

## **Plymouth Soup Run Report to PCC for June 2021:**

In June 2021:

- Plymouth Soup Run served 2121 meals (an average of 71 meals per night, same as May 2021, and 23% or 21 meals less than June 2020 (May and June 2020 had the two highest monthly total ever recorded reflecting the impact of the first lockdown).
- Ample food donations were received from supermarkets, local shops, businesses, community groups and individuals; a hot meal is often now served as well as or instead of soup, and clients were also provided with tinned and dried food when available.
- Teams made 22 referrals to the Rough Sleeper Team and met 62 other rough sleepers (some referrals and sightings will have been of the same individuals on different nights).
- 69 sleeping bags/blankets were given out to rough sleepers.
- Clothing, underwear, shoes and toiletries (including sun block) were distributed most nights; panic alarms were given to street sex workers.
- Police and out of area Social Services sought help from the Soup Run in locating two individuals who were missing or considered to be at risk; services (police, Shelter, CAB) were contacted about some vulnerable clients with safeguarding issues.
- On three nights, some clients were aggressive towards volunteers; information was shared among teams to alert them to concerns.
- On several nights around half-term, children came to the King's Road stop, sometimes but not always with parents alongside them; contact was made with the families to arrange for food parcels to be delivered to tide them over until school restarted, they were advised of other sources of help, and were respectfully discouraged from bringing children to the potentially risky street environment.
- On three occasions at weekends, the Soup Run Coordinator was contacted directly by individuals with no source of support and in need of food.
- A memorial service was held on 22nd June for a hostel resident who had died recently; this was also an opportunity to remember the significant number of other clients who had died since Covid restrictions began.
- On different nights teams were joined by Community Health Outreach Nurses, a worker from the Hepatitis C Trust, Street Pastors, and volunteers from StreetVet, PCC Community Connections and three food donors.