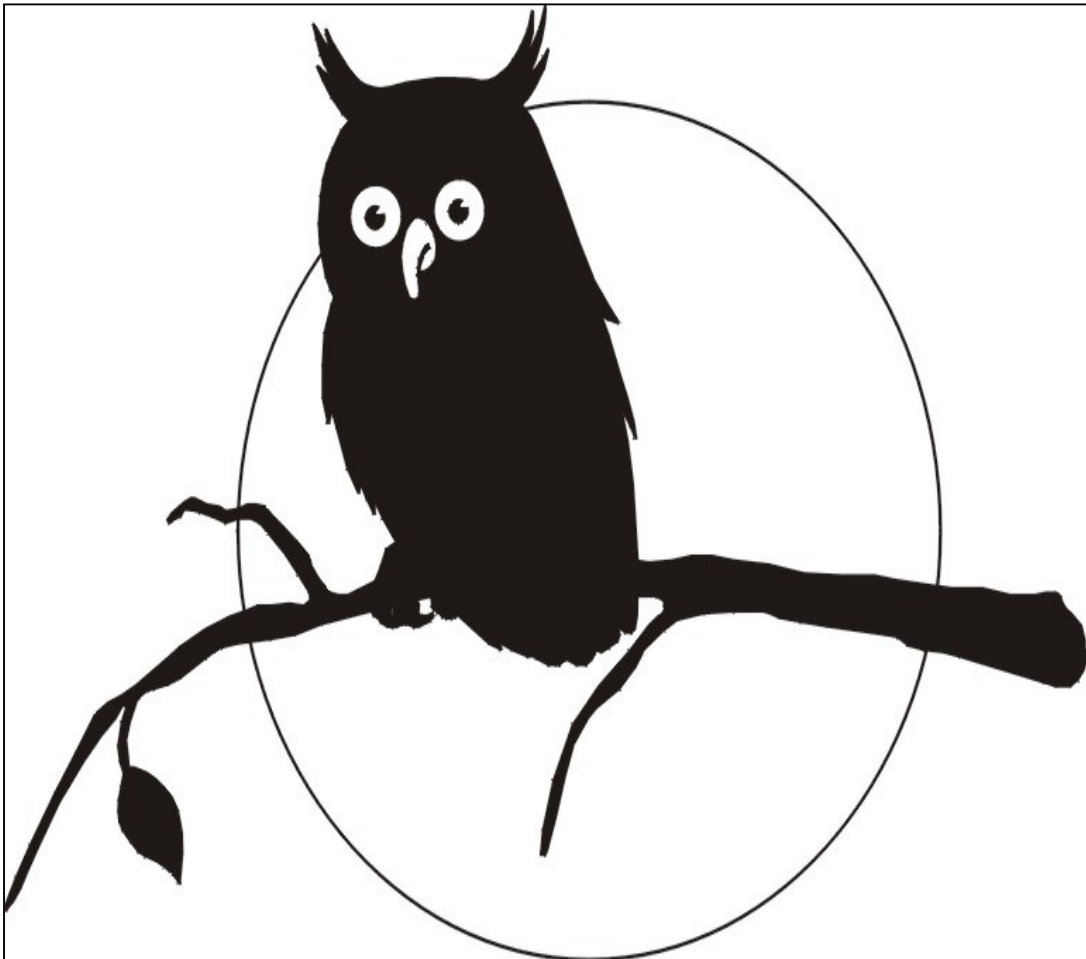


Homeless Watch 2007

A Snapshot Survey of Homelessness in
Nottinghamshire

24th September to 7th October 2007



Broxtowe 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 **Broxtowe** 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 Broxtowe 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 Broxtowe area **or** recorded as seeking advice whilst in another Nottinghamshire authority area but as having a local connection to Broxtowe.

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 Broxtowe district 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 Broxtowe as those 'presenting in Broxtowe'.]

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

Category	Number Adjusted Figure to Take Account of Repeat Presentations
Adults	34
Children	18
Total	52

There were 38 presentations by homeless adults in Broxtowe including four repeat presentations. 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. 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 a total of 52 presentations by homeless people including 34 adults and 18 dependent children, after the four repeat adult presentations are removed. These figures compare with a total of 70 presentations by homeless people including 47 adults and 23 dependent children last year and 57 in 2005, including 48 adults and 9 dependent children. The data indicates therefore a notable decrease on levels of homeless last year particularly amongst adults though the figure for homeless children is still twice that recorded in 2005.

Table One (a)

	All in Broxtowe	Broxtowe - Rough Sleepers Only
Actual Presentations in Broxtowe	24	5
Actual Presentations outside Broxtowe	14	4
Presented in or with a local connection to Broxtowe	38	9

Table One (a) shows that of all presentations made by homeless adults in or stating a connection to Broxtowe including the four repeat presentations noted above, 24 presented in Broxtowe itself and 14 outside the district. The table also provides data on rough sleepers in or with a connection to Broxtowe. It shows that nine rough sleepers presented in total – five of whom presented in Broxtowe itself and four in other areas.

Table Two: Area where advice was received

Local Authority Area	Male		Female		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Broxtowe	18	69	6	50	24	63
Mansfield	1	4	0	0	1	3
Nottingham City	7	27	6	50	13	34
Total	26	100	12	100	38	100

Table Two shows that 14 people had a connection with Broxtowe but were in another local authority area when they requested advice; the majority of these (13 or 93%) were in Nottingham City when they sought advice about their homelessness.

Table Three: Age by gender

Age Range	Male	Female	Total
16 &17 Years Old	2	2	4
18-24 Years Old	10	2	12
25-40 Years Old	5	4	9
41-59 Years Old	3	3	6
60 years old and over	0	0	0
No Date of Birth Supplied	3	0	3
Total	23	11	34

Table Three shows that four homeless people presenting in Broxtowe were under 18 - this figure compares with a figure of seven last year, indicating a notable reduction. However, homeless under 18 year olds made up almost 12% of presentations compared with a figure of 8% for Nottinghamshire. Homeless people under 25 made up 47% of total presentations (not including repeat presentations) compared with 42.5% for last year and 41% for the county as a whole.

Table Four: Gender

Gender	Number	%
Male	23	67
Female	11	32
Not Stated	0	0
Total	34	100

Table Three shows that 67% of homeless people presenting to the survey were men and 32% women. This is notably different from last year when 53% were women. The figures for the county as a whole are 57% men and 41% women (with 2% percent where gender was not stated).

Table Five: Ethnic Origin

Ethnic Origin	Number	%
White: British	28	82
Black/Black British: African	2	6
White: Irish	1	3
White: Other	1	3
Other	1	3
Not Stated	1	3
Grand Total	34	100

According to the UK Census data from 2001, 6.8% of the population of Broxtowe are of a non White British ethnic origin. The data for Broxtowe at Table Five indicates that 15% of homeless adults are of an ethnic origin other than white British, over twice the proportion amongst the general population. However, the figure for last year was 25% showing a reduction in the proportion of ethnic minority homelessness since then; though an increase still on the 2005 figure of 10%. It should be borne in mind however that the numbers involved are relatively small and that firm conclusions about trends are therefore difficult.

Table Six: Household Type

Household Type	Number	Percentage - Broxtowe	Percentage - Nottinghamshire
Single Person (No Children)	23	68	69
Single Parent With Children	7	21	17
Couple With Children	2	6	7
Childless Couple	1	3	5
Not Stated	1	3	1
Total	34	100	100

The data within Table Six shows that 68% of presentations were by single people compared with 69% for Nottinghamshire - the figure for Broxtowe in 2006 was 72%. 21% of presentations were by single parents with children compared with 17% for the county and only 15% last year.

Table Seven: Age & Number of Dependent Children

Age of Children	Number of Children in this Age Range
0 - 4 Years Old	2
5 – 10 Years Old	3
11 – 15 Years Old	8
16 & 17 Years Old	2
18 Years Old and Over	3
Total	18

Table Seven shows the number of children recorded according to the age of the child. A total of 18 dependent children were recorded by the survey, compared with 23 last year and only 9 in 2005. 27% of homeless children were aged under eleven compared with a figure of 71% for the county as a whole.

Homeless Care Leavers in Broxtowe

Table Eight: Care Leavers by age

Age	Number of This Age With Care History
16 & 17 Years Old	2
18 – 21 Years Old	2
22 Years Old and Over	1
Total	5

Table Nine: Where people were in care

	Number of This Age With Care History
Nottinghamshire	1
Outside Notts	1
Nottingham City	3
Total	5

Tables Eight and Nine provide information on homeless care leavers in Broxtowe or with a connection to the district. Table Eight shows that five care leavers were recorded as homeless during the survey period – the figure for last year was three. Five care leavers represents almost 15% of the total of homeless people (not including dependent children) compared with 19% for the county as a whole.

Table Ten: Support Needs

Support Needs	Number	Percentage of Presentations- Broxtowe	Percentage - Nottinghamshire
Drug Abuse	12	32	29
Ex-Offender	11	29	27
Alcohol Abuse	9	24	15
Domestic Violence	6	16	10
Mental Health	4	11	15
Other	3	8	10
Learning Difficulties	2	5	6
Physically Disabled	1	3	3
Total	48	N/A	N/A

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 10 presentations reported no support needs.

The data shows that 15 (32%) presentations reported a support need related to drug use – this figure compares with only seven individuals (15%) last year. Figures for those reporting support needs related to alcohol problems are very close to those reported last year and notably higher in terms of proportion than for the county as a whole – 24% for Broxtowe compared with only 15% for Nottinghamshire.

The proportion of people requesting support due to domestic violence at 16% is very close to the figure for last year and remains noticeably higher than the 10% for Nottinghamshire as a whole.

Table Eleven: Previous Night's Accommodation

Where Person Spent the Previous Night	Number	Percentage - Broxtowe	Percentage - Nottinghamshire
Friend's Home	13	34	26
Slept Rough	9	24	24
Own Home	6	16	11
Hospital	2	5	2
Hostel	2	5	6
Other Relative's Home	2	5	6
Parents' Home	2	5	12
Custody	1	3	2
Partner's Home	1	3	2
B&B Lodgings	0	0	1
Emergency Bed	0	0	1
Grandparents' Home	0	0	2
Other	0	0	4
Social Services	0	0	0
Not Stated	0	0	1
Total	38	100	100

Table Eleven provides a breakdown of where those presenting as homeless in Broxtowe or with a local connection to the district (excluding dependent children) spent the previous night.

The percentage of those reporting as sleeping rough at 24% is higher than the 17% last year but the same as for Nottinghamshire as a whole. However, the number of rough sleepers is higher by one only than the number last year. It should be noted that levels of rough sleeping recorded for Nottinghamshire have fallen since last year whilst in Broxtowe there has been a small increase.

The percentage that spent the previous night at a friend's home is higher at 34% than the 26% recorded for the County and both figures are similar to those recorded for last year. On a positive note no-one reported as being in bed and breakfast accommodation though much less positively two people reported spending the previous night in hospital.

Rough Sleeping in Broxtowe

Table Twelve: Type of Rough Sleeping

Slept Rough Type	Number	Percentage - Broxtowe	Percentage - Nottinghamshire
Building/Structure Not For Habitation	2	22	24
Sleeping In Open Air	1	11	53
Squat	1	11	9
Don't Know	5	56	11
Not Stated	0	0	3
Total	9	100	100

Table Thirteen: Time Spent Rough Sleeping

Time Rough Sleeping	Number in This Category	Percentage - Broxtowe	Percentage - Nottinghamshire
1 Night	3	33	5
More than 1 Night up to 1 Week	1	11	18
More than 1 Week up to 1 Month	1	11	17
More than 1 Month up to 3 Months	1	11	19
More than 3 Months up to 6 Months	1	11	11
More than 6 Months up to 12 Months	0	0	14
More than 12 Months	0	0	10
Don't Know	1	11	4
Not Stated	1	11	4
Total	9	100	100

Tables Twelve and Thirteen provide data on rough sleeping in Broxtowe. The data shows that nine people slept rough the night before they presented for advice – this figure compares with eight last year and 15 in 2005.

It is difficult to draw many conclusions concerning the type of rough sleeping in Broxtowe since for over half of the rough sleepers no data was recorded on where they actually slept. Table thirteen indicates that three rough sleepers were sleeping out for only night – a proportion of 33% of the total compared with only 5% for Nottinghamshire. However, the numbers recorded for Broxtowe throughout table thirteen are relatively low and it is therefore unsafe to draw comparisons between the information for Broxtowe and the county as a whole.

Five of the rough sleepers presenting for advice did so in Broxtowe and the remaining four in Nottingham City

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																0
	Custody		1														1
	Emergency Bed																0
	Friend's Home	1			10								1			1	13
	Grandparent's																0
	Hospital						1			1							2
	Hostel							2									2
	Other Relative's				1				1								2
	Own Home									6							6
	Parent's Home							1			1						2
	Partner's Home											1					1
	Sleeping Rough							3	1				4			1	9
	Social Services																0
	Other																0
	No Data Supplied																0
Totals	1	1	0	11	0	1	6	2	7	1	1	5	0	0	2	38	

Table fourteen provides data on where homeless people spent the previous night compared with their expected housing circumstances the coming night. Please note that these figures are for all presentations including repeats (excluding dependent children), rather than individuals. The data indicates that of the nine people who slept rough prior to presenting to the survey only four expected to sleep rough on the coming night, but one person who previously was at a friends house expected to sleep rough on the coming night.

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