



**West
Northamptonshire
Council**

SWEP 2023/24 Analysis



Introduction

- This is an overview on the operation of SWEP (Severe Weather Emergency Protocol) during the 2023/24 winter, specifically to review:
 - Number of times SWEP was called
 - How many people looked after
 - How long they stayed under SWEP
 - Whether SWEP operated as intended

Weather monitoring

- The Met office website was monitored both morning and evening every day 21 November 2023 - 31 March 2024
- Both our rural and urban areas were analysed, with the lowest temperature recorded, together with wind and rain forecast

Activation

- The unusually warm weather has seen SWEP activated only twice:
 - 29 November to 03 December – 5 nights
 - 14 January to 19 January – 6 nights
 - Activated for a total of 11 nights

SWEP – number of people looked after

The number of people looked after during SWEP was:

Locality	Male	Female	Total	%
Daventry	4	0	4	7.55%
Northampton	37	9	46	86.79%
South Northants	3	0	3	5.66%
Total	44	9	53	

SWEP – how long people stayed

The length of time people stayed in SWEP

- Period 1: SWEP operational for 5 nights, average length of stay was 3.5 nights
- Period 2: SWEP operational for 6 nights, average length of stay was 3.2 nights

SWEP – did it operate as intended?

SWEP operated in a similar way to previous years

- Communal accommodation, this winter in Oasis House, with specific individuals in TA where needs required it
- Good collaboration with partners
- No specific problems

Outcomes

- The nature of the temporary accommodation through SWEP provides little additional opportunity for housing work with the SWEP residents:
 - 1 person transitioned into the HOPE night shelter
 - 1 person began sofa surfing with a friend
 - 51 people remained in the homeless situation they were in prior to SWEP