impact on the premises we use as well as assisting those without access to benefits, leaving limited options to end their homelessness.

Finally, it is a huge thank you to our volunteers, without whom we could not provide a service such as the Night Shelter. Over one hundred and thirty people committed to providing food, talking with our guests and being part of the sleep-over shifts. We think you are amazing and are so proud of the love and care that you have given. Our guests really appreciate the warmth and gentleness they have been shown.

Thank You

FirmFoundation's Services



Day Drop-in

Monday 2-4pm

Harrow Baptist Church, College Rd,
Harrow, HA1 1BA

With food and shower facilities.



Signposting Service

Wednesday 2-4pm

Trinity Church, Hindes Rd, Harrow, HA1 1RX



Coffee Drop-in

Friday 9.30 – 11.15am

St John's Greenhill, Station Rd, Harrow,
HA1 2JE



Hope Place

Supported Accommodation for up to 3
rough sleepers. Individuals are supported
for up to 2yrs until they can manage a
tenancy in the private rented sector.



Housing Justice

Pret Foundation Trust
Registered Charity No. 1050195



LOTTERY FUNDED

FirmFoundation, Brigade House, Brigade Close, South Harrow, HA2 0LQ

Registered Charity 1143823

www.firmfoundation.org.uk

Twitter: @foundationLI