

Homelessness: What works and what needs to be done?



Housing Agency Seminar

Homelessness: What Should the Future Priorities be?

Bedford Hall, Dublin Castle

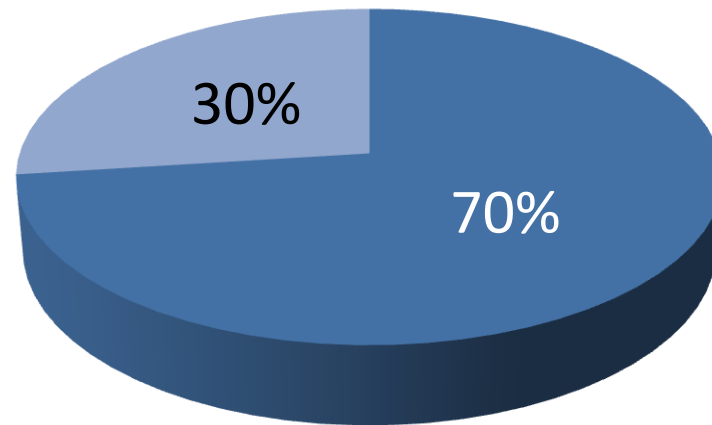
28th November, 2017; 4-6:30pm



Context

- Number of people experiencing homelessness is growing.
- Currently, a lack of affordable housing is a key driver.
 - Visible impact on families but also adults with no accompanying children.

National Homeless: 8,492



October 2017



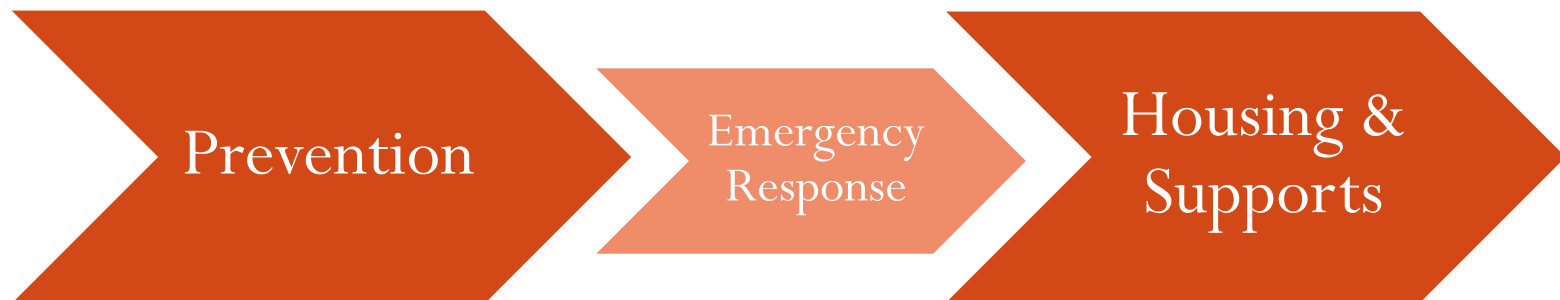
- How to respond? What works?

Housing Led Approach: this works

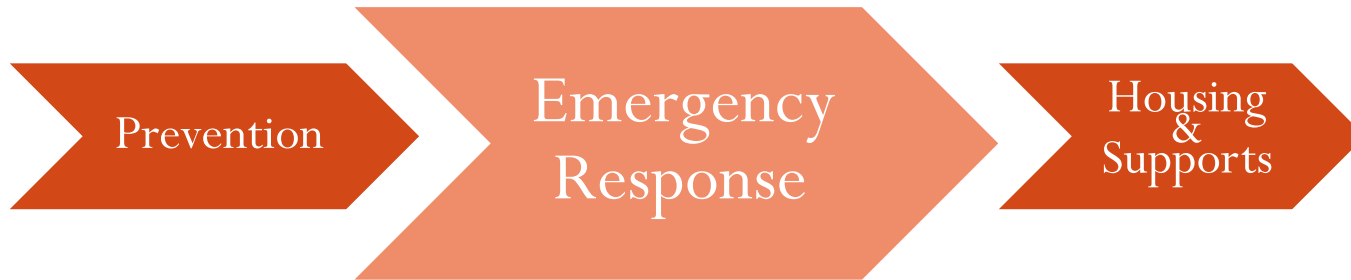
“Ending homelessness means doing things differently, and not simply managing the problem through depending on emergency services and supports such as shelters and soup kitchens.

When people come to depend on emergency services without access to permanent housing and necessary supports, this leads to declining health and well-being, and most certainly an uncertain future.”

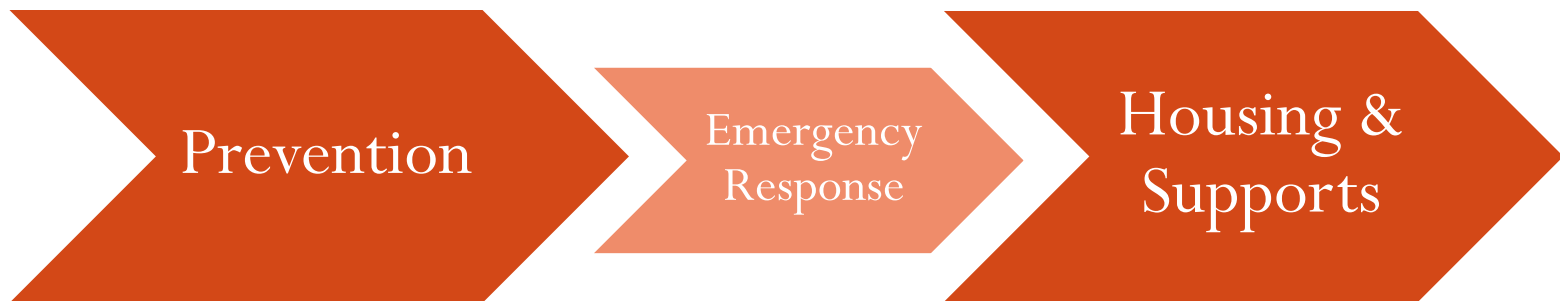
(Homeless Hub, 2014 p.3 – emphasis added)



Where we were in 2013:

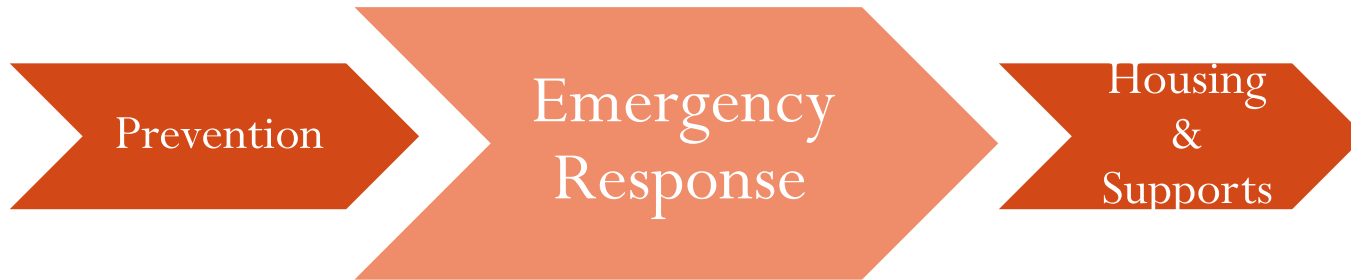


Where we wanted to be:



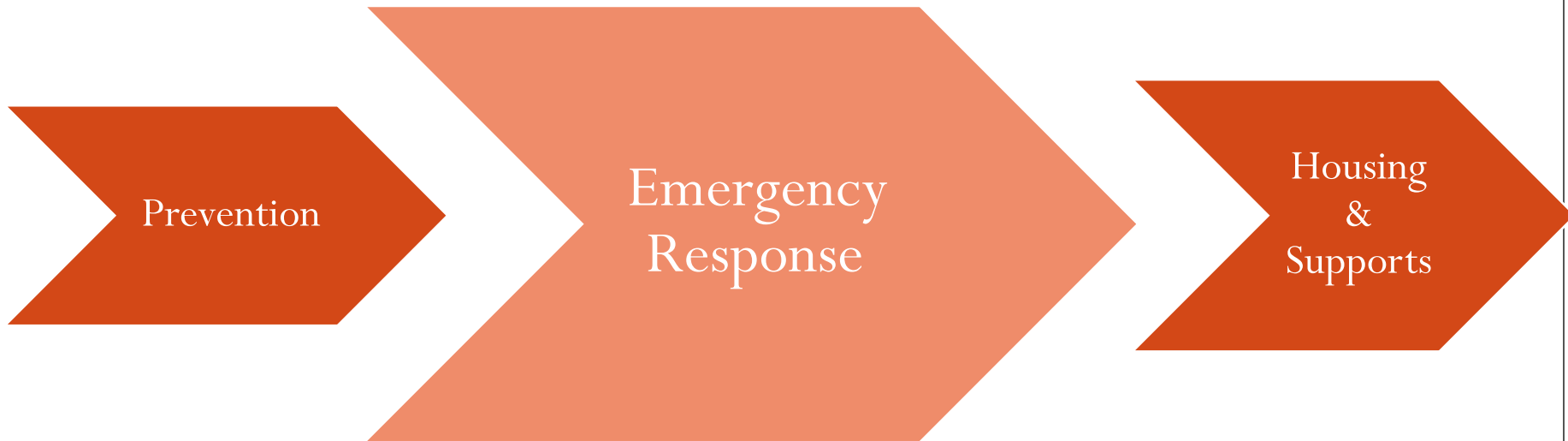
Where we were in 2013:

€44m



Where we are in 2017:

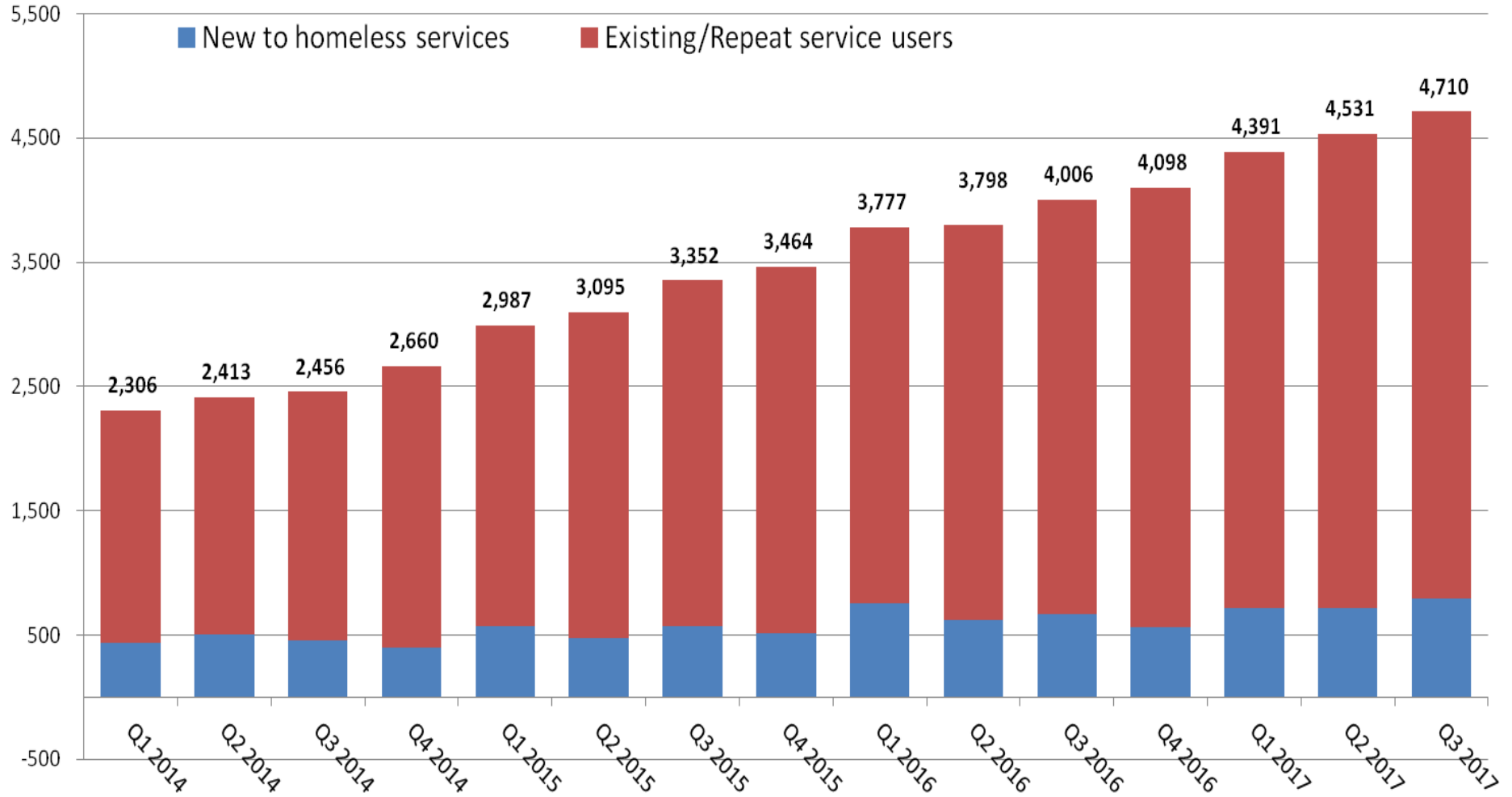
€134m



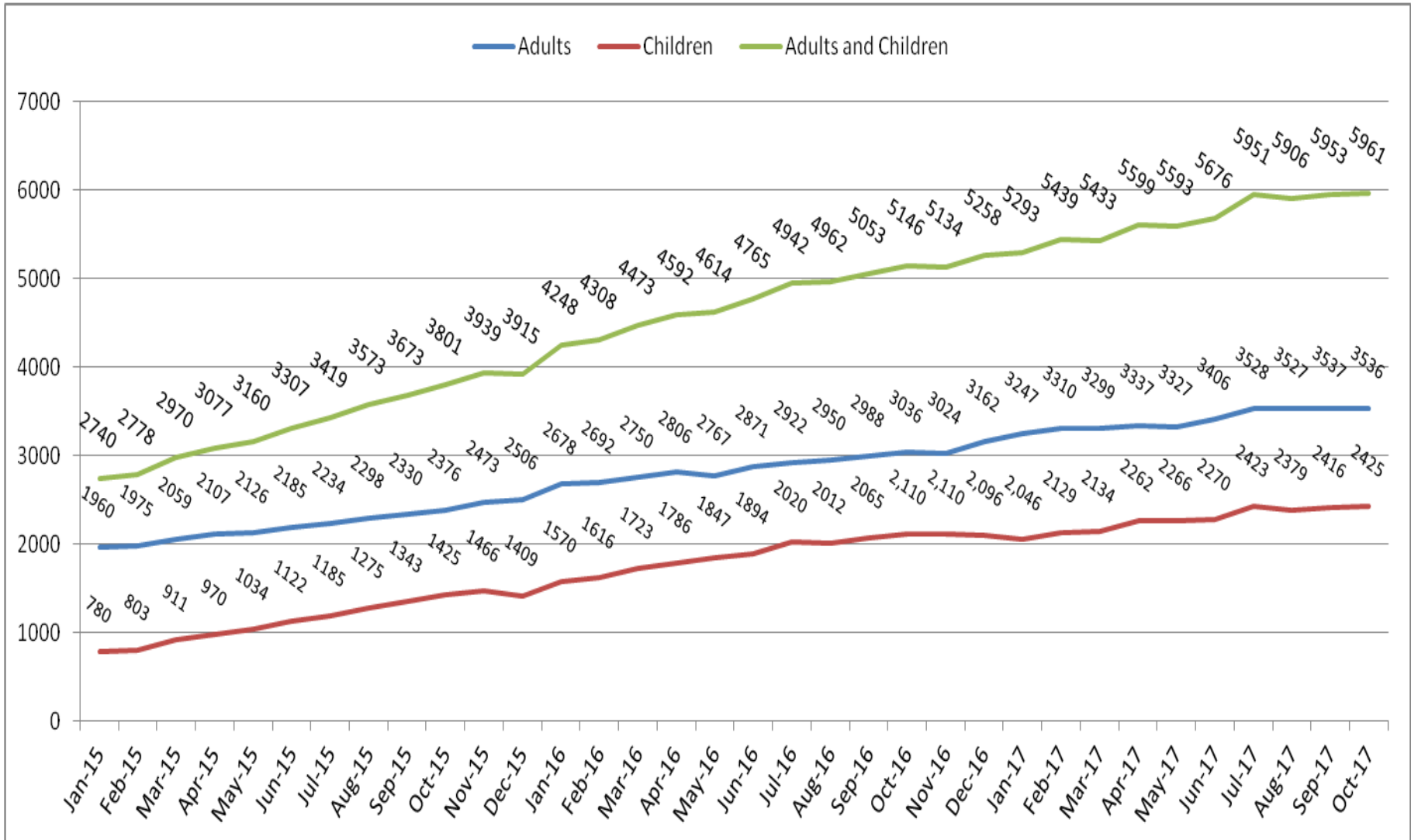
Extra Emergency Accommodation

1. What type of Emergency Accommodation is most effective?
2. Targeting service users?

Adults population each quarter

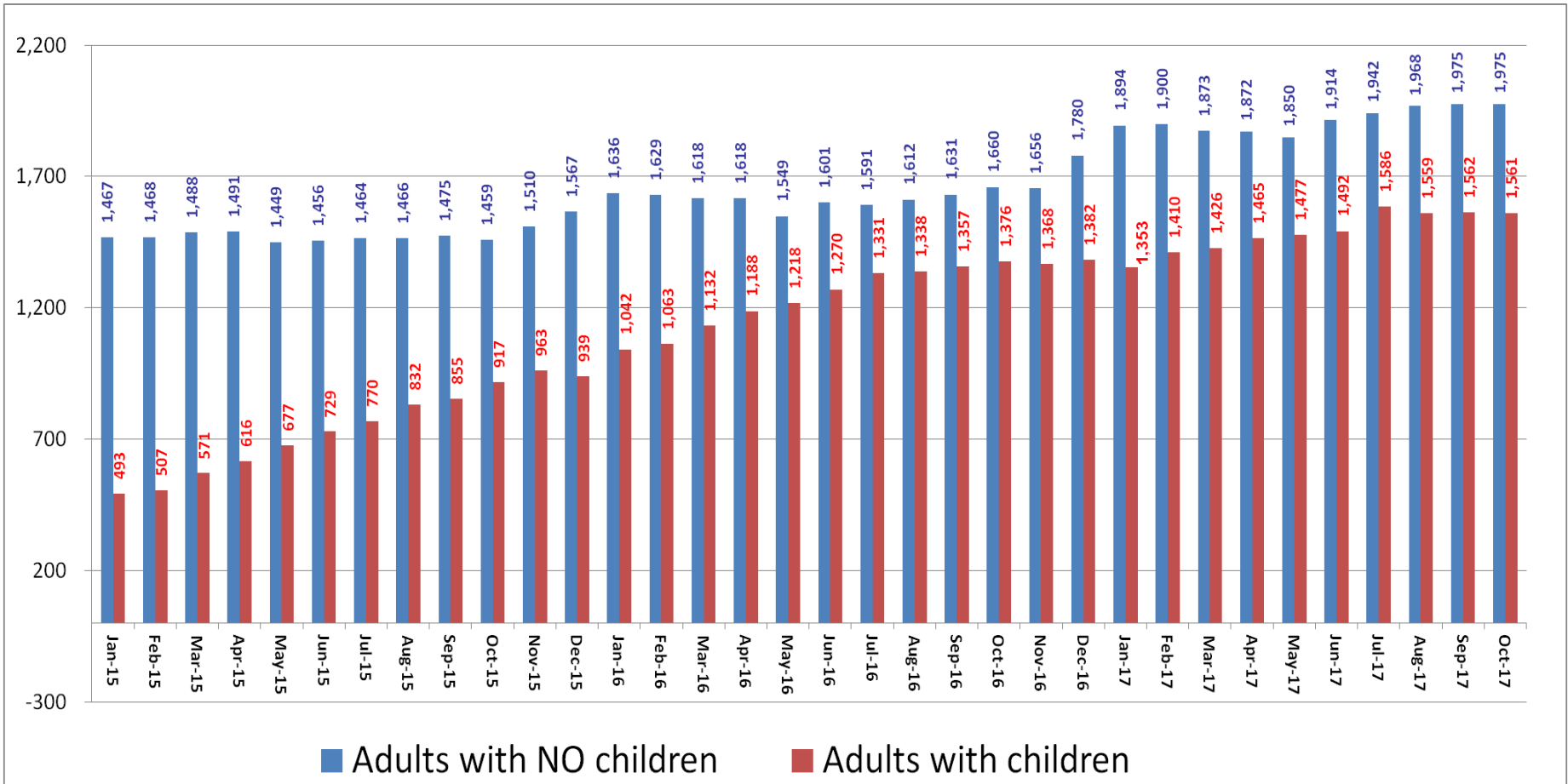


Number of adults and children each month (single week)



Adult Emergency Accommodation Use in Dublin Region

(Monthly – based on a single week’s activity)



Most effective type of emergency accommodation

	Percentage of Adults with Support Plan Q1 2017
Supported Temporary Accommodation (Service Provider on-site 24 hours)	82%
One – Night - Only (Service Provider on-site night-only)	47%
Temporary Emergency Accommodation (Service Provider on-site: low support needs)	90%
Private Emergency Accommodation: Hotel / B&B (Visiting Support Homeless Action Teams)	37%
Detox/Residential Alcohol Services	81%

Since Winter 2016 focus on opening 24 hour STA services

Family Hubs

- STA designed to meet specific needs of families:
 - Research carried out for DRHE by Dr. S. Stamp in 2015/2016 identified a range of issues including:
 - lack of privacy;
 - cramped living conditions;
 - lack of play space; inadequate
 - food storage and preparation space; and
 - a lack of laundry facilities;
 - Similar findings in IHREQ (2017), Hearne & Murphy (2017) and Share & Hennessy (2017)
 - *National Quality Standards Framework for Homeless Services in Ireland* proposal addresses these issues. Informed the *DHPLG Guidelines for Temporary Emergency type Accommodation – Single Persons & Family type Accommodation*.
- Focus on physical environment but need to look at ‘how’ supports being delivered and are they achieving the aim of moving people to sustainable tenancies

Targeting Service Users: Housing First

Housing First: ending homelessness for individuals with mental illness and addiction through the provision of appropriate housing with indefinite wrap-around support (Tsemberis 2010)

- 2011: Significant history of rough sleeping and resistant to engaging with services
- 2017: Extended to include those in emergency accommodation for long periods of time – evidence informed decision based on cluster analysis carried out by Dr. Declan Redmond and Dr. Richard Waldron, University College Dublin

What size is the population in Dublin?

Patterns of Service Use – all adults accessing emergency accommodation 2012 – 2016 inclusive

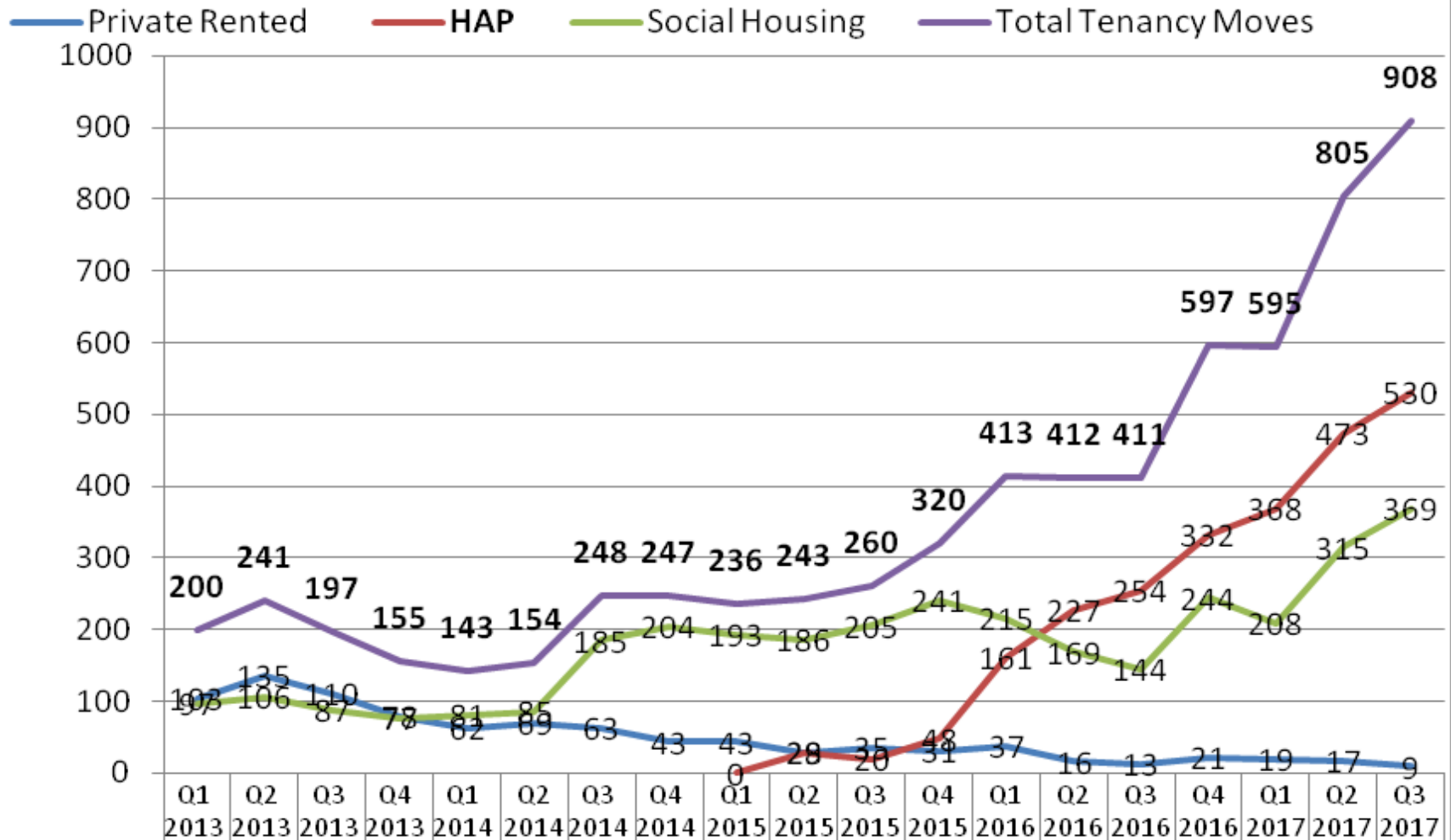
	Temporary	Episodic	Long-stay	Total
Sample Size (n)	9,967	978	1,587	12,532*
Percentage of Clients	80%	7.5%	12.5%	100%
Average No. of Episodes	1.4	6.5	2.3	1.7
Average No. of Nights	61	252	518	
Percentage of bed-nights	36%	15%	49%	

* 2,517 of these individual also engaged in rough sleeping during the same period

Housing with Appropriate Supports

Prevents return to homelessness

Moves to tenancy – Trend Q3 2017



Private Rented	103	135	110	78	62	69	63	43	43	28	35	31	37	16	13	21	19	17	9
HAP									0	29	20	48	161	227	254	332	368	473	530
Social Housing	97	106	87	77	81	85	185	204	193	186	205	241	215	169	144	244	208	315	369
Total Tenancy Moves	200	241	197	155	143	154	248	247	236	243	260	320	413	412	411	597	595	805	908

Tenancy Breakdown 2017 YTD

- Nine months: **2,308 adults = 2,021 households**

Household Type: families vs. singles

- 1,110 families (55%); 911 singles/couples no children (45%)

prevention vs. departure from emergency accommodation

- **2,021 households/tenancies**

- Rapid Re-housing: 964 households **prevented** from entering EA (48%)
- 1,057 households departing from Emergency Accommodation (52%)

	2013	2014	2015	2016
Social housing (including HAP)	367	555	922	1,746
Private rented accommodation	426	237	137	87
Total number of individuals moving to tenancies	793	792	1,059	1,833

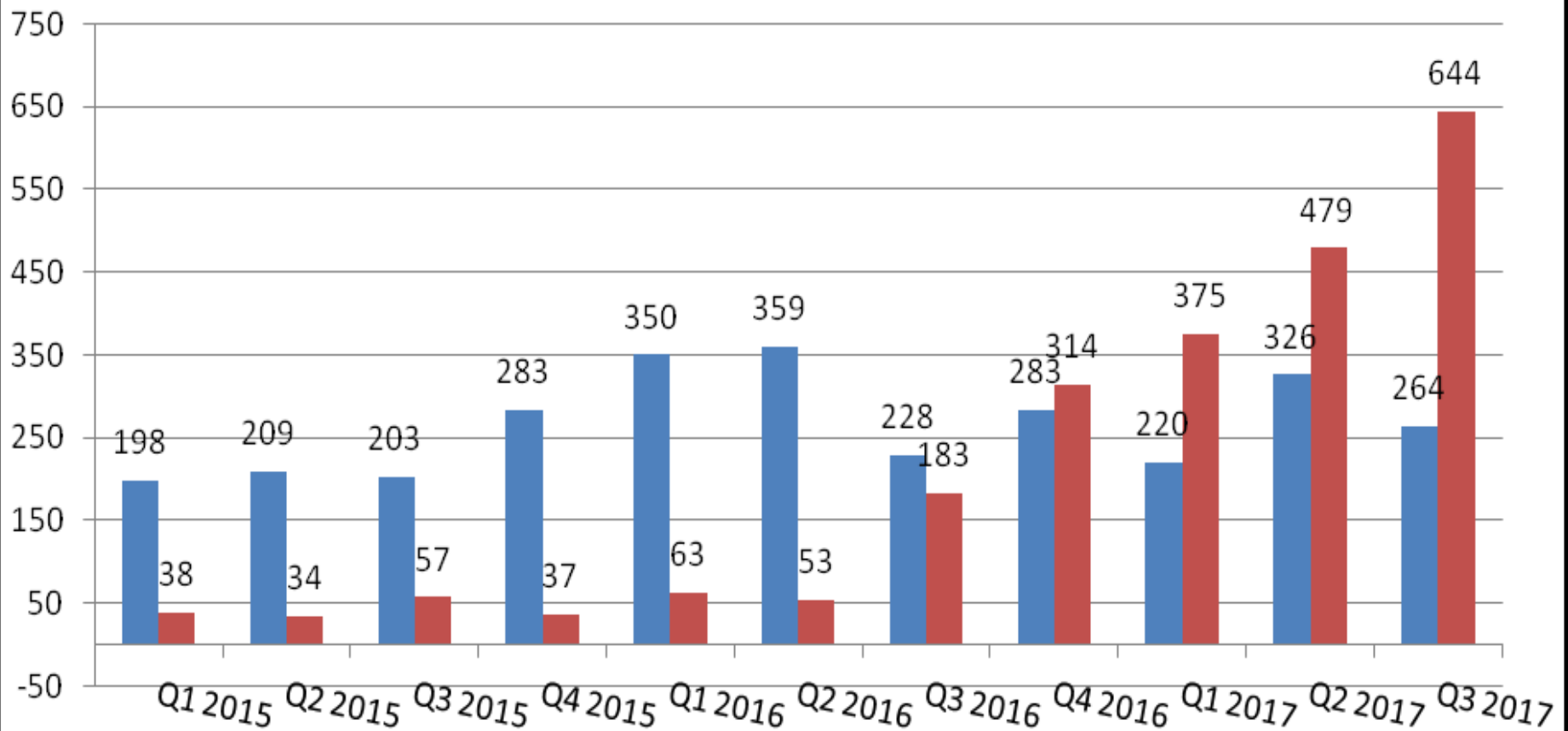
Range of Post-Settlement Supports

- **Housing First:** indefinite wrap around support - high support needs
- **Slí:** Six months visiting support – low to medium support needs
- **HAIL:** Mental Health time limited/episodes – medium / high support needs

30th September 2017	Number of active cases
Slí (Focus Ireland & Peter McVerry Trust; Simon)	341
Mental Health: HAIL	32
Housing First (Peter McVerry Trust & Focus Ireland)	112
Total	485

Post Settlement Support Q3 2017

■ With on-site or visiting support ■ Departures to tenancy with no support

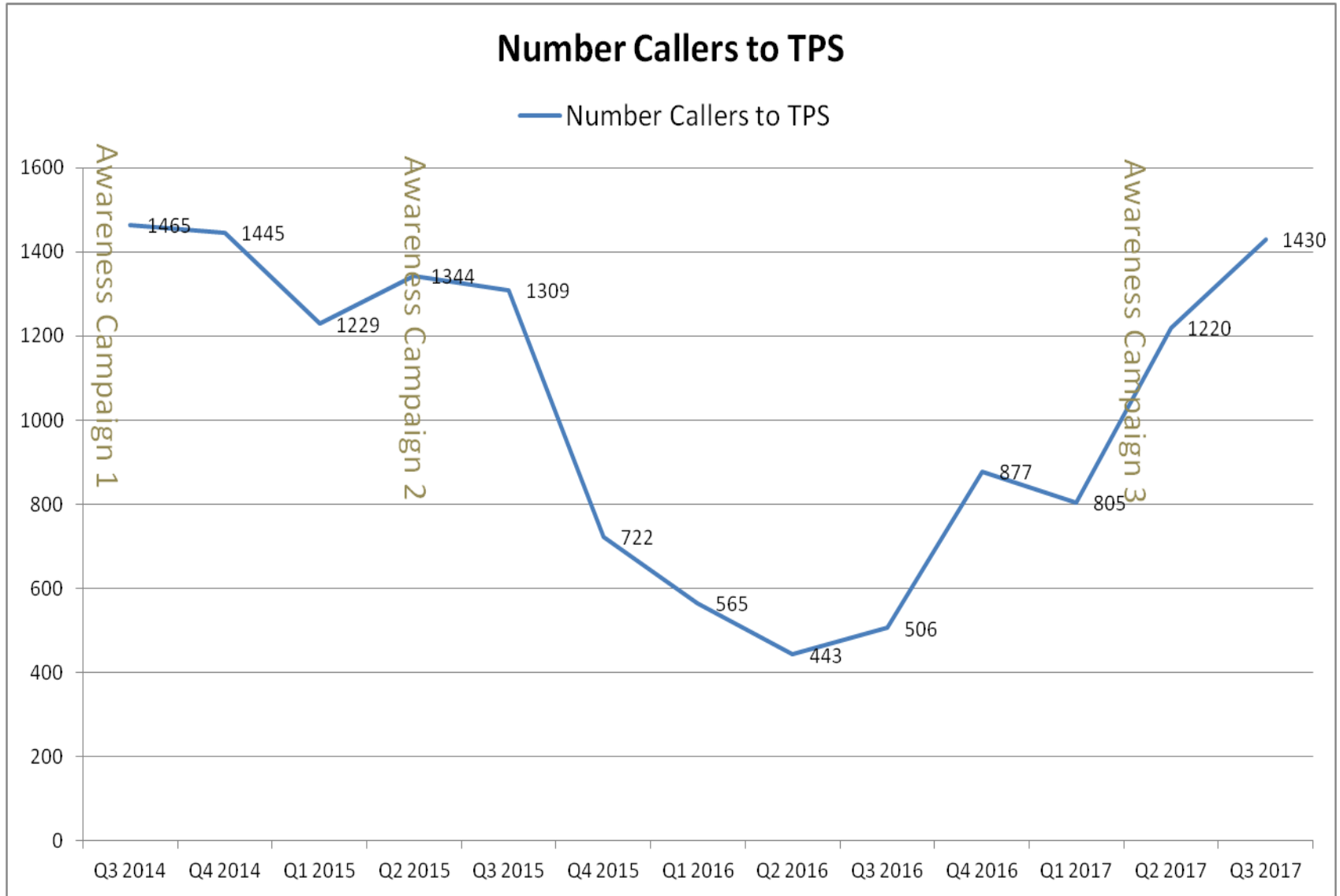


Prevent from becoming homeless

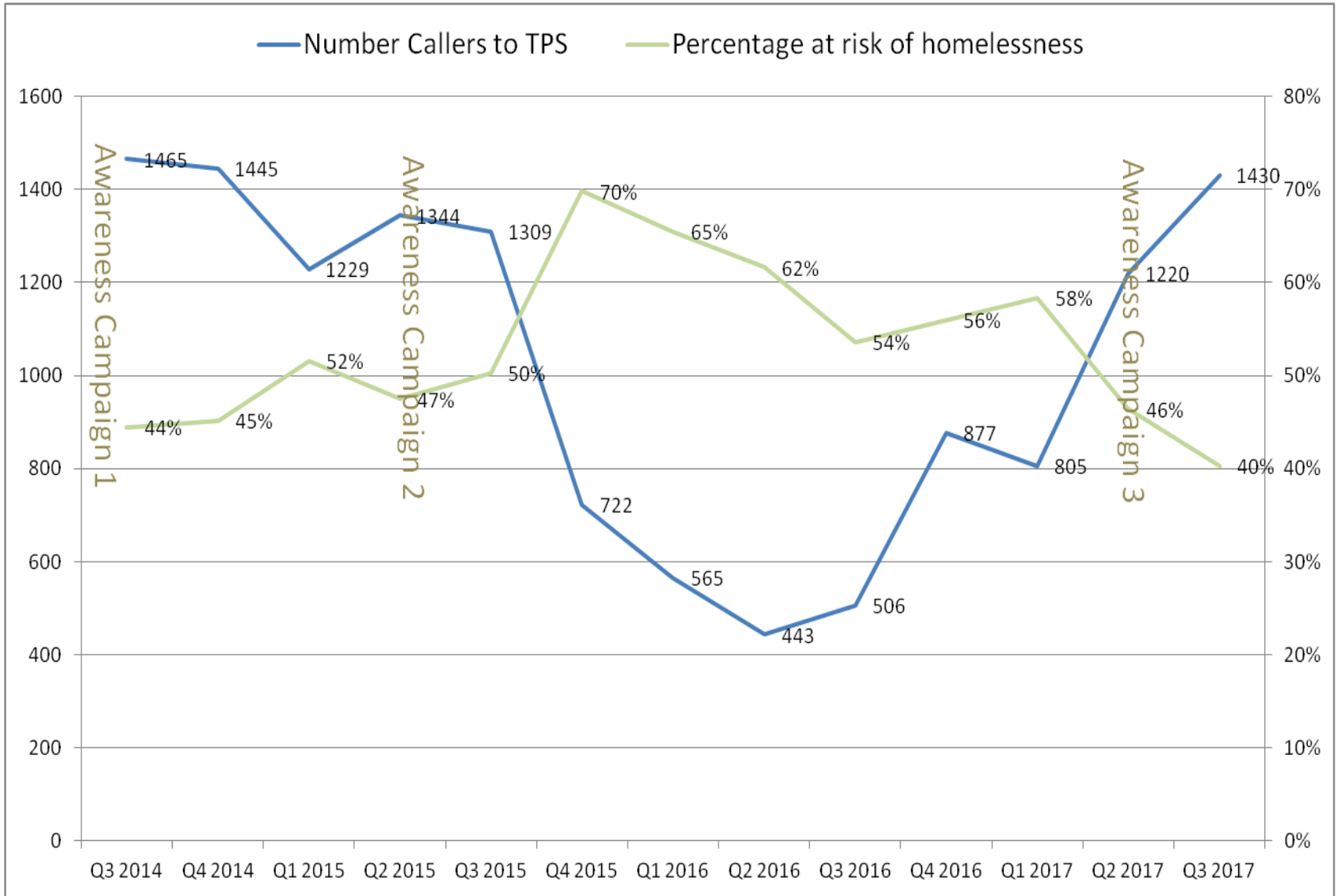
Tenancy Protection Service: Since June 2014

- 13,360 callers
- 6,754 at risk of losing home
- 3,780 actively protected
 - 2,443 Dept. Social Protection Rent Uplift

Levels of engagement



Levels of Engagement



Conclusion

- What's needed going forward: Address the housing supply issue
 - Affordable housing
- How homeless services need to be developed while this is being addressed
 - Prevent becoming homeless: contact sooner
 - Additional emergency accommodation
 - Twenty-four hour on-site support – access to appropriate supports
 - Family Hubs: evaluate to ensure they are assisting families end their experience of homelessness now and into the future
 - Target users and on-going monitoring of results
 - Prevention from returning to homelessness
 - A range of Post Settlement Support – more fluid, more responsive to individual needs

Questions?

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