



REQUEST | 17072

We would like to know about how you implemented the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol from 01/01/2021 to 31/03/2024. We are interested in when SWEP was activated, the length of these activations, the overall number of emergency spaces made available, and additional emergency space specifically for young people and those defined as priority need in legislation.

The UK Health Security Agency last issued guidance to local authorities on how SWEP should be implemented in September 2023: [Supporting vulnerable people before and during cold weather: people homeless and sleeping rough - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/supporting-vulnerable-people-before-and-during-cold-weather-people-homeless-and-sleeping-rough).

We kindly request the information in the query below. Requests 1, 2 and 3 should be prioritised over 4 and 5.

In the event this request does not fit within the budget constraints for FOI's please focus only on answering requests 1, 2 and 3. We have attached a template spreadsheet to this request for you to enter your response.

Supplementary Notes

*People defined as priority need for accommodation in the relevant legislation:

- a pregnant woman or a person with whom she resides or might reasonably be expected to reside
- a person with whom dependent children reside or might reasonably be expected to reside
- a person who is homeless as a result of that person being a victim of domestic abuse
- a person who is vulnerable as a result of old age, mental illness, learning disability or physical disability or other special reason, or with whom such a person resides or might reasonably be expected to reside
- a person aged 16 or 17 who is not a 'relevant child' or a child in need to whom a local authority owes a duty under [section 20 of the Children Act 1989](#)
- a person under 21 who was (but is no longer) looked after, accommodated or fostered between the ages of 16 and 18 (except a person who is a 'relevant student');
- a person aged 21 or more who is vulnerable as a result of having been looked after, accommodated or fostered (except a person who is a 'relevant student')
- a person who is vulnerable as a result of having been a member of His Majesty's regular naval, military or air forces
- a person who is vulnerable as a result of:
 - having served a custodial sentence;
 - having been committed for contempt of court or any other kindred offence; or,
 - having been remanded in custody
- a person who is vulnerable as a result of ceasing to occupy accommodation because of violence from another person or threats of violence from another person which are likely to be carried out
- a person who is homeless, or threatened with homelessness, as a result of an emergency such as flood, fire or other disaster

1. Dates of SWEP activation since 01/01/2021. *(This refers to the dates of every local authority Severe Weather Emergency Protocols activation since January 1st 2021 - activation is defined as when the weather has reached a prescribed threshold that is temperature based or aligned with the Cold-Heath Alert (CHA) System leading to emergency spaces for shelter being made available for people sleeping rough).*

2. Length of activation *(This refers to the duration of the SWEP activation. Please answer in hours. If accurate data on duration is not available, please answer to the nearest day (enter 24 hours for roughly one day, 48 hours for roughly two days etc).*
3. Total number of emergency spaces made available under SWEP *(This refers to the total number of spaces (including bed spaces and sit ups) made available under the Severe Weather Emergency protocols in your local authority area.)*
4. Number of emergency spaces made available under SWEP specifically for young people *(This refers to the total number of spaces (including bed spaces and sit ups) that are specifically made available under SWEP to young people aged 16-25.)*

Number of emergency spaces made available under SWEP specifically for groups defined as priority need in legislation *(This refers to the total number of spaces (including bed spaces and sit ups) that are specifically made available under SWEP to all peoples defined as priority need* in both s.189(1)(a) Housing Act 1996 and The Homelessness (Priority Need for Accommodation (England) Order 2002.))*

RESPONSE

We are not required to record this information through our statutory responsibilities and have not recorded the information requested on local systems, so we are unable to provide a response to the questions in this request.