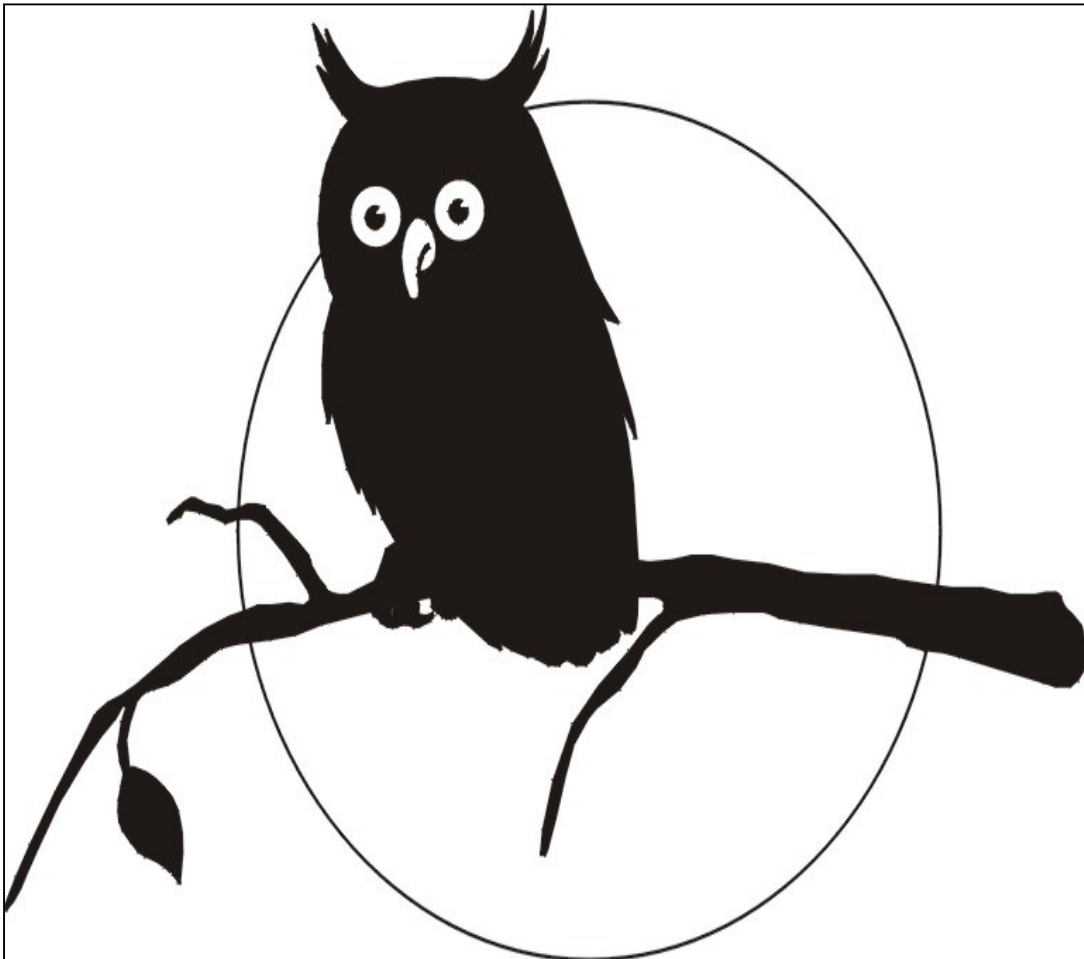


Homeless Watch 2007

A Snapshot Survey of Homelessness in
Nottinghamshire

24th September to 7th October 2007



Gedling Borough Council Mini Report

HLG Resource Service
March 2008

Copies of this report are available on the Internet at
www.hlg.org.uk/homelesswatch.htm

Background:

The Nottinghamshire Homeless Watch Survey 2007 is a snapshot survey that records details of everyone who presented as homeless to participating agencies in the County during the two week period from 24th September to 7th October 2007.

For the purposes of the survey and report, homeless people are defined as those people presenting to agencies who were:

- living in something not normally considered to be housing (such as derelict buildings, sheds, vehicles – i.e. sleeping rough)
- living with the insecurity of not knowing where they would sleep tomorrow or over the next 28 days e.g. sleeping on a friends floor for a few days or staying temporarily with relatives
- living in a state of dispossession (i.e. not being able to have their belongings in the same place that they are sleeping).

The main report is complemented by a set of district reports which summarise survey findings for each of the boroughs and districts within the county, including Nottingham City.

This report provides an analysis of survey findings concerning homelessness in the **Gedling** borough.

For the purpose of the district reports, figures on the number of presentations and homeless people are calculated using a different methodology than has been used for the area analysis in the main Nottinghamshire-wide Homeless Watch report. Figures in this report for Gedling Borough Council are based on presentations by people who were either recorded by the Homeless Watch Survey 2007 as receiving advice about their homelessness whilst in the Gedling area **or** recorded as seeking advice whilst in another Nottinghamshire authority area but having a local connection to Gedling.

A local connection was defined as:

- family connection
- residence in area for 6 of the last 12 months or 3 of the last 5 years
- employment in the area.

This methodology is consistent with that used in some of the district based homelessness snapshot surveys that have taken place in previous years, notably the regular annual surveys conducted in Ashfield.

This is the fourth survey of its kind carried out across Nottinghamshire and this report on Gedling borough takes the opportunity presented by the availability of four years of data to draw comparisons with survey findings from previous years and where possible identify trends in local homelessness.

[NB: For the purposes of brevity this report generally refers to all presentations by homeless people in or with a connection to Gedling as those 'presenting in Gedling'.]

Total numbers of homeless people including children

Table One: Homeless People in Gedling or with a Local Connection to the borough

Category	Number Adjusted Figure to Take Account of Repeat Presentations
Adults	93
Children	67
Total	160

There were 101 presentations by homeless adults in or with a local connection to Gedling as defined above, including eight repeat presentations. ¹ Most of the data tables set out below have been adjusted to remove repeats except where it is useful to show the picture for all presentations and helpful to indicate potential changes in the circumstances of those presenting during the survey period.

Table One shows that 93 homeless adults and 67 dependent children presented as homeless in Gedling or with a connection to the borough during the survey period. The figures for this year show a notable and continuing increase in levels of homelessness in the borough for both adults and children compared to previous years. Last year the survey recorded 100 presentations by homeless people including 57 adults (after repeat presentations were removed) and 43 dependent children and the figures for 2005 showed a total of 58, including 45 adults and 13 dependent children. This increasing trend is contrary to trends in other areas and for the county as a whole and therefore merits further investigation.

Presentations and Local Connection

Table One (a)

	All in Gedling	Gedling - Rough Sleepers Only
Actual Presentations in Gedling	74	2
Actual Presentations outside Gedling	27	9
Presented in or with a local connection to Gedling	101	11

Table One (a) shows that of the total adults presenting to the survey as homeless in Gedling or with a connection to the borough (including the repeat presentations) 74 presented in Gedling itself and 27 outside the borough. It also shows that 11 rough sleepers presented as homeless, though only 2 presented in Gedling itself.

¹ Repeat presentations are where individuals presented to more than one agency during the survey fortnight – identified by comparing initials, gender and date of birth information.

Table Two: Area where Advice received

Local Authority Area	Male		Female		Not Stated		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Gedling	34	67	40	82	0	0	74	73
Nottingham City	12	24	6	12	1	100	19	19
Mansfield	3	6	1	2	0	0	4	4
Rushcliffe	1	2	1	2	0	0	2	2
Broxtowe	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	1
Newark & Sherwood	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	1
Total	51	100	49	100	1	100	101	100

Again, Table Two uses the 101 total presentations including repeat presentations by adults and shows that 19 homeless adults presented as homeless in Nottingham City though with a connection to Gedling.

Please note that the tables below use the total figure of presentations by individual homeless adults (93) with the eight repeat presentations removed, unless otherwise stated.

Table Three: Age by gender

Age Range	Male	Female	Gender Not Stated	Total
16 &17 Years Old	1	6	0	7
18-24 Years Old	21	13	0	34
25-40 Years Old	18	19	0	37
41-59 Years Old	5	7	0	12
60 years old and over	1	0	0	1
No Date of Birth Supplied	1	0	1	2
Total	47	45	1	93

Table Three shows that there were seven presentations by homeless people under eighteen years of age (not including dependent children). This compares with a total of 12 last year. However, there has been a notable increase in the number of homeless adults aged between 18 and 40 compared to figures recorded for last year. The total within this age range for 2007 is 71 compared with only 31 last year, this is an increase of almost 130%, demonstrating the need for further investigation.

Table Four: Gender

Gender	Number	%
Male	47	51
Female	45	48
Not Stated	1	1
Total	93	100

Table Four provides a gender breakdown of homeless adults in Gedling or with a connection to the borough and shows that 51% were men and 48% women. This compares with figures of 45% for men and 53% for women last year, (almost reversing last year's figures) and compares with a gender split across the county of around 60% men and 40% women.

Table Five: Ethnic Origin

Ethnic Origin	Number	%
White: British	86	92
White: Other	2	2
Asian/Asian British: Indian	1	1
Black/Black British: Caribbean	1	1
Mixed: White & Asian	1	1
Other	1	1
Not Stated	1	1
Grand Total	93	100

UK Census data from 2001 shows that 6.1% of the population of Gedling are of a non White British ethnic origin. Consistent with this, the data from Table Five shows that 6 presentations (6%) were made by homeless adults from an ethnic minority during the survey period. Whilst this is a change in percentage terms from last year and the year before, the actual numbers involved are much the same.

Table Six: Household Type

Household Type	Number	Percentage - Gedling	Percentage - Nottinghamshire
Single Person (No Children)	50	54	69
Single Parent With Children	26	28	17
Couple With Children	15	16	7
Childless Couple	2	2	5
Not Stated	0	0	1
Total	93	100	100

The data from Table Six shows that 50 presentations (54%) were made by single people; consistent with the 56% figure for last year but lower than the figure for the county at 69%. It can be seen from the table that the proportion of single parents with children presenting as homeless at 28% of the total is notably higher than the proportion across the county. This issue was highlighted in last year's report as meriting further investigation and corresponds with the high numbers of homeless dependent children in Gedling reported below.

Table Seven: Age & Number of Dependent Children

Age of Children	Number of Children in this Age Range
0 - 4 Years Old	33
5 - 10 Years Old	9
11 - 15 Years Old	12

16 & 17 Years Old	6
18 Years Old and Over	7
Total	67

Table Seven shows that 67 dependent children were recorded as homeless in Gedling or with a connection to the borough during the survey period. A total of 43 dependent children were recorded within the data for Gedling in 2006 compared with only 13 in 2005. The figure for this year is a 56% increase on last year and over five times the numbers of homeless dependent children recorded in 2005 – showing a significant and very worrying increase which requires further analysis and investigation.

Homeless Care leavers in Gedling

Table Eight: Age of Care Leavers

Age	Number of This Age With Care History
16 & 17 Years Old	1
18 – 21 Years Old	4
22 Years Old and Over	8
Total	13

Table Nine: Where people were in Care

	Number of This Age With Care History
Nottingham City	3
Nottinghamshire	6
Outside Notts	4
Total	13

Tables Eight and Nine provide data on homeless care leavers reporting to the survey. Table Eight shows that there were thirteen presentations by homeless people with care histories in Gedling or with a connection to the borough. This is almost double the figures recorded last year and in 2005. Table Nine provides a breakdown of where homeless care leavers had been in care.

Table Ten: Support Needs

Support Needs	Number	Percentage of Presentations- Gedling	Percentage - Nottinghamshire
Drug Abuse	16	16	29
Ex-Offender	15	15	27
Mental Health	13	13	15
Other	12	12	10
Alcohol Abuse	9	9	15
Domestic Violence	5	5	10
Physically Disabled	3	3	3
Learning Difficulties	1	1	6

Total	74	N/A	N/A
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Table Ten records the support needs of people who presented during the survey period. Please note that people could record more than one support need and that 52 presentations reported no support needs.

As can be seen from the data the support needs of those in or connected to Gedling vary considerably from the figures for the whole of Nottinghamshire. In most cases the proportions of presentations with particular needs are lower than for the county as a whole. People reporting support needs related to domestic violence is notably lower at 5% of presentations than was recorded for Gedling last year when the proportion was 13% and lower than for the county as a whole. The proportion of presentations reporting a support need related to drug misuse is almost half that of the county overall.

Table Eleven: Previous Night's Accommodation

Where Person Spent the Previous Night	Number	Percentage - Gedling	Percentage - Nottinghamshire
Friend's Home	23	23	26
Own Home	20	20	11
Parents' Home	19	19	12
Hostel	11	11	6
Slept Rough	11	11	24
Other	5	5	4
Other Relative's Home	4	4	6
B&B Lodgings	2	2	1
Custody	2	2	2
Grandparents' Home	2	2	2
Partner's Home	1	1	12
Emergency Bed	0	0	1
Hospital	0	0	2
Social Services	0	0	0
Not Stated	1	1	1
Total	101	100	100

Table Eleven provides a breakdown of where those presenting as homeless in Gedling or with a local connection to the district (excluding dependent children) spent the previous night. Since the place where a person was staying the previous night could change during the course of the survey period, the figures shown are for all adult presentations including repeats.

The percentage of rough sleepers is notably lower at only 11% than the 24% recorded across Nottinghamshire. The figure is slightly higher than the 8% recorded last year and lower than the 14% recorded in 2005. The table indicates that 20% of presentations spent the previous night in their own home compared to only 11% across the county and that 19% of presentations spent the previous night in their parent's home compared with only 12% for the county. The data also shows that two presentations were made by people who spent the previous night in bed and breakfast and that no-one reported as being in hospital the night before presenting to the survey.

Rough sleeping in Gedling

Table Twelve: Type of Rough Sleeping

Slept Rough Type	Number	Percentage - Gedling	Percentage - Nottinghamshire
Building/Structure Not For Habitation	4	36	24
Sleeping In Open Air	6	55	53
Squat	0	0	9
Don't Know	1	9	11
Not Stated	0	0	3
Total	11	100	100

Table Thirteen: Time spent Rough Sleeping

Time Rough Sleeping	Number in This Category	Percentage - Gedling	Percentage - Nottinghamshire
1 Night	0	0	5
More than 1 Night up to 1 Week	1	9	18
More than 1 Week up to 1 Month	0	0	17
More than 1 Month up to 3 Months	5	45	19
More than 3 Months up to 6 Months	1	9	11
More than 6 Months up to 12 Months	1	9	14
More than 12 Months	1	9	10
Don't Know	1	9	4
Not Stated	1	9	4
Total	11	100	100

Tables Twelve and Thirteen provide details of rough sleeping in Gedling. They show that eleven people reported as sleeping rough in Gedling or with a connection to the borough during the survey period. Only two of the rough sleepers presenting to agencies participating in the survey actually did so in Gedling with the remaining nine presenting in other areas.

The total number of rough sleepers was eleven compared with only five last year and seven in 2005.

Table Thirteen indicates that five of the eleven rough sleepers (45%) had been sleeping rough for between one and three months compared to only 19% of rough sleepers across the county as a whole.

Table Fourteen: Comparison of Previous & Coming Nights Accommodation

		Where Person Is Sleeping the Night Following Contact With An Agency															
		B & B Lodgings	Custody	Emergency Bed	Friend's Home	Grandparents	Hospital	Hostel	Other Relative's	Own Home	Parents Home	Partner's Home	Sleeping Rough	Social Services	Other	No Data Supplied	Totals
Where Person Slept The Night Prior To Seeing Agency For Advice	B&B Lodgings	2															2
	Custody		2														2
	Emergency Bed																0
	Friend's Home	1			18	1				1						2	23
	Grandparent's				1	1											2
	Hospital																0
	Hostel																11
	Other Relative's									4							4
	Own Home			1							18					1	20
	Parent's Home											15			2	2	19
	Partner's Home												1				1
	Sleeping Rough													10		1	11
	Social Services																0
	Other										1				4		5
	No Data Supplied															1	1
Totals	3	2	1	19	2	0	11	4	20	15	1	10	0	6	7	101	

Table Fourteen enables a comparison of where a person spent the previous night with data about their expected housing circumstances for the coming night. Please note that these figures are for all adult presentations including repeats.

The data shows that:

- eleven people spent the previous night sleeping rough and ten expected to do so the coming night
- two people spent the previous night in bed and breakfast and three expected to do so the coming night
- 19 people were at their parents' home the previous night and 15 expected to be with their parents the coming night.

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