

**Full Council, 30 October 2018**  
**Motion from Cllr Paul Edwards**  
**Winter homeless shelter**

Council notes that:

- rough sleeping nationally has increased 169% since 2010.
- 7,484 rough sleepers in London were seen by outreach workers in 2017/18.
- it is extremely dangerous to sleep outdoors in the UK in winter.
- some homeless people die while sleeping on London streets.

Council thanks Homeless Action in Barnet (HAB) and the many volunteers and charitable and religious organisations working hard to help the homeless in Barnet.

Council welcomes improvements already made by our Labour Mayor of London which include:

- 87% of people helped by Mayoral services left the streets last year.
- An 8% drop in the number of London's rough sleepers last year, for the first time in a decade.
- The Mayor's new Plan of Action to tackle rough sleeping.

Council notes that the Council's draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy seeks to procure accommodation specifically for entrenched rough sleepers and for those with low to medium support needs, but that this has only just gone out to consultation and will not be formally agreed until April 2019.

Council resolves:

- To work with the Mayor of London to set up and fund a homeless winter shelter in one building in Barnet throughout the winter as Severe Weather Emergency Provision for rough sleepers.
- That this shelter should be well-equipped to support rough sleepers, and should be opened as soon as possible and close at the end of March.
- To publicise [streetlink.org.uk](http://streetlink.org.uk), which members of the public can contact to connect people sleeping rough with local services that can support them.

**Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.**