

# Homelessness in Reading

March 2026



**We've all sadly seen an increase in people sleeping rough across the town over recent months. With that in mind, we think it is important to make sure people understand what Launchpad does to prevent and tackle homelessness in the town, and what other agencies do.**

Responsibilities for different homelessness services are managed by a range of organisations, alongside Reading Borough Council. These are known collectively as Homelessness Support Services.

Each organisation tends to have areas of expertise – and we work together to provide a comprehensive approach to homelessness in the town. We hope the information below helps you to understand how homelessness is managed in our community.

You can find out more about homelessness services in our town on the Reading Borough Council [website](#).

## What we do

### Prevent homelessness

Our free, confidential Drop-In Service provides information and support for people with a housing or homelessness problem. Anyone can visit our central Reading offices.

Our Floating Support team work with families, couples and individuals who are at risk of homelessness. Sometimes people need more

help to overcome a serious housing-related challenge. Our floating support service works with individuals, couples and families to address the root of their housing problems so they are able to obtain and sustain a long-term home and lead full and independent lives. You can email our team at:

**[dropin@launchpadreading.org.uk](mailto:dropin@launchpadreading.org.uk)**

### Provide homes

The homes we provide are for people who are homeless and have been referred to us by other agencies who are managing homelessness in our town, for example, St Mungo's.

Our Supported Housing team provides stable, temporary homes for more than one hundred people experiencing homelessness. Everyone in our supported housing has a support worker to help them overcome barriers and break the cycle of homelessness.

Our specialist service teams manage the Nova Project, which provides accommodation and gender and trauma informed support for ten women with multiple disadvantages and 'The Pods,' forty self-contained modular homes for people with complex needs.

Our Housing team manages property maintenance, compliance, tenancies, and lettings, supported by an in-house maintenance team trained in Decent Homes Standards, and to meet other regulation and safety standards.



## Rebuild lives at our Work and Life Skills

Our Work and Life Skills centre is a place where vulnerable people can learn new skills, build confidence and get back into work. We provide work-readiness skills, digital skills, DIY, and cookery skills as well as therapeutic activities. The centre also serves as a hub, used by other charities and partner organisations as a safe space to meet clients who may be affected by homelessness issues. The centre is open to everybody. To find out more, email the team at:

**135@launchpadreading.org.uk**

## What other homelessness charities and agencies do

### Look after people sleeping rough in Reading

This vital role is looked after by our friends at St Mungo's. They manage Reading's Rough Sleeper Outreach Service. This helps and supports people to move them off the streets by providing support, advice and referrals around housing, health, drug and alcohol use.

### Are you concerned about someone sleeping rough in Reading?

Please let agencies know by visiting the website: [thestreetlink.org.uk](https://thestreetlink.org.uk)

You can share details of the person you are concerned about anonymously, and an alert will be shared with a support team. (Please be aware that some people may refuse help and that others may already be receiving support.)

## Run a homelessness day centre

This important service is managed by 'CIRDIC' (Churches in Reading Drop In Centre). They have a dedicated day centre for people who are homeless or vulnerably housed, offering food, clothing, showers, advice, and support.

**This can be found at St Saviour's Church Hall, Berkeley Avenue, Reading RG1 6JT.**

## Provide emergency accommodation

Reading's Salvation Army team run Willow house – this centre supports single adult homeless people. They offer emergency beds for up to 2 weeks, emergency and assessment beds for up to 8 weeks, as well as several longer-term temporary beds. People must be assessed by the council to access this service. (The Salvation Army also provide non-emergency accommodation, including rooms for single people and couples).

**For anyone who has become homeless today, is about to become homeless, or in an emergency, you need to contact the council's Homelessness Prevention Service immediately. They triage emergencies the same day.**

You can go to the council offices or call the council on 0118 937 2165. Out of hours (5pm–9am & weekends) their number is: 01344 351 999.

### If you would like to support Launchpad's work

Please donate today. To do this, please visit: [donate.launchpadreading.org.uk](https://donate.launchpadreading.org.uk) or scan this QR code. **Thank you!**

