

A BRIEF INTRODUCTION FOR COUNT VOLUNTEERS

Working together: the council, street outreach teams, homelessness charities, people who have experienced rough sleeping, street pastors, day centres, night shelters, park rangers police, community safety teams, volunteers, local councillors, drug & alcohol services.

THE COUNT:

- ✔ Starts after midnight at the Count Base
- ✔ Lasts at least 2 hours
- ✔ Involves lots of walking
- ✔ Each team covers an area
- ✔ Always stay with your team
- ✔ Count people not tents
- ✔ Record each person on form
- ✔ Safe access arranged
- ✔ Raise any concerns
- ✔ Transport home arranged for you

TOP TIPS:

- ✔ Dress for the weather
- ✔ Wear comfortable shoes
- ✗ Do not wake people
- ✔ Just put 'details unknown'
- ✔ If you feel unsafe, leave together
- ✔ If hub/shelter available, offer transport, include them on form
- ✔ Give forms to Homeless Link Verifiers
- ✔ All sites checked? Back to Base
- ✔ Tell Co-ordinator before leaving

ROUGH SLEEPING: people bedded down, sleeping, or about to bed down in the open air, or in buildings or other places not designed for living in.

THE ROUGH SLEEPING COUNT DOES NOT INCLUDE PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS BUT:

in hostels shelters, squats, campsites, Traveller sites, organised protest sites, sofa surfing, sleeping on public transport, known to rough sleep but not visible during the count, not seen bedded down that night, or seen begging.