

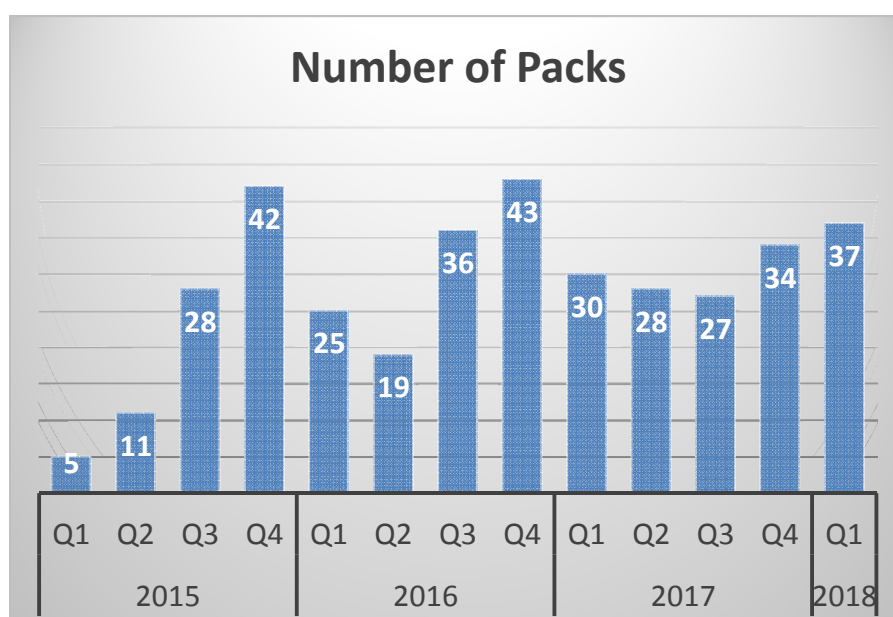
Bromley Starter Packs 2017

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 2017

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



The value of each pack for a single person, if purchased at a discount store, is approximately £102. However, if sufficient donated second hand goods are available, this reduces to £45. The 119 packs given out in 2017 will have an estimated cost of £7000. 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.

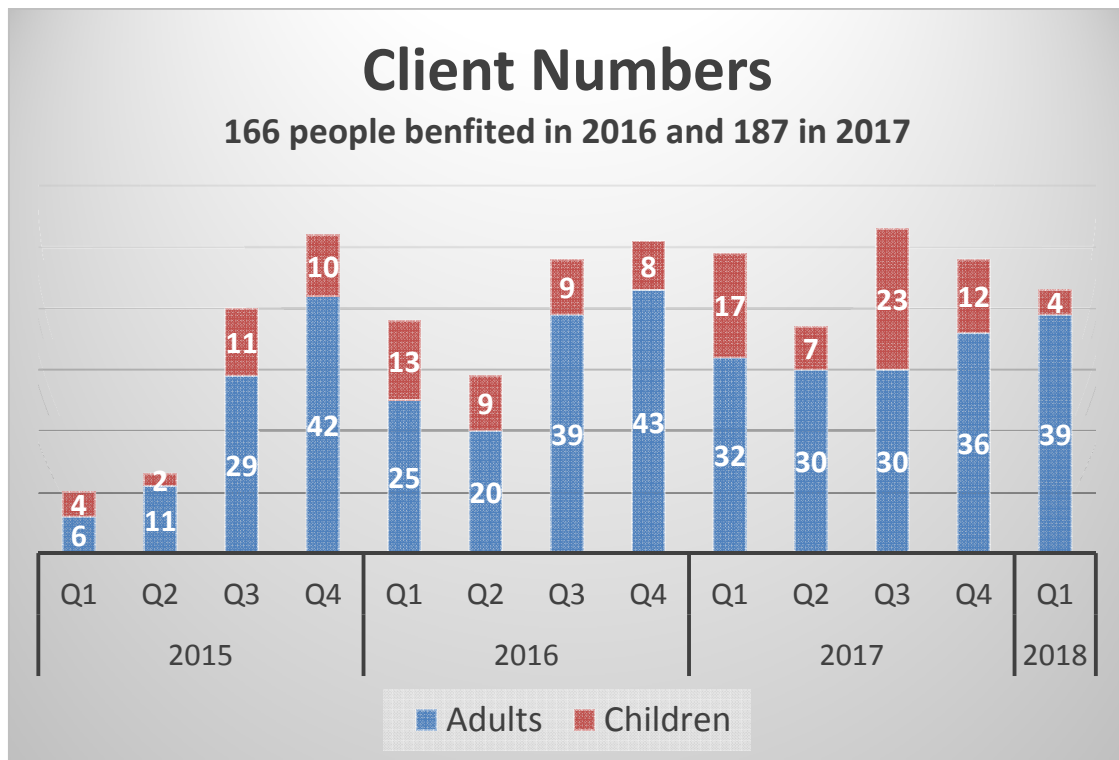
"You provide an invaluable service to our service users, as most of them are on benefits and can't afford to buy essential items such as bedding and kitchen utensils etc. Due to benefits changes, the community care grant no longer exists and its replacement the Bromley Welfare fund only provides beds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



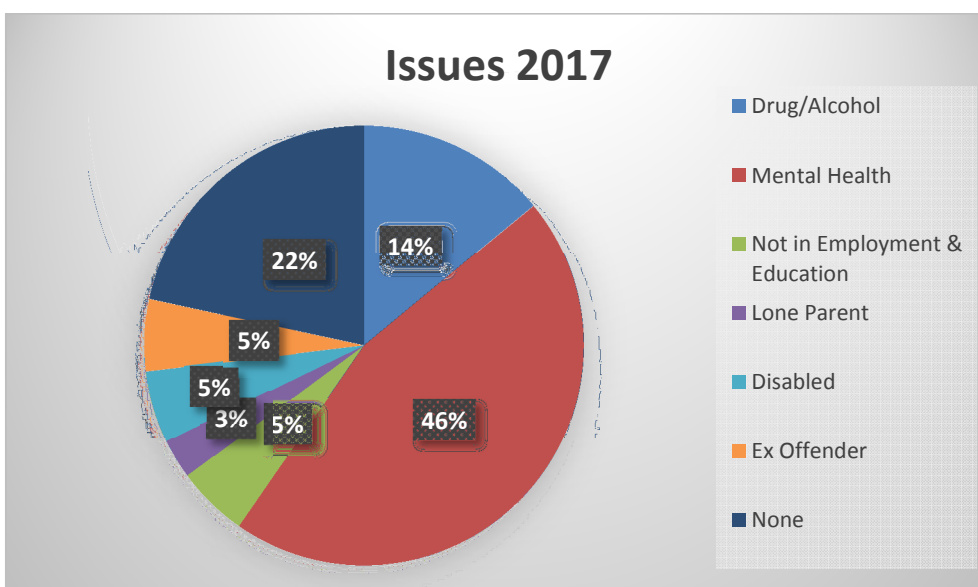
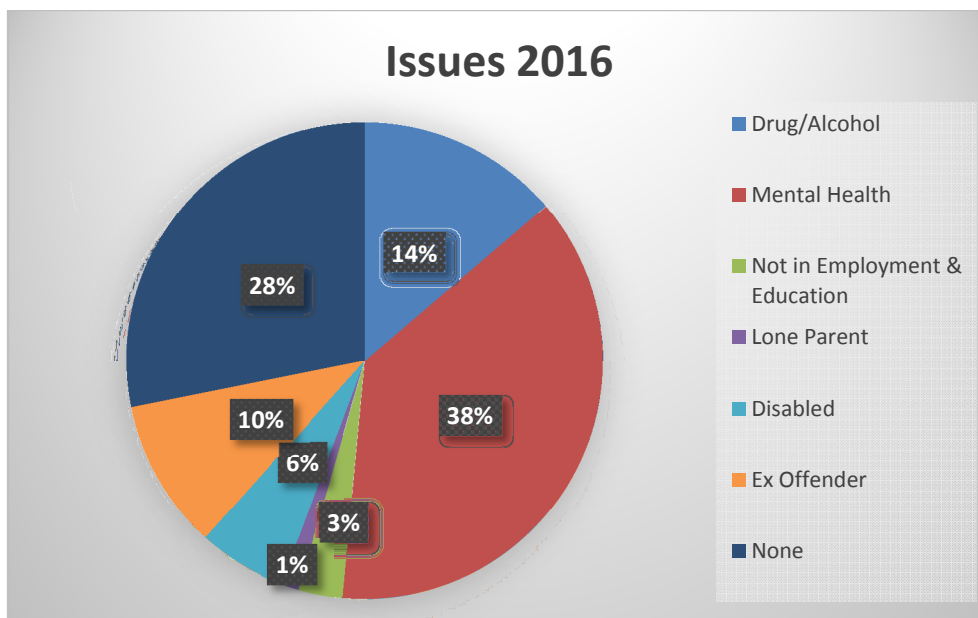
Supporters and Finances

The Rotary Clubs of Bromley, Waitrose and a number of individuals have made donations. Both Thackray Williams (2016) and Judge Priestly (2017), solicitors, have provided goods and volunteer support. The Bromley Community Fund donated £1500. Bromley Parish Church raised £2509.67 for the project, which was the most significant donation.

The value of each pack for a single person, if purchased at a discount store, is approximately £102. However, if sufficient donated goods are available, this reduces to £45. It is anticipated that the cost of the 119 packs donated to clients in 2017 will be about £7000.

Client Demographics

Details of the issues clients faced for 2016 and the first half of 2017 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.

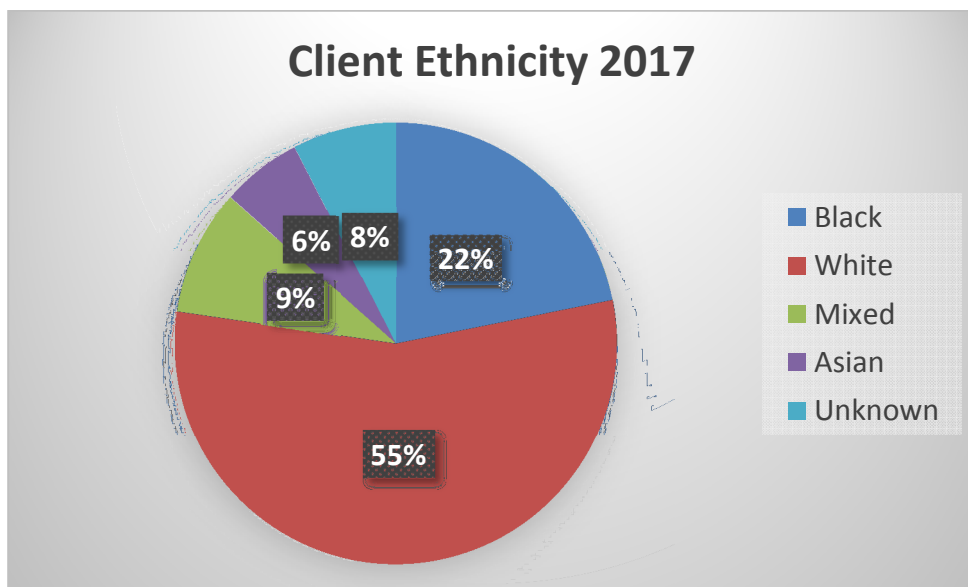
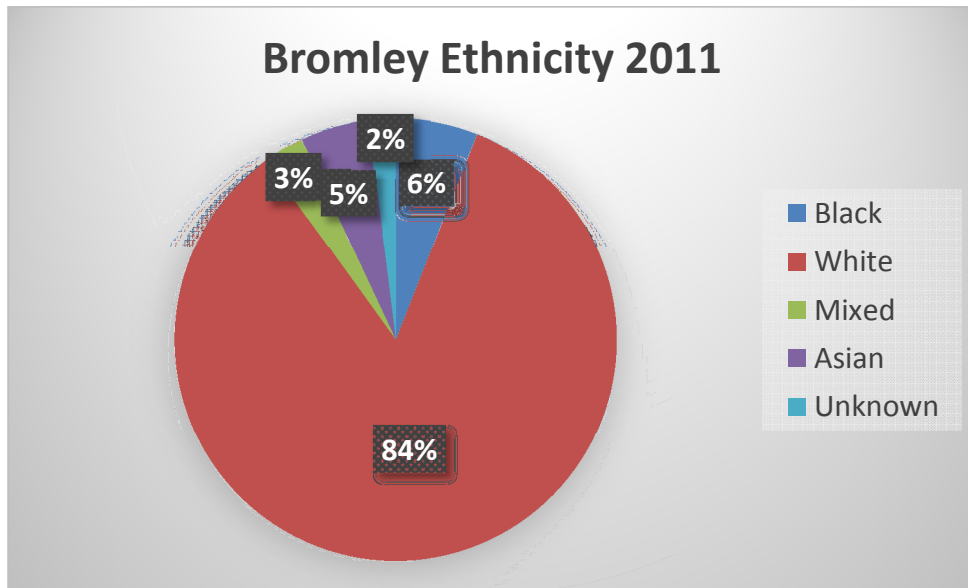


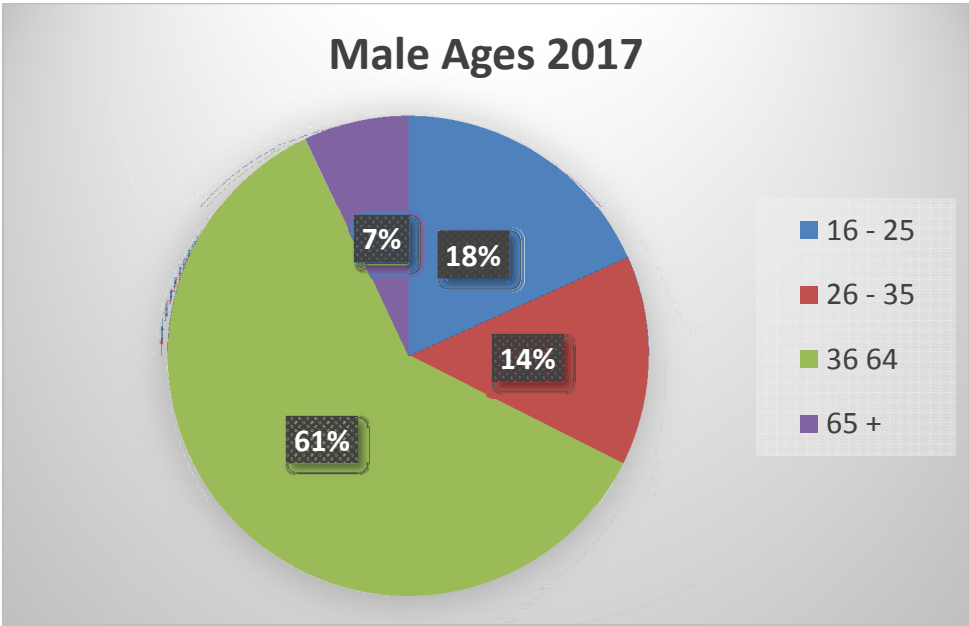
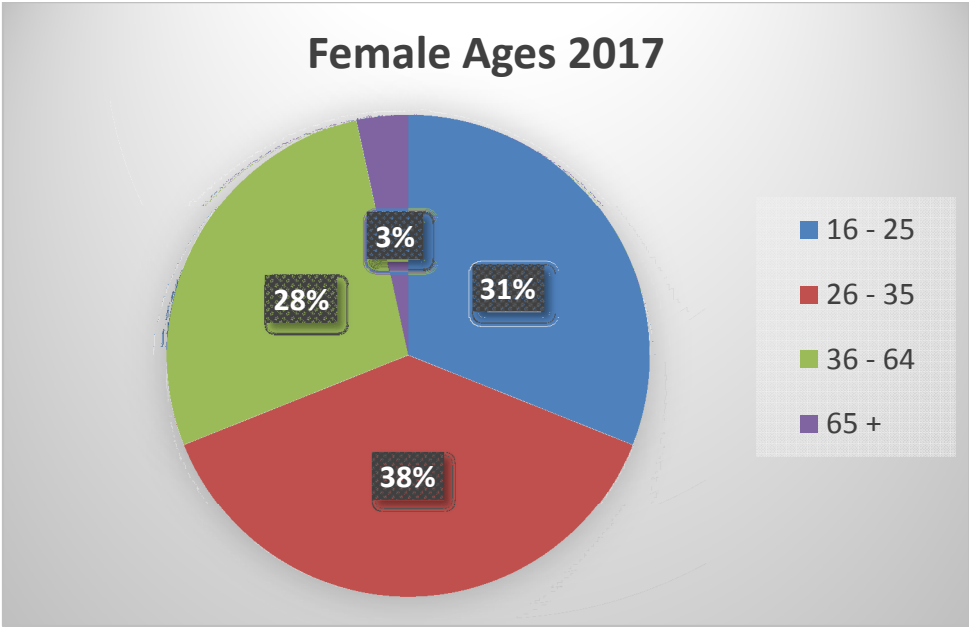
Another important issue is that almost every family rehoused was single parent.

In 2017, 55% of the adult clients were male versus 45% female compared with 65% and 35% in 2016. This increasing trend of women being in difficulties was also reflected in the guests of the Bromley Homeless Shelter.

Ethnicity

In terms of ethnicity, Bromley is 84% white and 6% black. The charts below show that relative to the population distribution, white people are somewhat less likely to be re-housed and black are four times as likely.





The majority of female clients are aged below 35 years whilst the majority of men are over 35 years.

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.