

**Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny  
Committee**

**10 January 2019**

**Homelessness Update  
Marie Smith Housing Manager**

*Altogether better*



# Scope of presentation

- Contacts to Housing Solutions and headline statistics
- Homelessness Reduction Act – update
- Review and Strategy
- Rough Sleeping

*Altogether better*



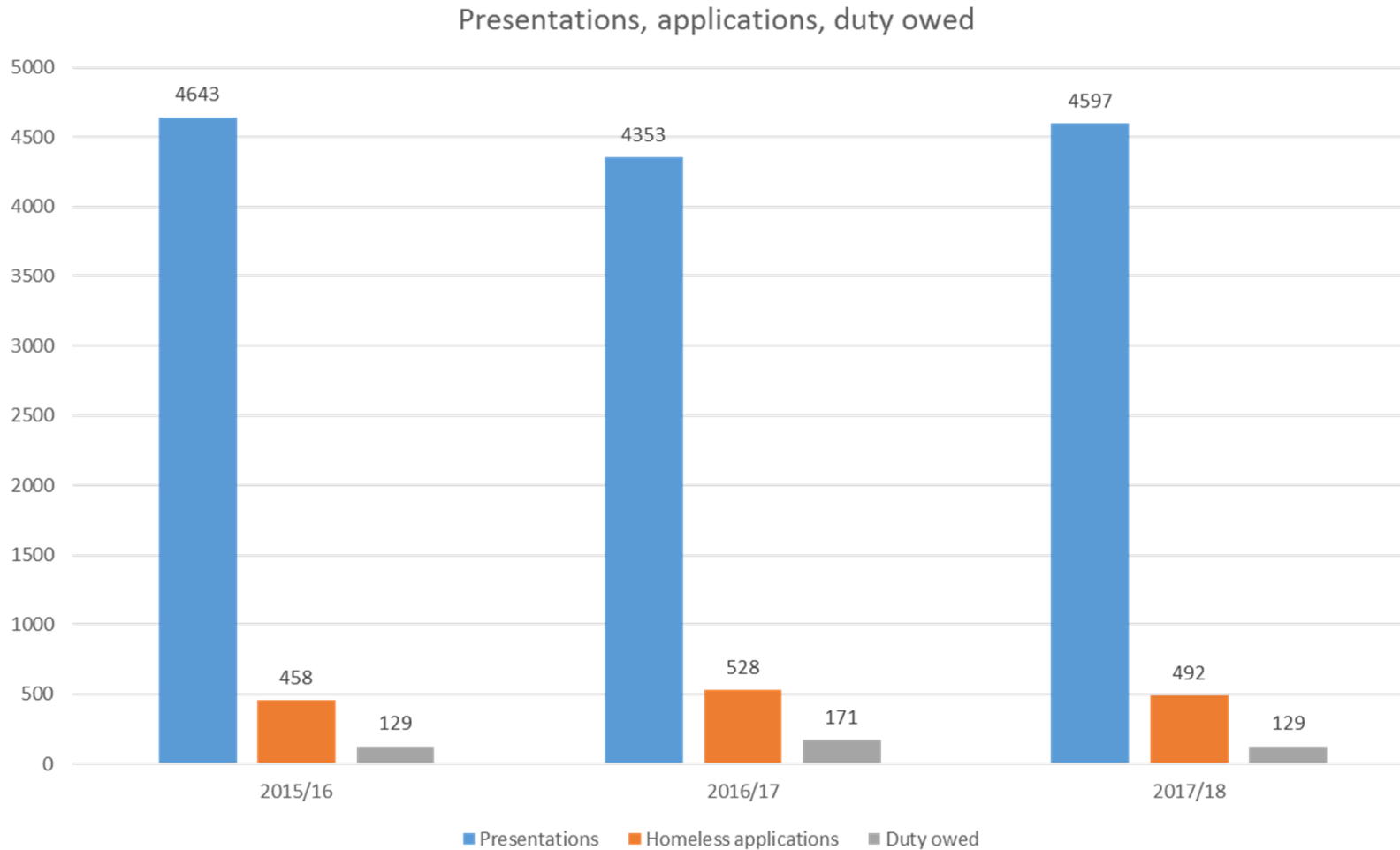
# Housing Solutions Headline Statistics

- Approximately 11,000 clients contact the service
- Increase of 11% in 17/18
- Referrals from partners, direct contact to the Housing Advice Line and other teams

*Altogether better*



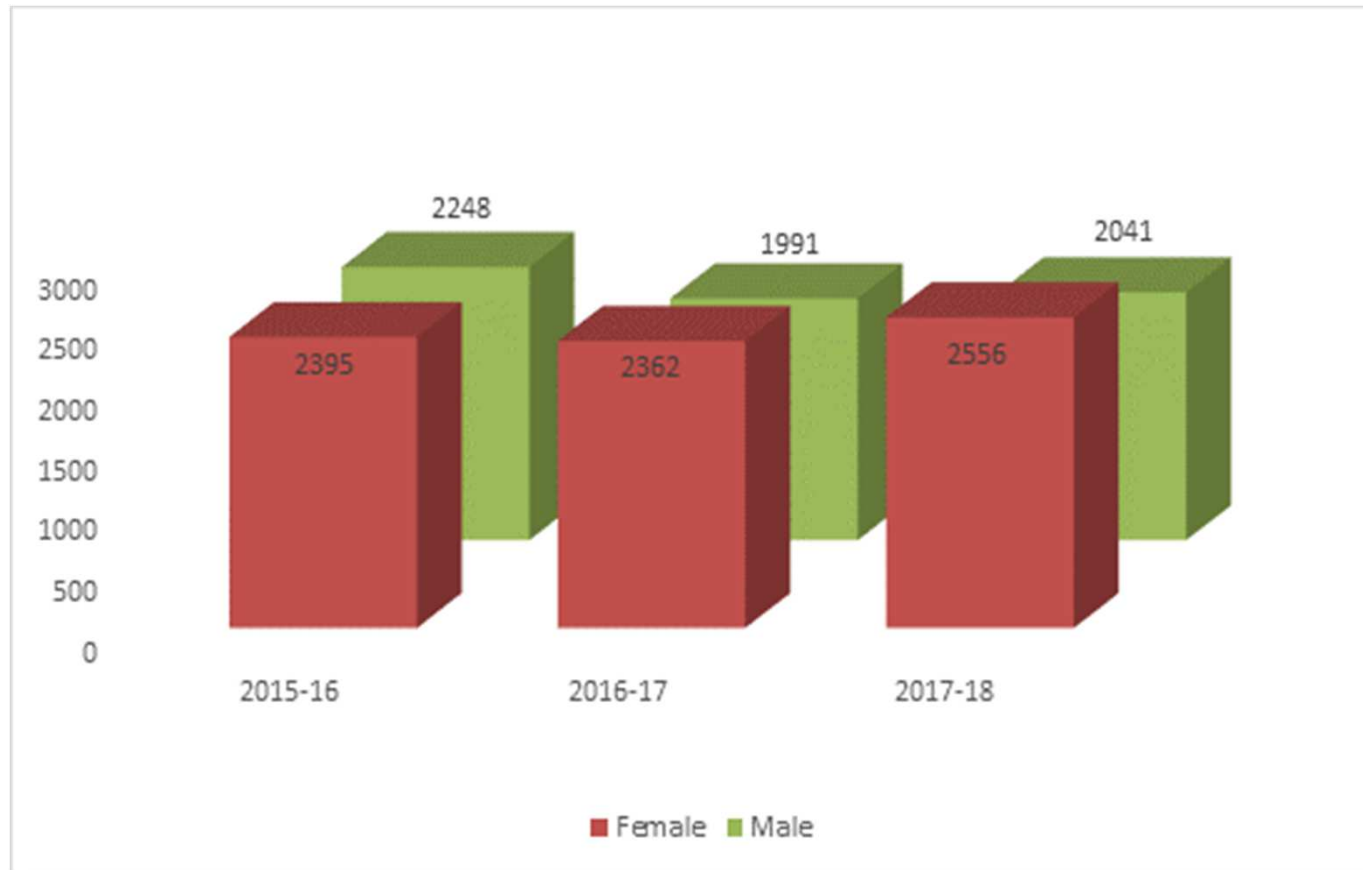
# Housing Solutions Headline Statistics



*Altogether better*

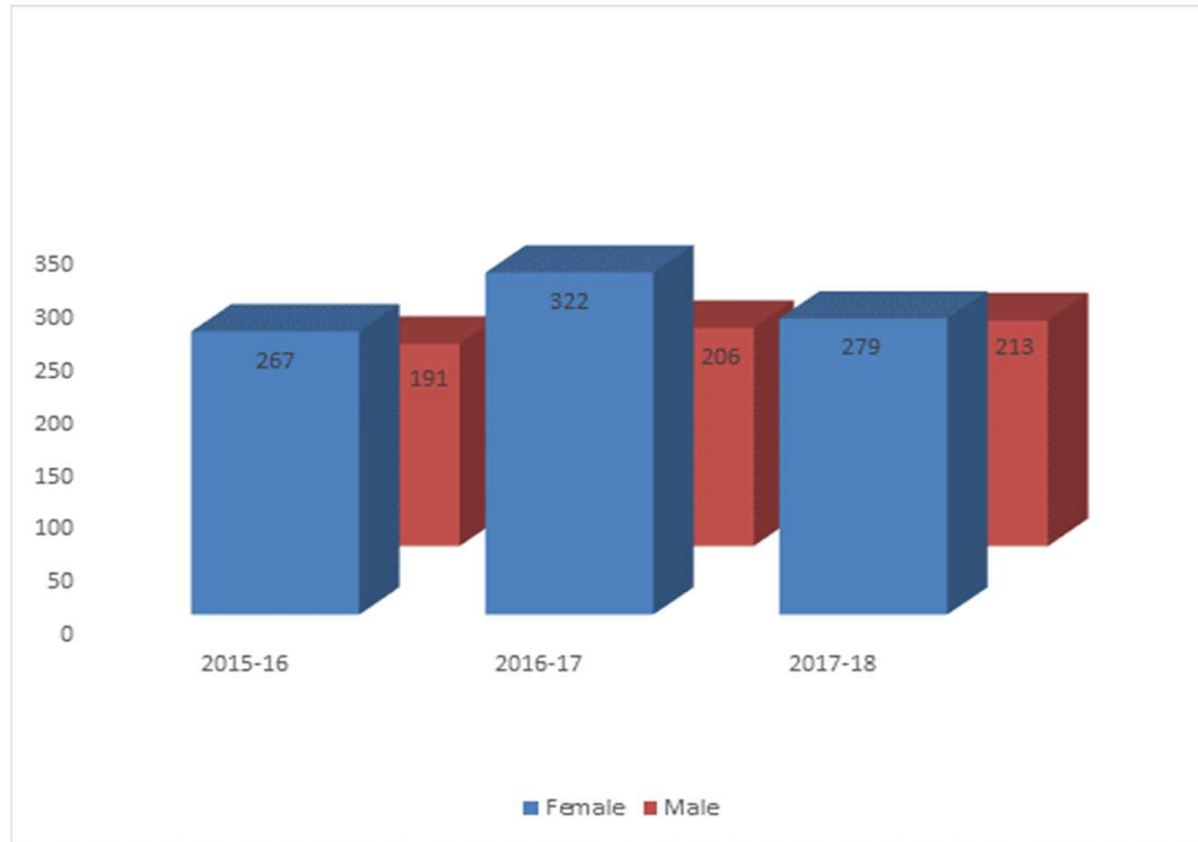


# Total contacts for advice, prevention or homelessness



*Altogether better*

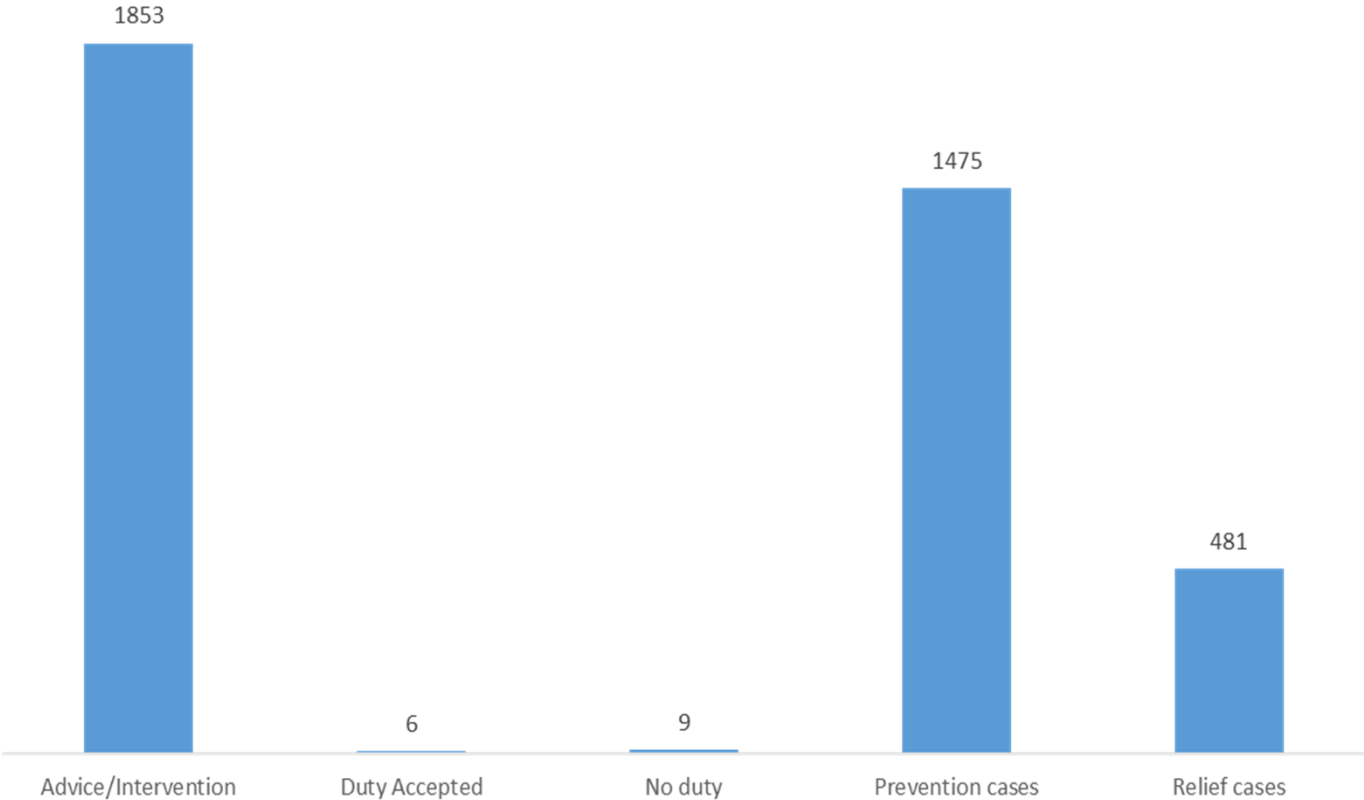
# Total homeless applications completed



*Altogether better*

# Homelessness Reduction Act - update

All presentations (3824) April-September



*Altogether better*



# Homelessness Reduction Act - update

- Q1 & Q2 cases prevented: 427
- Q1 & Q2 cases relieved: 120

The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 was introduced on 1st April 2018. The legislation extends clients' entitlements to help and places a renewed focus on the prevention of homelessness. Reporting and recording mechanisms have changed in order to align with the new requirements under the act which are: duty to prevent homelessness and duty to relieve homelessness.

*Altogether better*





# Homelessness strategy

- Requirement of the Homelessness Act 2002
- Durham always had a strong focus on homelessness and its prevention
- Homeless Reduction Act of 2017 required us to review current and future levels of homelessness and the activities in place to assist people
- Strategy to address homelessness now also part of the overall Housing Strategy

*Altogether better*



# Homelessness strategy

- Clients in the county seek housing advice mainly due to financial difficulty
- Main reason for homelessness – loss of private rented accommodation
- Main client group requiring advice in Durham is single people - 60% of people

*Altogether better*



# Homelessness Strategy

**PREVENT** homelessness  
through early intervention

Increase access to and  
**SUPPLY** of  
accommodation for those  
who are homeless or  
threatened with  
homelessness

Provide a range of  
**SUPPORT** services to  
reduce the risk of  
households becoming  
homeless

*Altogether better*

## Rough sleeping

- Update on funding bids
- Outreach worker
- Latest figures
- Joint working

*Altogether better*



Questions or comments?

*Altogether better*

