



## Consultation responses to the Proposals to open the Severe Weather Emergency Provision for Rough Sleepers (SWEP) more frequently

### The Consultation:

In June 2018 an online public consultation was launched by Brighton & Hove City Council regarding the temperature trigger for SWEP. This document details the responses to the consultation.

### Introduction:

SWEP provides emergency shelter for rough sleepers in times of severe weather in order to prevent loss of life.

The service is open to all rough sleepers in the city, regardless of their local connection to the city or their support needs. The service provides shelter for all those who wish to take up the offer when open.

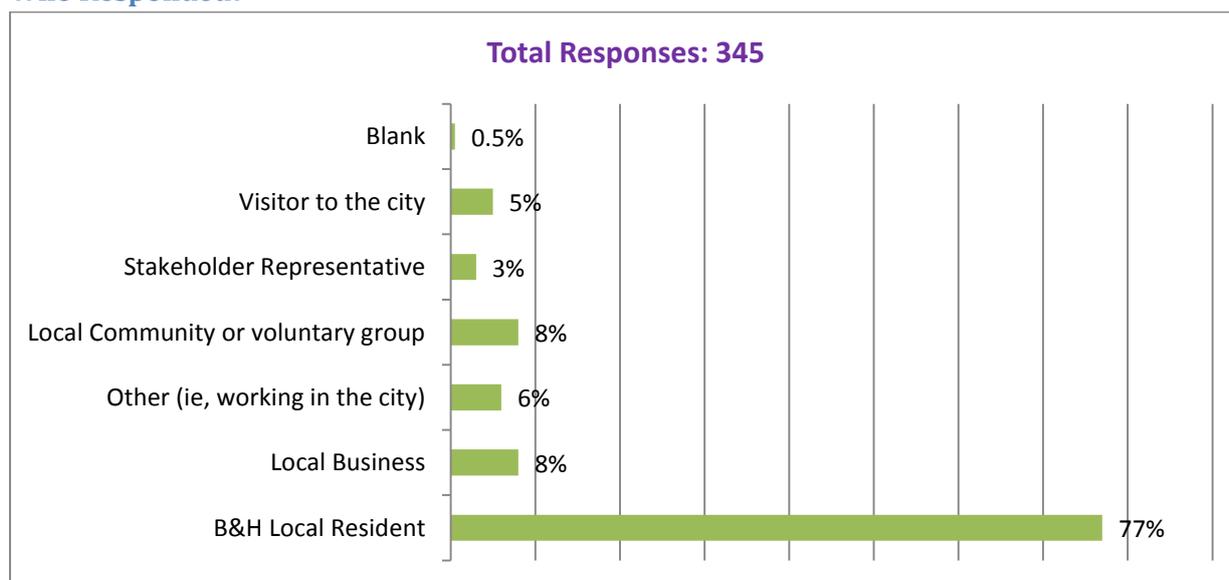
The service takes into account the needs of different groups of rough sleepers and adapts accordingly, for example by providing separate areas for women.

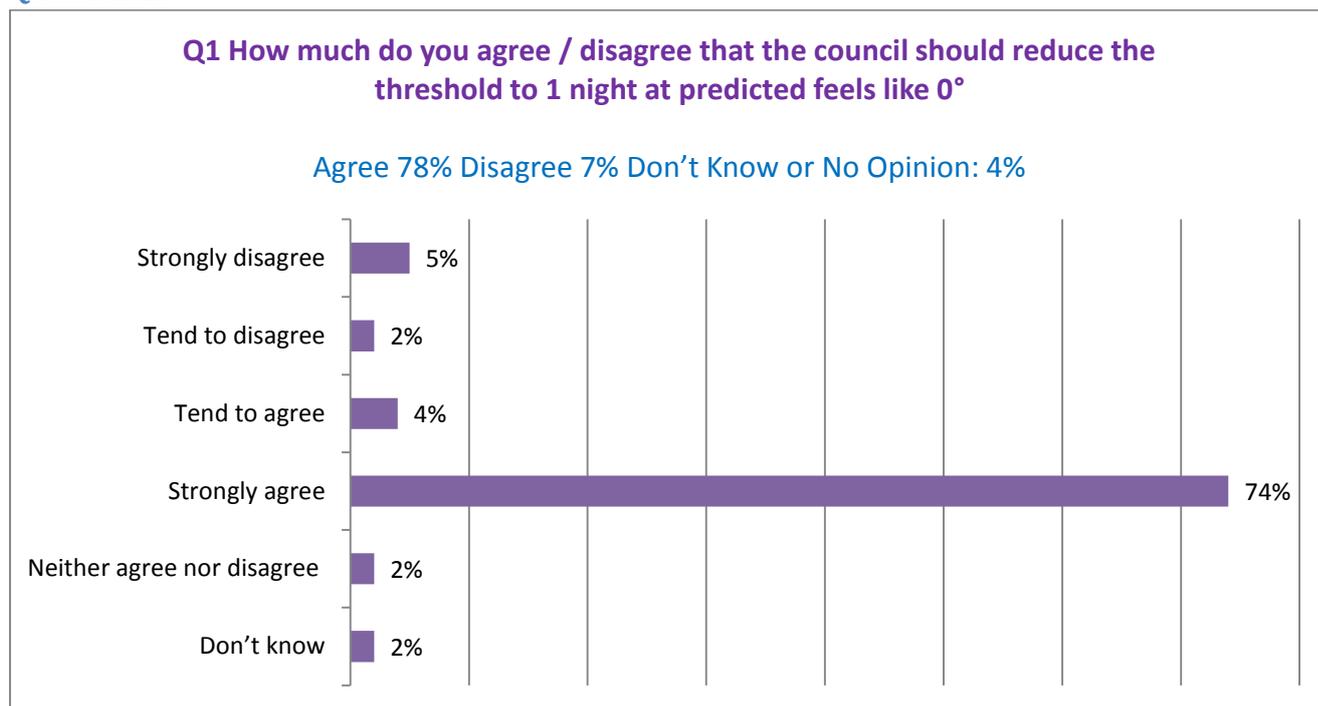
Brighton & Hove City Council council's current contract to provide the SWEP service is at an end. The council will be tendering for a new service over the coming months. The contract to provide the SWEP service will run for five years until 2023.

### The Results

The council received responses from 345 individuals.

### Who Responded?



**Question 1:****Q2. - Do you have any comments about the proposed change?**

188 comments were received about the proposed change. The comments have been placed into broad categories to allow for analysis.

Category	Number of People
Agree with the change	63
The council should provide shelter for all, this included comments on shelter for all for the whole winter / the whole year or offering sustainable long term accommodation solutions.	41
Reduce the SWEP threshold further.	24
Other / don't know	18
Amend the trigger to include opening for rain & strong wind	16
Reduce the SWEP trigger to open at 5 degrees Celsius	11
Disagree	7
Temperature measure should be taken in a number of areas across the city not just one measure for the whole of Brighton	3
Request to ensure provision for dogs	2
Concern that the change will bring rough sleepers to Brighton	2
Concern around resources to deliver SWEP	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>188</b>

### Q3. Do you have any comments or suggestions on how we should communicate the opening of SWEP to rough sleepers and the general public?

The comments received fell broadly into the following categories with many individuals making more than one suggestion.

- Social media – including facebook, twitter
- Informing local agencies and charities through e-mail - including the police, shops, city clean, traffic wardens.
- Text Message
- Use of Radio & Media
- Posters / Leaflets
- Illuminated signage / advertising
- Using volunteers and paid workers on the streets

In terms of communicating the opening of SWEP a number of the suggestions made are already utilised by the council to notify individuals about SWEP, this includes;

- The use of the use of social media through the council's accounts.
- An e-mail network which includes agencies such as the police, ambulance service, city clean, seafronts and parks officers
- An e-mail list of local charities, volunteers and individuals supporting rough sleepers.
- The use of paid workers on the streets

### What Next?

- A tender for the SWEP service was issued on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2018.
- The SWEP trigger will be changed to 1 night at a 'feels like' temperature of 0 degrees and amber / red weather warnings.
- The provider of the SWEP service will be required to publicise SWEP via social media and co-ordinate notifications to a range of partners, organisations and individuals.
- The SWEP provider will make greater use of volunteers to support the service.
- We will investigate the suggestions made as part of the consultation to improve communication to rough sleepers and the wider public.

