

Big Sleep Out 2017 – FAQs

What are we raising money for?

All proceeds from the Big Sleep Out will go to Trinity Winchester; a local charity working with homeless and vulnerable people in the City. Trinity provide shelter, advice and support to move on from their centre Bradbury House.

What do we do if it rains?

The event will continue as planned, but there will also be the option to sleep inside the Cathedral.

What do I do with cash sponsorship received?

We would be grateful if you could send in any money that you have collected *after* the event to: Big Sleep Out Team, Bradbury House, Durngate, Winchester, SO23 8DX, or feel free to pop in with the sponsorship. Please make sure you put your name on the envelope, and include the sponsorship form with the money.

What do I eat on the night?

You are welcome to bring your own food and snacks on the night. There will also be food available to purchase on-site. The much loved Trinity cake stall will also be in business.

Will there be toilets?

There will be toilets open for the duration of the event, which will be well signposted.

What should I bring?

Essentials: Please bring lots of layers to keep warm, a sleeping bag and a torch. For a full list, take a look at the Event Guide at trinitywinchester.org.uk/bigsleepout.

Can I bring my friends?

The evening event (from 18:00 - 22:00) is open to members of the public. Please bring your friends or family members along with you to enjoy the music and grab something to eat. They can decide to sleep out on the night too, and will have to pay the £10 registration fee.

What about people who are actually sleeping rough?

Anybody is welcome to attend the Big Sleep Out event if they pay the registration fee, and abide by the guidelines we have laid out with the Cathedral. This can include clients of Trinity Winchester who may be homeless, and it is likely a number will join us for the evening celebration.

For people who do not have any accommodation, Trinity works closely with them to make referrals to housing and in emergency cases, provide funding for a night in a B&B. Whilst people are waiting for a bed, they will be equipped with sleeping bags, blankets, warm clothing, and food for the night. Our morning outreach workers will then find them first thing in the morning with a hot drink and something to eat, before Trinity opens at 8:30am ready to welcome people to the warm, safe building. It can take time to support somebody from sleeping on the streets to having a bed of their own, and our staff work with each person every step of the way.

There is no way that we can replicate the realities of sleeping rough, and the Big Sleep Out does not intend to. This is a fundraising event, a small challenge, to help raise funds to support people who have to sleep rough every night.