



New Horizon
Youth Centre

Giving potential a home

nhyouthcentre.org.uk | [@nhyouthcentre](https://twitter.com/nhyouthcentre)

'Youth Centre' may be in our name...

..... *but we are so much more.*

We are a vital support network for 16-24 year olds with nowhere else to go in London

Day centre - for young people experiencing homelessness

Outreach – streets, community, prisons

Holistic youth work approach - approx 2,000 young people per year



For as long as young people are homeless and vulnerable in London, we will be on a mission to give their potential a home

London Youth Gateway (LYG)



**LONDON
YOUTH
GATEWAY**



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Main Services

- **Housing support** – we have a team of 5 advice workers
- **Youth Work** delivery – online youth work sessions, check in calls, workshops and initial registrations.
- **Employment, Education and Training (EET)**
- **Nurse** – provides support with health advocacy, GP registrations, mental health referrals and non-clinical advice.
- **Counsellor** – part time (2 days per week)
- **Communications Worker**
- **Independent Living Worker** – support with transition into independent living and accommodation.
- **Accommodation Project Team (APT)** – manage our accommodation projects and private rented scheme, as well as help with deposits and first month rent.
- **Youth Outreach Workers** – working with young people in, have experience of or at risk of involvement in criminal justice system and serious youth violence.

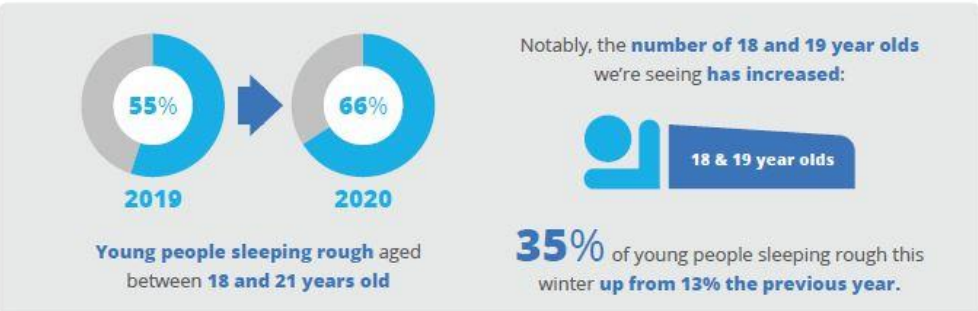
Emerging Needs and Trends

Proportion sleeping rough



More young people at higher risk are sleeping rough.

Age



They are also younger, with an 11% increase in 18-21 year olds, and more than a third were just 18 or 19, an increase of 22%.

Gender



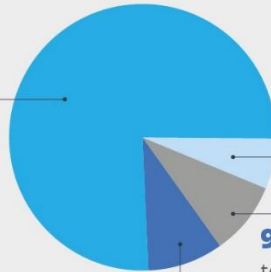
Compared to the previous year we are seeing more than double the number of young women without anywhere to stay.

Emerging Needs and Trends

Accommodation outcomes

45% young people accessed accommodation

76% young people first went into emergency accommodation



6% first went into medium-term accommodation

9% returned straight to their family

9% first went into long-term accommodation

55% young people could not access accommodation of whom

74% are 18-21 years old

23% are young women and

38% have additional support needs

Additional support needs



46% young people who are sleeping rough have additional support needs. The most common are related to emotional wellbeing and mental health.

Of the young people we supported into accommodation, **New Horizon paid for 66% to stay at backpackers' hostels** whilst they waited for alternative options to become available.

Local Authority Engagement

- Oct – Dec 2020: **65%** young people had already contacted the council before coming to NH (up **42%**).
- Of those who contacted the council:
 - **26%** said they were assessed under HRA.
 - Of those who were assessed, **58%** received a personalised housing plan.
 - **15%** young people sleeping rough and had contacted their local council for help received a personal housing plan.
 - None of the young people in the snapshot cohort had been offered accommodation as part of the homelessness relief duty.

Key Points

- Local Authorities under enormous pressure and increasing demand but more could be done to link young people with support they need to prevent or relieve homelessness – especially with the voluntary sector.
- Contacting the council can involve long, complex processes and forms which can be hard for young people to navigate and understand without support.
- Digital exclusion – young people don't have regular access to emails, laptops or tech to complete forms or enough credit on their phone to call LA.
- Remote council support – has added a further barrier (unanswered calls, ringing from private numbers)
- Young people unable to provide evidence of homelessness or impending homelessness and therefore disengage or are excluded from support.

Referrals

Online Self Referrals

- Young people can self refer -
<https://nhyouthcentre.org.uk/get-help>
- They will get a call back within 3-5 days.

Partner Referral

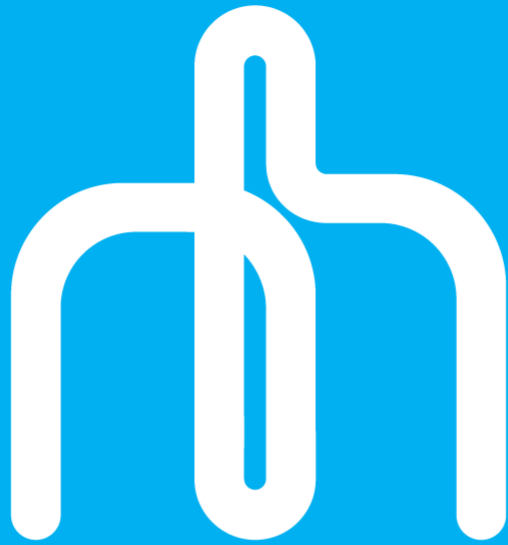
- Send in partner referral form to
signposting@nhyouthcentre.org.uk

Come to the centre

- We are open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 11.00 – 3.00pm. Young people can drop in any time on these days.

Referral Criteria

- Any young person between ages of 16 – 24
- Homeless or at risk of homelessness in London



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