

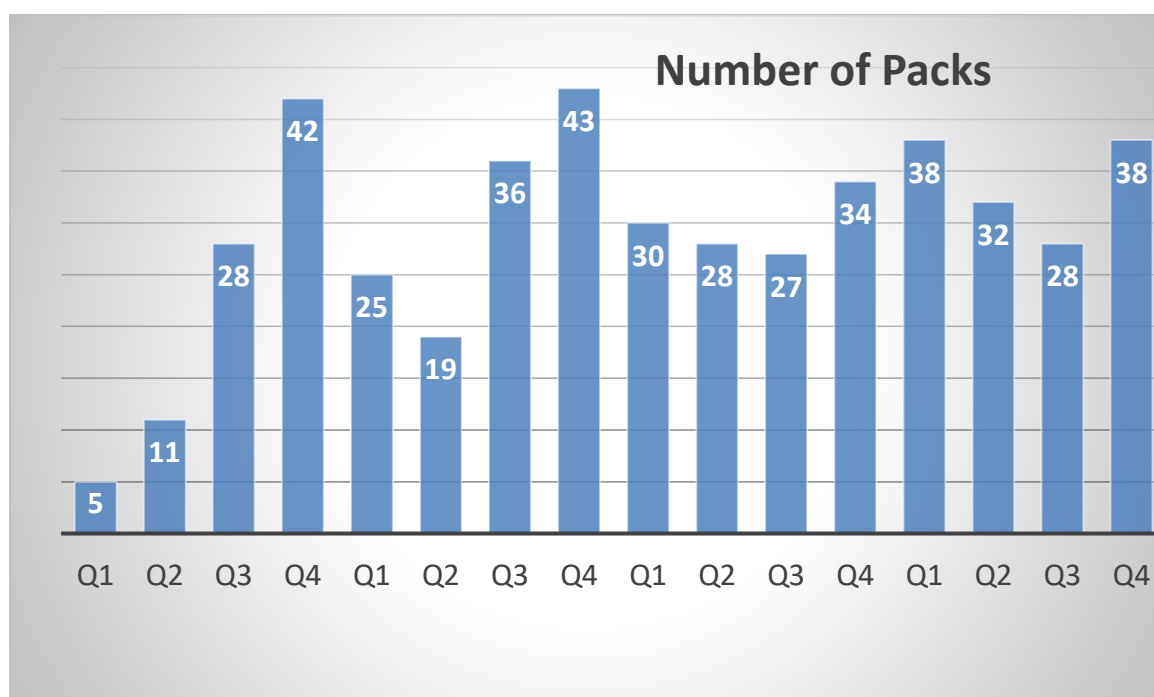
Bromley Starter Packs 2018 Review

Our mission is to help formerly homeless people as they move into a new home. We do this by providing them with the essential items they need with the exception of furniture. Most of the items are recycled from donations of second hand goods. However, kettles, pillows and duvets are purchased new, as are items in a utility pack, which contains washing-up liquid, deodorants, soap etc.



What we did in 2018

Demand has been high since the middle of 2015 as can be seen from the chart below. We were always able to meet this demand within two or three days.



The value of each pack for a single person, if purchased at a discount store, is approximately £105. However, if sufficient donated second hand goods are available, this reduces to £45. Taking into account the donations of second hand goods, the 136 packs given out in 2018 will have an estimated cost of £8000. However, the value is immense as can be seen by this quote from a client *"I cried today when I set up my room; it's my sanctuary. I want to bring my baby to meet you when she is born"*

We work in close partnership with organisations such as Bromley Council, Hestia, Bromley Tenancy Support Service, CRISIS, Living Well and Women's Aid. They see the value too as can be seen by the following quote from Bromley Council.

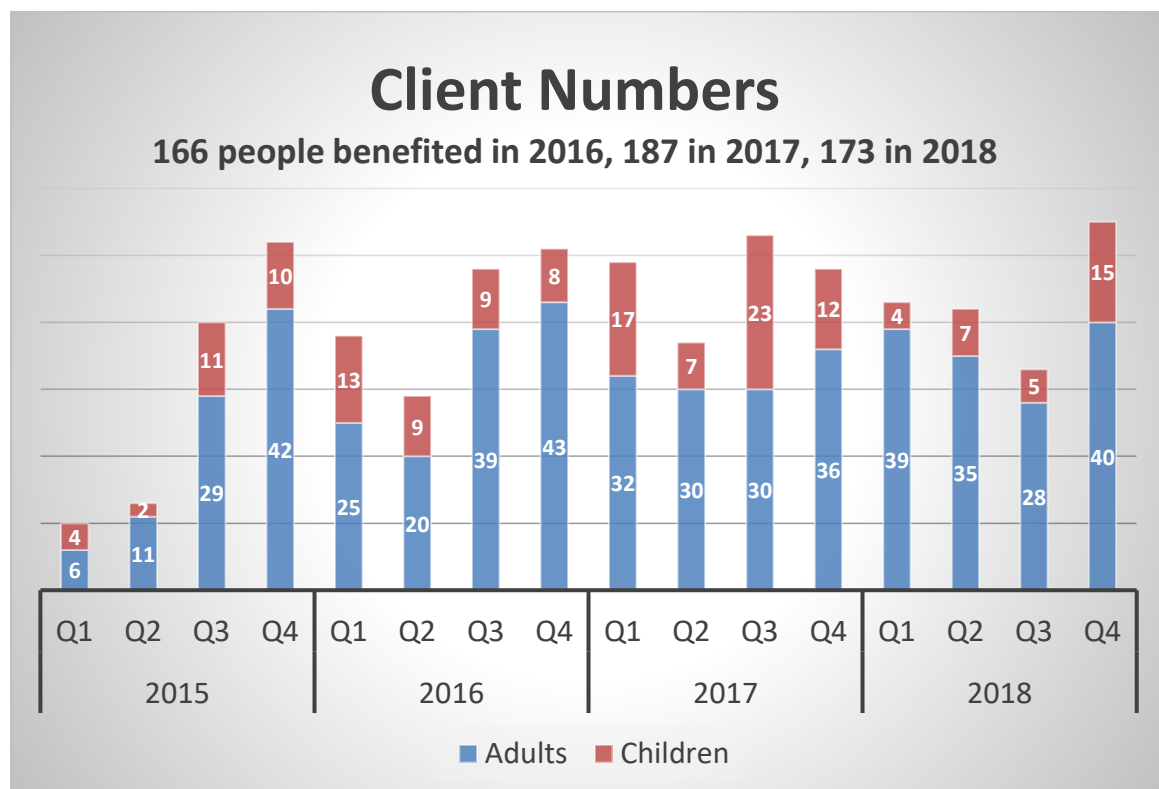
"You provide an invaluable service to our service users, as most of them are on benefits and can't afford to buy essential items such as bedding and kitchen utensils etc. Due to benefits changes, the community care grant no longer exists and its replacement the Bromley Welfare fund only provides beds and white goods, so you are providing for the gap in service.

You have provided not only these items but cleaning materials and toiletries which are all greatly appreciated. It is a very responsive service and we have been able to help people moving into temporary and permanent accommodation, who need to move in often without the basic essentials.

Also your partnership with Brighter Beginnings benefits children and families in need by providing children's beds toys and clothes etc.

Keep up the good work and I hope your service continues to develop as it is much needed.

The work has continued as can be seen from the chart below.

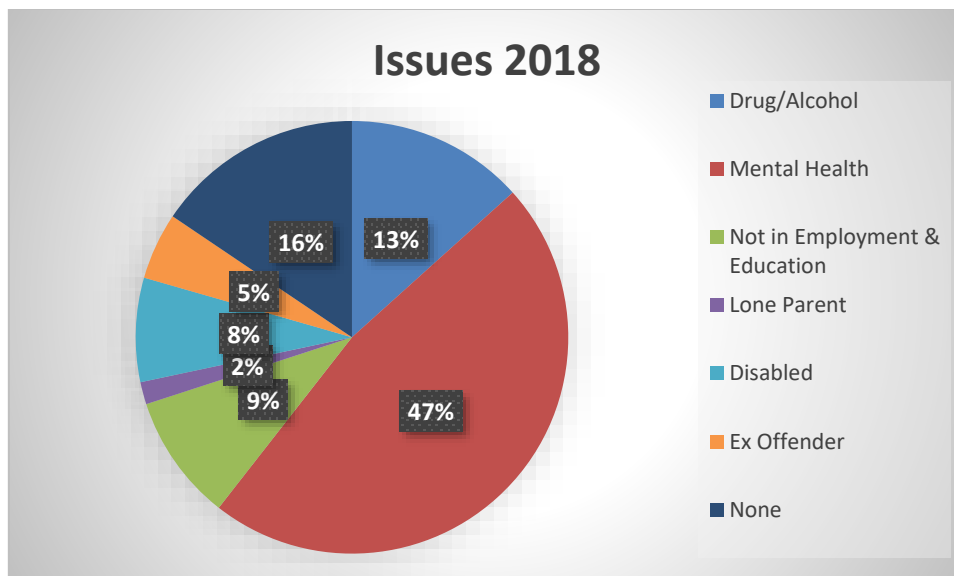
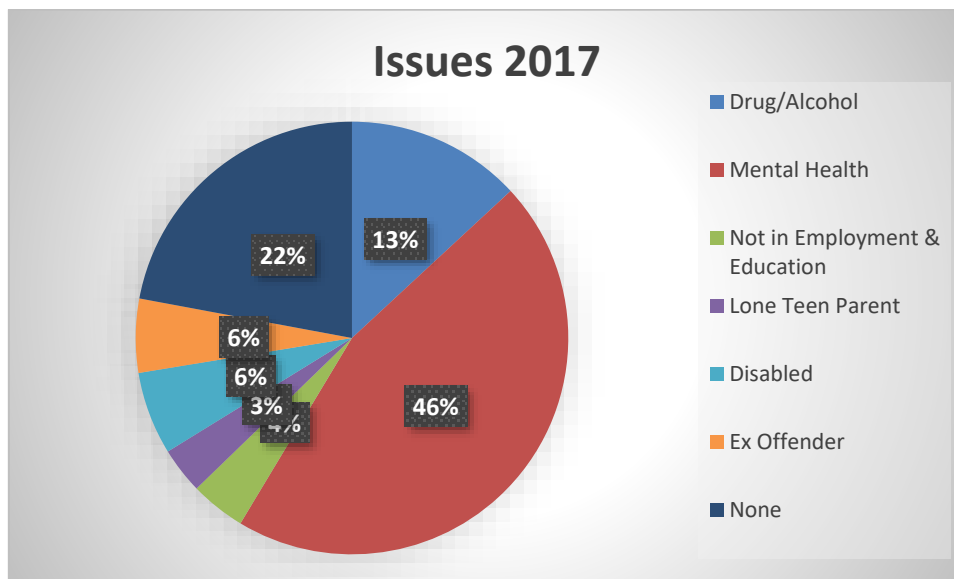


Supporters and Finances

The Rotary Clubs of Bromley, Waitrose and a number of individuals have made donations. During 2018 our reserves have been substantially augmented by two major donations. The AutoTrader Community Fund, administered by the London Community Fund, gave £5,000 and the Co-op donated £6119.26. We are very grateful for all these contribution, which will ensure the future viability of the project.

Client Demographics

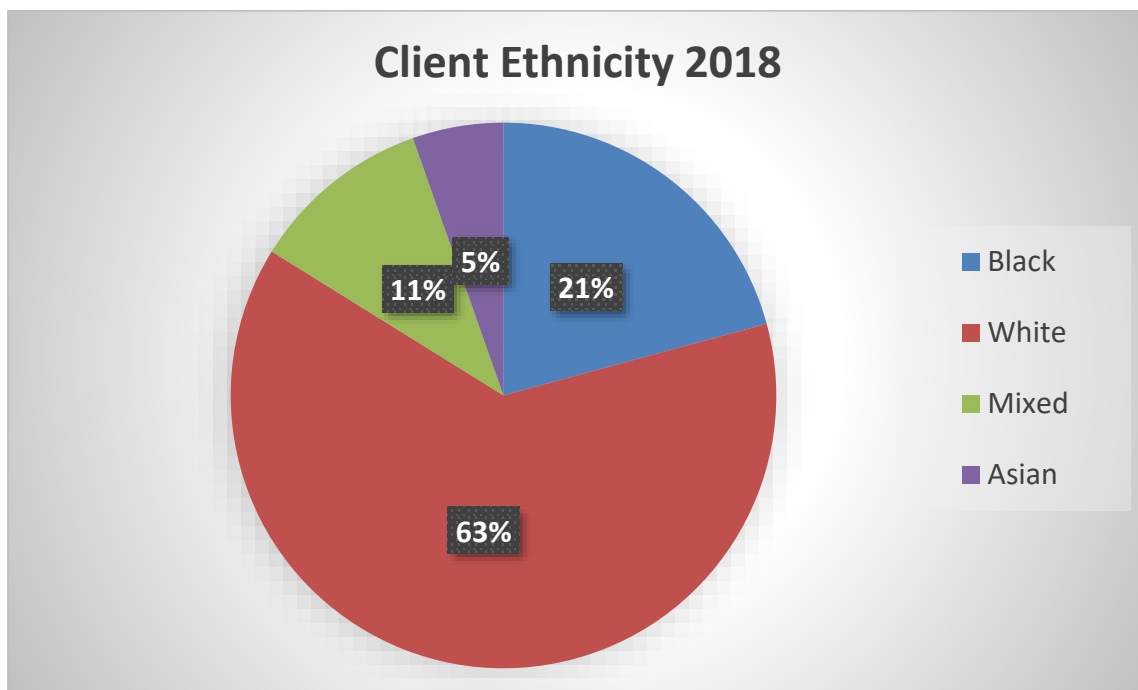
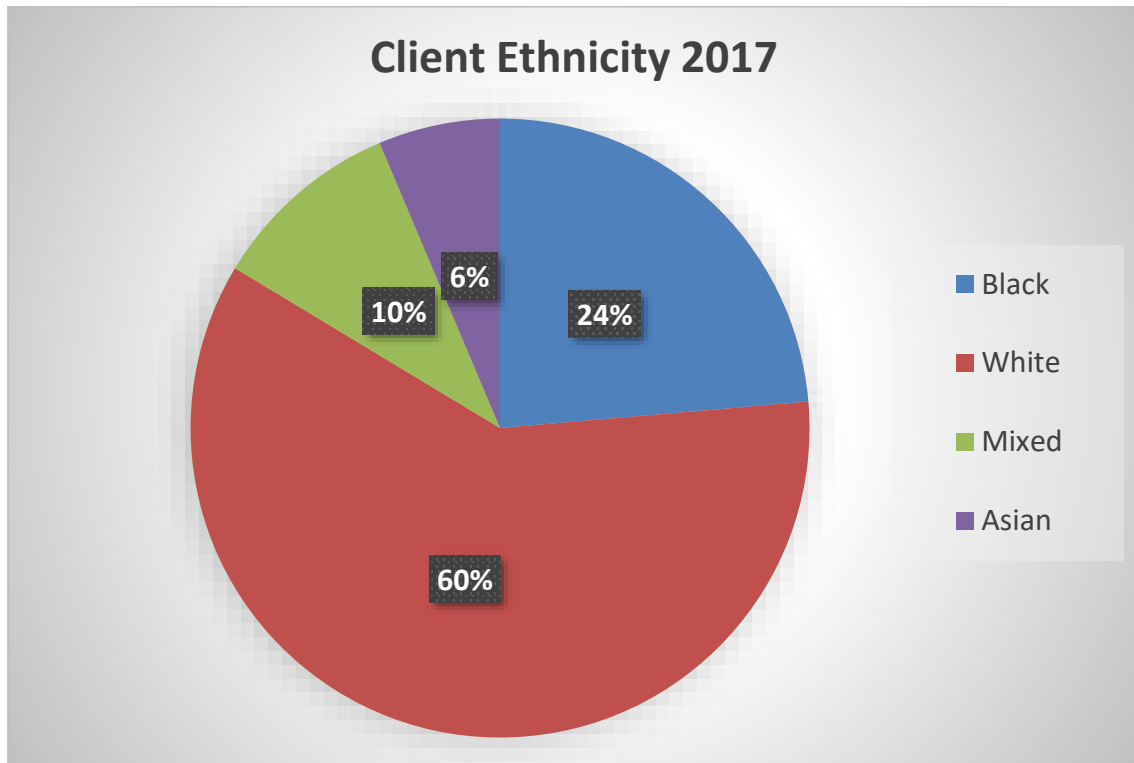
Details of the issues clients faced for 2017 and 2018 are shown in the figures below. It can be seen that the biggest problem continues to be mental health followed by drug and alcohol abuse.



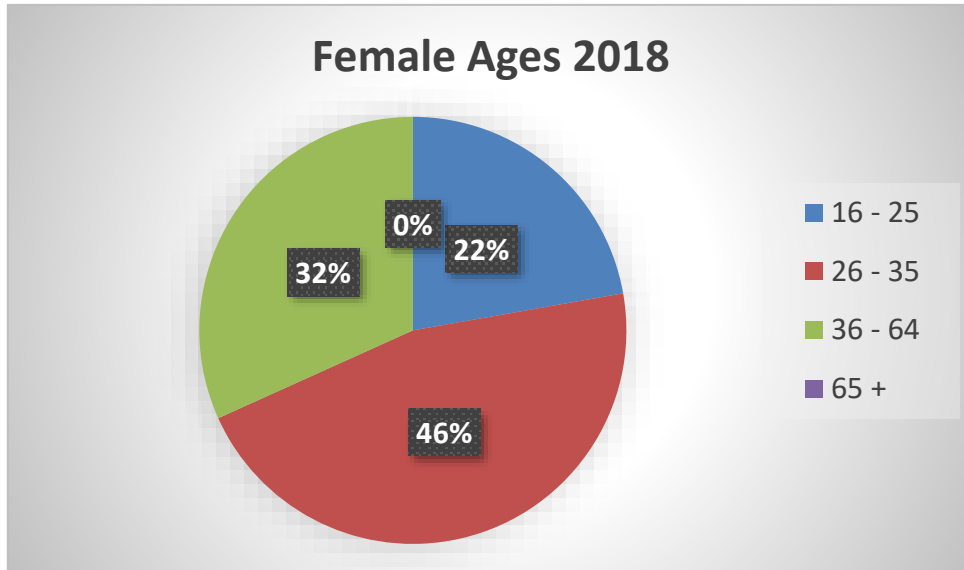
Another important issue is that almost every family rehoused was single adult. However, as in previous years, there were very few lone teen parents.

Ethnicity

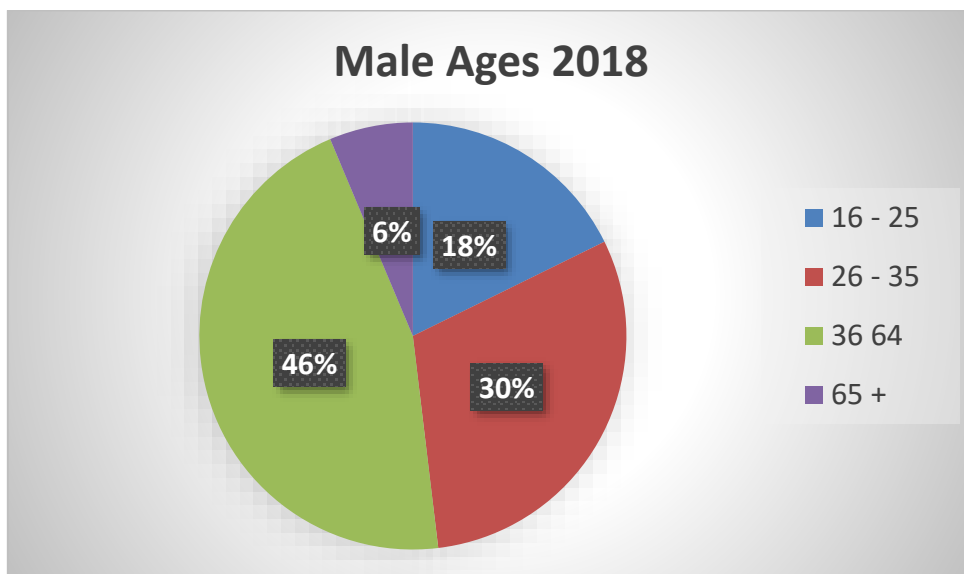
There has been no significant change in ethnic distribution over the past 3 years.



Ages



There has been no significant change over the past 3 years in the female age distribution.



The male age distribution has changed considerably from year to year but there is no clear trend.

Consistently every year, 55% of the recipients were males vs. 45% females.

The Future

We plan to continue to meet the demand providing we can receive sufficient funding and donations of second hand goods. However, our ability to expand, should demand increase significantly, will be limited by the storage space available which is kindly donated by Bromley Parish Church.