

Report for: **Cabinet Member Signing**

Title: Request for approval of receipt of Grant from Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government for the Rough Sleeping Initiative and to award grants to partnering agencies.

Report authorised by : Charlotte Pomery, Assistant Director for Commissioning

Lead Officer: Maddie Watkins Strategy and Monitoring Coordinator (Rough Sleeping)

Ward(s) affected: NA

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:**

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1. The report sets out the rationale for the Cabinet Member for Planning, Licensing and Housing Services to approve the receipt of grant funding from the Ministry of Housing Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) for the provision of services under the Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI) programme. The paper provides some detail as to how grants would be awarded to identified partner agencies, as set out in the bid, for funding, as allowed under Contract Standing Order (CSO) 16.02 and 17.3.
- 1.2. The grant is part of the fourth year of funding available under the RSI programme and has been awarded following a successful bidding process. The funding was secured following identification of the following delivery partners: Thames Reach Charity, All People All Places, Homes for Haringey, North London Housing Partnership, London Hotel Group and the Green Room Hotel.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Member for Planning, Licensing and Housing Services approves receipt of grant funding from the Rough Sleeping Initiative Programme, to the sum of £1,626,960 as permitted under CSO 16.02 and 17.3.
- 2.2 That, pursuant to CSOs 16.02 and 17.3, the Cabinet Member approves the award of grant funding to relevant partner agencies listed in the table at 2.3, which were set out in the successful bid for funding.
- 2.3. Funding for 21/22 was separated into two tranches by MHCLG as a result of administrative delays caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Tranche 1 covered Quarter 1 21-22 and was not subject to a bidding process but a continuation of funding from 20/21. Tranche 2 covers the remainder of the financial year 2021/22.

Figure 1: Tranche 1 funding breakdown, Q1 2021/22

Intervention	Provider	Cost
Somewhere Safe to Stay Staging Post	All People All Places	40,556.25
Lead Outreach Workers (2 FTE)	Thames Reach Charity	26,502.75
Haringey Assessment and Crashpad Service	Haringey Council	68,229.00
Complex Needs Outreach Navigator (1 FTE)	Haringey Council	12,288.50
Strategy and Monitoring Coordinator	Haringey Council	13,292.25
Co-located Housing Needs Officers (2 FTE)	Homes for Haringey	22,741.00
Local Lettings Officers (2 FTE)	Homes for Haringey	17,066.25
Embedded Social Worker (1 FTE)	Haringey Council	14,662.94
Mulberry Junction Peer Outreach Advisor (1 FTE)	Haringey Council	8,005.96
Flexible and Bespoke Interventions	Haringey Council	5,000.00
B&B Budget	Haringey Council	10,000.00
Sub-Total		238,344.81
COVID-19 Initiatives		
New To The Streets	North London Housing Partnership	£56,162.00
Ibis Hotel extension for Q1	IBIS	262,702
Green Rooms Hotel extension for Q1	Green Rooms	111,510
Resettlement Support at hotels	Haringey Council	69,626
Sub-Total		£500,000.00
Total for Q1		£738,344.81

Figure 2: Tranche 1 funding breakdown, Q2-4 2021/22

Intervention	Provider	Cost
Lead Outreach Workers (3 FTE)	Thames Reach	117,191
Haringey Assessment and Crashpad Service	Haringey Council	£189,687
Complex Needs Outreach Navigator (2 FTE)	Haringey Council	38,438
Rough Sleeping Coordinator (1 FTE)	Haringey Council	47,112
Co-located Housing Needs Officers (2 FTE)	Homes for Haringey	68,223
Move On and Resettlement Team (3 FTE)	Haringey Council	69,715
Embedded Social Worker (1 FTE)	Haringey Council	43,999
Mulberry Junction Peer Outreach Advisor (1 FTE)	Haringey Council	25,500
Flexible Accommodation and Support Fund including 1 FTE Fund Coordinator	Haringey Council	288,750
Total		£888,615

3. Reasons for Decision

- 3.1 This funding has been awarded to the Council following a successful bid to the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government. Funding success was predicated on the ability to mobilise Covid-19 related initiatives to a gradual close during the year. The funding is ringfenced for the purpose of reducing and ending rough sleeping, as set out in the bidding process. If the Council opt not

to approve receipt of the grant for the purposes set out in the bid then the funding would not be awarded.

- 3.2 Partner agencies All People All Places, Thames Reach Charity, and Homes for Haringey were an integral part of designing the bid, in partnership with the Council's Housing-Related Support Service. The bid focused on the strengths of each organisation, a proven track record of working in partnership to reduce rough sleeping in the borough and the ability to mobilise initiatives at the required pace.
- 3.3 A tender process under these circumstances would therefore not be appropriate as funding was awarded on the basis of specific initiatives and delivery partners; grant monies cannot therefore be awarded to other organisations as required under a tender process .

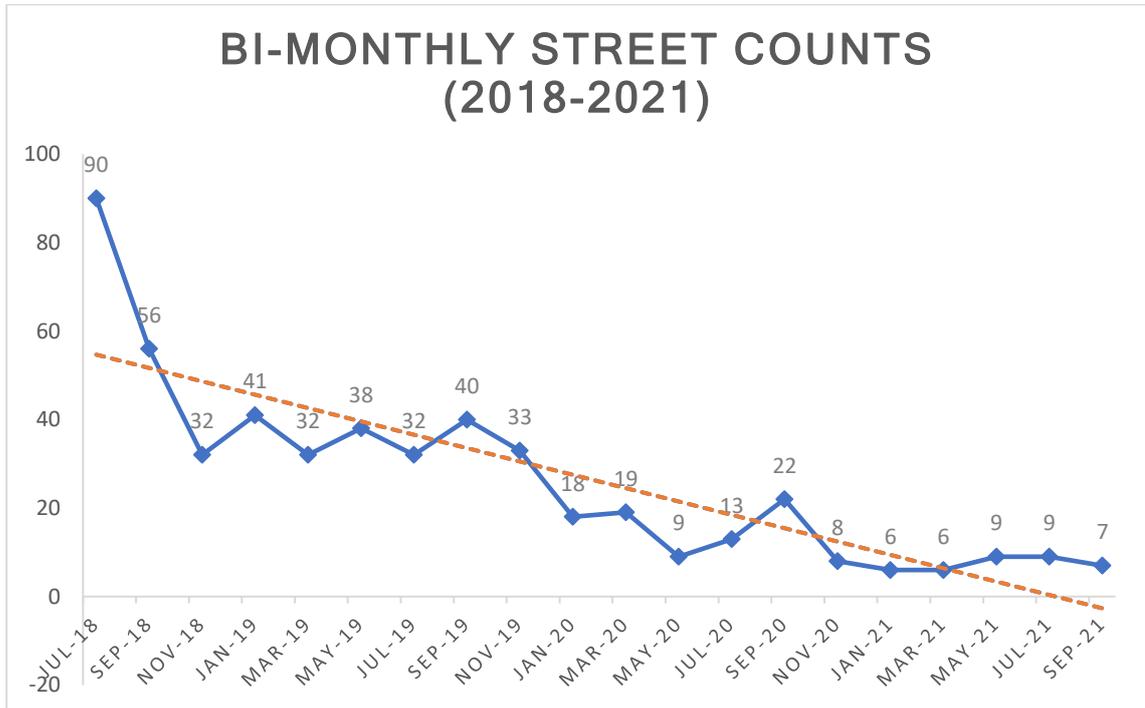
4. Alternative options considered

- 4.1 The Council could decide not to accept the grant. However, the bid for the grant was developed on a clearly demonstrated need for continuation funding for services to tackle rough sleeping in the borough of Haringey. Therefore, this option has not been considered. It is in the Council's interest to do so in order to deliver against the commitments set out in the Borough Plan (2019-2023) and Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategies (2018) to tackle rough sleeping.

5. Background information

- 5.1. Rough sleeping is the most visible form of homelessness and arguably the most damaging. It causes significant harm to individual physical and mental health, general wellbeing and drastically reduces life expectancy. A woman sleeping on the streets has a life expectancy of 41 years and a man 43 years, almost 40 years younger than the average life expectancy for the general population. In Haringey, approximately four people affected by rough sleeping die prematurely each year, with an average age at death of just 47 years old.
- 5.2. Rough Sleeping and the street-based behaviour often associated with it, such as begging, street drinking and other forms of antisocial behaviour, are damaging to communities and individuals. People who are rough sleeping are vulnerable to abuse, exploitation, and trafficking, as well as to hate crime and other forms of victimisation. Some groups are particularly vulnerable to this; women, young people, learning disabled adults, LGBTQ+ people and people from migrant communities. The provision of flexible accommodation is a key mechanism through which the Council and its partners can prevent and respond to such experiences and inequalities.
- 5.3. In 2020/21 Haringey was awarded £953,000 from the Rough Sleeping Initiative. In 2021/22 a determination of £1,626,960 of funding has been made, which reflects the growing and escalated need for services and the significant successes of our approach in Haringey.

5.4. As a result of funding received from the Rough Sleeping Initiative, the Haringey Rough Sleeping Taskforce has achieved a sustained reduction in the numbers of people found rough sleeping in Haringey. In our annual street count in September 2018, 56 people were counted rough sleeping, by September 2021 this was just 7 people.



6. Contribution to strategic outcomes

6.1. This decision supports the delivery of the Housing Priority in the Borough Plan (2019-2023) 'A safe, stable and affordable home for everyone, whatever their circumstances', in particular to;

- Reduce the number of households in temporary accommodation by a third to under 2000 by 2022
- Aim to end street homelessness by 2022
- Ensure access to high quality housing support that prevents or relieves homelessness for people with additional needs

6.2. The decision also directly links to achieving the Adults Priority, 'Enable all adults to live healthy, long and fulfilling lives', in particular to:

- All residents will be as healthy as possible for as long as possible.
- Health related quality of life will improve over time (including mental health and wellbeing)

6.3. The service will contribute to the strategic objectives of Adult Social Care and their partners to offer preventative interventions at individual and community

levels, preventing escalation of need and offering viable options to residential care.

- 6.4. The service will contribute to the delivery of the Council's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping (2018) strategies by helping to prevent and relieve homelessness, reduce the use of temporary accommodation and provide rapid exit from street homelessness for those in need.
- 6.5. The service also contributes to the Council's statutory responsibilities under a range of legislation including the Homelessness Reduction Act (2018), the Care Act (2014) and the Equality Act (2010), by providing housing-related support to vulnerable people in order to ensure they are able to live independent, fulfilling and active lives in the community for as long as possible.

7. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)

Finance

- 7.1.1 The report request approval to accept £1,626,960 grant funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government under the Rough Sleeping Initiative 4 and to use the funds as detailed in paragraphs 2.2 and 2.3 of the report.
- 7.1.2 The grant funding is ring-fenced to be spent within the financial year 2021-22.

Procurement

- 7.2.1 The services to which this report relates are for the purposes of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 ('the Regulations') schedule 3 provisions and would usually be subject to the Regulatory requirement for advertisement and tender
- 7.2.2 However, as monies were secured via grant funding which stipulated how it was to be spent and identified partnering agencies who were an integral part of the bid submission and design, it was not, therefore, appropriate to go out to tender for these services
- 7.2.3 The request for receipt and distribution of the grant is in accordance with Contract Standing Orders 16.02, 17.1 and 17.3 and will enable the Council the deliver much needed services and work with rough sleepers who are invariably one of the most vulnerable groups in the community. Moreover, the grant will assist the Council to deliver its commitment to end street homelessness, and to support adults to live independent lives in their community alongside, reducing the acute health inequalities that are a corollary of rough sleeping
- 7.2.4 Contacts will be monitored to ensure key performance indicators are met where provision is internal or with HfH a service level agreement sets out key performance requirements that must be delivered

7.3 Legal

- 7.3.1 The Head of Legal and Governance notes the contents of the report.
- 7.3.2 In accordance with the provisions of the Council's Contract Standing Order (CSO) 17.1, Cabinet may approve the receipt of a grant in accordance with CSO 9.07.1(d) if the value of the grant is £500,000 or more and as such Cabinet has power to approve the receipt of the grant and the entering into the agreement for the receipt of the grant in the Report.
- 7.3.3 In accordance with the provisions of CSO 17.3, Cabinet may approve the award of a grant in accordance with CSO 9.07 if the value of the grant is £500,000 or more and as such Cabinet has power to approve the award of the grants and the entering into the various agreements for the award of the grants in the Report.
- 7.3.4 In accordance with the provisions of CSO 16.2, the Leader may allocate the making of a decision reserved for Cabinet to the Cabinet member having the relevant portfolio responsibilities and as such the Cabinet Member for Planning, Licensing and Housing Services has power to make the decision so long as the decision making has been allocated to them by the Leader.
- 7.3.5 The Head of Legal and Governance sees no legal reasons preventing the approval of the recommendations in the report

7.4 Equality

- 7.4.1 The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not
 - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.
- 7.4.2 The three parts of the duty applies to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status apply to the first part of the duty.
- 7.4.3 The proposed decision is to approve the receipt of grant funding from the Ministry of Housing Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) for the provision of services under the Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI) programme. The objective of this decision is to ensure that the needs of those who are rough sleeping in Haringey are met through a programme of interventions that are tailored to meet their needs.

7.4.4 The decision will affect individuals who are sleeping rough in the borough. This decision will help the Council to meet its equalities duties and address known inequalities affecting individuals with protected characteristics, particularly relating to age, race, and disability. Accordingly, the decision represents progress to eliminate discrimination and advance equality of opportunity.

8. Use of Appendices

N/A

9. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985