



## 'The Big Questions'

Why is rough sleeping in Glasgow no longer on a downward trend?

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- Glasgow Street Service

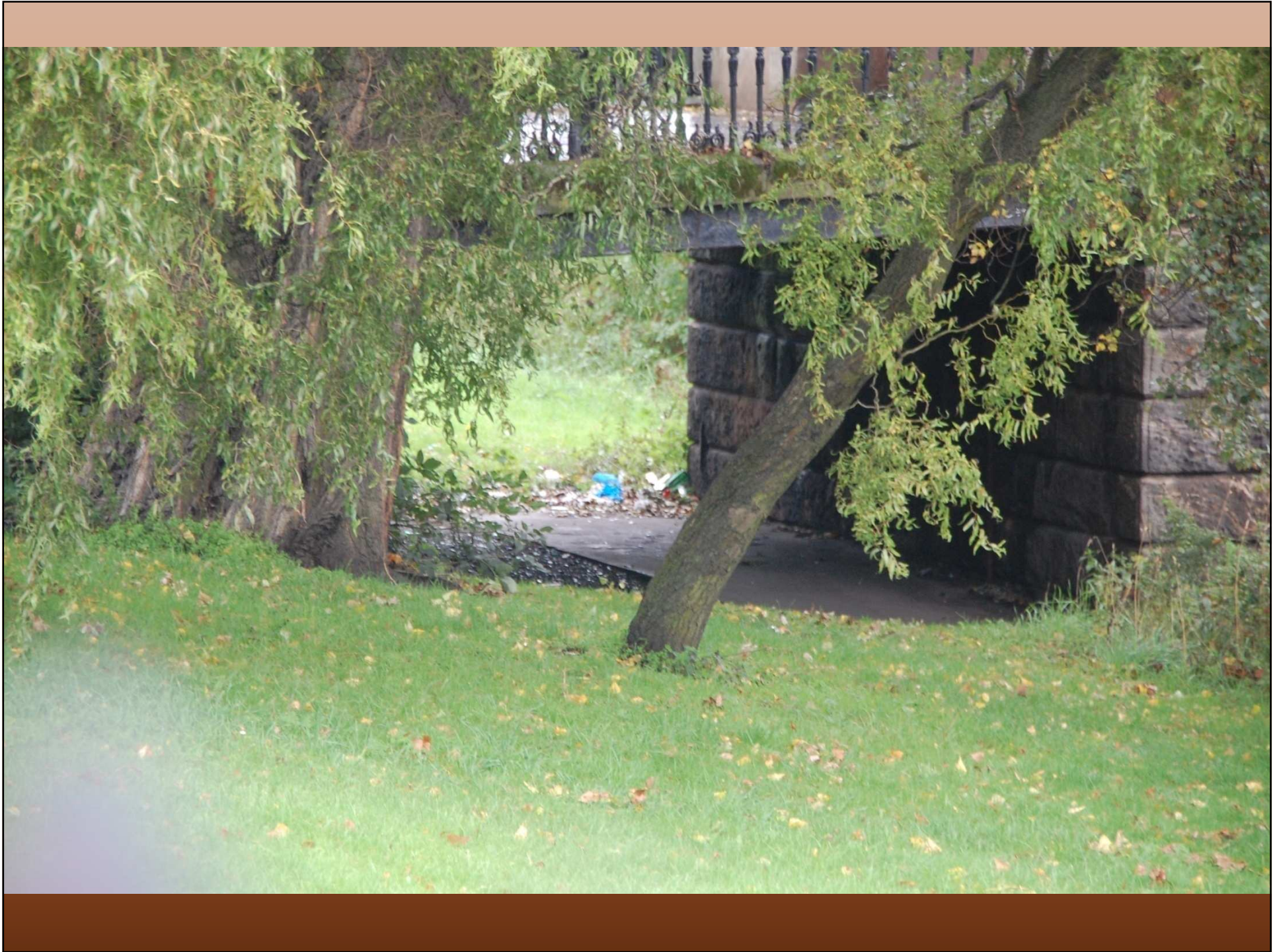
- Rough Sleeping

- Looking back

- More recently

- Moving forward?













## *Looking Back*

### RSI data for Glasgow Apr '04 – Mar '05

- 570 individuals slept rough at least once.
- A 50% reduction in rough sleeping achieved over 5 years.
- GSC/Barnardo's Street Team recorded 303 rough sleepers

## *More Recently*

### GSS statistics on rough sleeping

- April '09 to March '10 : 335 individuals who slept rough on at least one night.
- April '10 to Sept '10 : 225 individuals over the last six months.

### Rough sleeping sites – Mapping information

- April '09 to March '10 : 78 known sites  
(13 reported to be in use through all 12 months)
- April '10 to Sept '10 : 75 known sites  
(18 reported to be in use through all 6 months)

## Rough sleeping sites in use every month since April 2010

Site	Usage	Mapping information
Lane between Hope Street & Sauchiehall Street	Sporadic use	Reported by service user
Albert Bridge (North Side)	In regular use	Evidenced by GSS
Under motorway bridge at Cowcaddens	In regular use	Evidenced by GSS
NCP car park, Oswald Street	In regular use	Reported by Community & Safety Services
St. Andrew's Cathedral	Sporadic use	Evidenced by GSS
Clydeside	Sporadic use	Reported by service user
Buchanan Street Bus Station	Sporadic use	Reported by Police
Banks of river, under suspension bridge	In regular use	Evidenced by GSS
Disused bothy in car park opposite the Spice Gardens	In regular use	Evidenced by GSS
Girders in the bridge above disused bothy (see above)	In regular use	Evidenced by GSS
Waste ground adjacent to Link-Up	Sporadic use	Evidenced by GSS
Under M8 flyover (Tradeston)	In regular use	Evidenced by GSS
Under Kingston Bridge	In regular use	Evidenced by GSS
Festival Park	In regular use	Evidenced by GSS
Behind Glasgow Cathedral	Sporadic use	Evidenced by GSS
Steps near Glasgow Cathedral	In regular use	Evidenced by GSS
Schipka Pass	Sporadic use	Evidenced by GSS
Under the Kelvin Bridge	Sporadic use	Evidenced by GSS

## *More Recently*

### GCC policy statement

“No-one will need to sleep rough”

### GCC HL1\* Data

- April '09 to March '10 : 10,640 applications.
- 4% (426) report sleeping rough the night before.

\*HL1 is only for 'new/fresh applications'.

*"I mainly felt lonely and scared.*

*Most of the time when I was sleeping rough I was that drunk you want to fall into your bed. But you end up lying listening to who's going to sneak up on you. Expecting who is going to appear. You don't have a door to shut. You are wide open to everyone, to the police to anyone that wants to rob you. Vulnerable that's what you are. Especially when you are half cut, you've not got your wits about you. That's why you find someone else, so you're not alone when you're sleeping rough.*

*Recently I was skipping down the lane at the back of St Enochs, two men jumped me. One man sat on me holding me down while the other went through my pockets. Luckily the police came by I don't know what would have happened otherwise.*

*I just get so scared and lonely with all these problems. I lie there missing my family, I imagine what it must be like to be with them thinking about what they are up to. Every night I lie there regretting all the stuff I'm missing. That's when you start feeling sorry for yourself and drugs and alcohol come in.*

*I feel worthless it [sleeping rough] takes all your confidence and self esteem. I get a wee voice in my head saying "you're a tramp, you're nothing". You start drinking more trying to keep the thoughts away.*

*When I'm falling asleep I wake up, I'm not in control. I get so frightened with all these thoughts racing through my head. Even now I'm in rehab I struggle to get to sleep as I think that I need to be on alert, it's so stupid.*

*One night I was so scared I couldn't even breathe. I was so panicked, it was late I couldn't go to the doctor which worried me more. That was a panic night...*

*It's just pure negative isn't it."*

Male 35

Is the on-going rough sleeping situation given the prominence/priority it deserves within

- a. The homelessness strategy?
- b. Our service responses?
- c. The broader network priorities?

If not, what else could be done? Who is best to lead on monitoring whether we are making progress on the GCC policy commitment “no-one will need to sleep rough in Glasgow”?

Finally...

With winter fast approaching, what might be done for those that otherwise might need to sleep rough in the period ahead?